

**TO:** His Worship Mayor Dan Ruimy  
and Members of Council  
**FROM:** Chief Administrative Officer

**MEETING DATE:** October 24, 2023  
**FILE NO:** 01-0690-01  
**MEETING:** Workshop

**SUBJECT:** UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund –  
Maple Ridge Climate-Related Multi-Hazard Risk Assessment

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is to request Council authorization to seek funding from the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) through their Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Adaptation (DRR-CA) funding stream for \$150,000.

The City of Maple Ridge is seeking funding to conduct a Climate-Related Multi-Hazard (CRHM) Risk Assessment. This assessment will help the City better understand and prepare for climate and natural hazards that have already occurred, and are expected to increase, in the community. These hazards include heavy rainfall, flooding, extreme heat, and drought. This assessment will help inform both climate-related risk and impact reductions, and community safety and emergency preparedness, for hazard events.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT the City of Maple Ridge be authorized to submit the application for “Maple Ridge Climate-Related Multi-Hazard Risk Assessment” to the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund, Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Adaptation stream, and provide overall grant management, if awarded funding.**

## **DISCUSSION:**

### **a) Background Context:**

The Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) is offering funding up to \$150,000 for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) with a Climate Adaptation integration through their Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF).

Maple Ridge has experienced extreme precipitation, flooding, extreme heat, and heatwaves in recent years (2018 to 2023), increasing the risks from climate-related and natural hazards and impacts to the social, economic, health and environmental aspects of the community. Climate change increases the likelihood of weather-driven natural hazards occurring, the severity of disasters, and the occurrence of cascading events.

A Climate-Related Multi-Hazard (CRMH) Risk Assessment will examine how increasing climate-related risk and natural hazards interact now and into the future. This assessment will contribute to reducing climate-related risks and impacts, enhancing community safety, and improving emergency preparedness for climate and natural hazard events. The CRHM will

provide insights into the community's vulnerability to interconnected and compounding hazards and their impacts, offering guidance on how responses and actions can be enhanced to address these challenges more effectively.

**b) Desired Outcome:**

That Council support application to the program which will increase the resilience – capacity to prepare for, prevent or withstand, respond to, and recover from impacts – of Maple Ridge to climate-related and natural hazards.

**c) Strategic Alignment:**

The proposed project aligns with Council's 2023-2026 Strategic Plan Strategic Priorities and Goals for:

- Climate Leadership and Environmental Stewards – Mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- Engaged, Healthy Community – Ensure the safety and enhance the well-being of residents.
- Climate Leadership and Environmental Stewards – Mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- Governance and Corporate Excellences – Identify and commit to opportunities for the City to move forward on a path of Truth and Reconciliation, and Ensure the City is organizationally resilient, ready to adapt to a changing environment.

Additionally, the project will inform the development of the City's Climate Action Plan and future emergency response plans.

**d) Citizen/Customer Implications:**

Engagement of the public and consultations with First Nations and stakeholders will be required to inform and understand the climate-related hazard risks and hazard concerns and events that stakeholders, local First Nations, and the public have experienced in Maple Ridge. This engagement and consultation will assist in determining and informing the vulnerabilities and the equity and social, natural and economic components and outcomes of the CRHM Risk Assessment

**e) Interdepartmental Implications:**

The Climate-Related Multi-Hazard (CRMH) Risk Assessment will require the participation of and insights on climate-related and natural hazard impacts, responses, and preparation from several departments including Fire & Rescue, Public Works, By-law and Community Safety, Planning and Parks, Recreation, and Culture.

**f) Business Plan/Financial Implications:**

The application for funding to UBCM is requesting \$150,000 for the project. The City of Maple Ridge will contribute \$57,000 of in-kind support including grant management.

**CONCLUSION:**

A Climate-Related Multi-Hazard (CRMH) Risk Assessment will help increase the resiliency of Maple Ridge by informing Climate-related risk and impact reductions and community safety and emergency preparedness to climate and natural hazard events.

  
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Prepared by: **Brian Montgomery**  
Climate Action and Resiliency Advisor

  
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Approved by: **Zvi Lifshiz**  
Director, Strategic Development, Communications and  
Public Engagement

  
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Concurrence: **Scott Hartman**  
Chief Administrative Officer