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**REPORT TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, MAY 04, 2022**

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**SUBJECT**     **Capital Regional District External Grants 2021 Annual Report**

**ISSUE SUMMARY**

This report provides a summary of the Capital Regional District (CRD) external grants activity for the period of January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021.

**BACKGROUND**

The CRD applies for grants through a decentralized business model. Services maximize grant revenues by applying for funding to support projects in their service and financial plans. The CRD grants division supports services in their pursuit of granting opportunities and corporately reports bi-monthly and annually to the Finance Committee on all external grants activity. To ensure revenue management and cost effective service delivery, staff continually monitor external grant programs to align and adjust work plans with potential granting opportunities. Appendix A details external grants activity and application status as of December 31, 2021.

COVID-19 has uniquely impacted grants for the past two years. While grant programs resumed semi-normal activity in 2021, funders continue to offer COVID-19 related streams to organizations to aid in relief and recovery, recognizing challenges and hardships endured during and following the pandemic. Staff continue to pursue requests that are in alignment with the Board's community needs, as illustrated in Appendix B.

**IMPLICATIONS**

*Financial Implications*

The grants function tracks key performance indicators to enable effective performance measurement. The following is a summary of grant activity during 2021 excluding those under communications embargo.

**2021 Activity**

1. 54 Grant alerts circulated
2. Grant application activity
  - 50 submitted applications in 2021
  - 37 applications approved
  - 14 pending results
  - 20 declined / 2 cancelled
3. Grant coordination and reporting
  - 6 External Grants Staff Reports were provided bi-monthly to the Finance committee.

- 4 Annual Reports, including those for External grants, Grants-in-Aid, and Two Community Works Fund (internal and external) Reports.
- 7 Other Grant Reports, including reports related to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, grant processes, Regional GIA, and Safe Restart funding.

In 2021, the external grants function moved to bi-monthly reporting, and with the introduction of the Safe Restart funding, this increased the amount of special grant related reports for 2021.

4. Financial administration
5. Internal and External Stakeholder Engagement

The following table provides an overview of awards for the past 2 years.

**Table 1: Grants Awarded for 2021**

<b>Grants Awarded</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project (CAWTP) <sup>1</sup>	\$81.8M	\$149.1M
Regional Housing First Program (RHFP) <sup>2</sup> Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) grant	\$5.8M	\$4.2M
External Grants Awarded	\$29.3M	\$31.2M
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$116.9M</b>	<b>\$187.5M</b>
Rate of Return (excludes CAWTP/RHFP)	33x	35x

<sup>1</sup> At the end of 2021, CAWTP had collectively year to date received \$420.8M in funding from provincial and federal programs.

<sup>2</sup> RHFP includes funding from the CRD, BC Housing (contribution), and CMHC (grant). In 2020, each partner committed \$40M towards affordable housing, for a total of \$120M. These are not grants received by the CRD, but are funds distributed to third parties.

**CONCLUSION**

Staff continue to monitor and track key performance indicators, which are driven by the variability of external grant programs availability. The grants function works with CRD services to maximize grant programs as appropriate. Staff proactively manage the various processes for optimal financial management and adjust work plans when funding programs become available and capacity and resources permits.

**RECOMMENDATION**

There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

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**ATTACHMENT(S)**

- Appendix A: Capital Regional District External Grants Activity 2021
- Appendix B: Alignment with Community Needs