

# District of Barriere

# REPORT TO COUNCIL

<b>Date:</b> October 03, 2023	<b>File:</b> 530.20/Rpts
<b>To:</b> Council	<b>From:</b> Bob Payette, CAO
<b>Re: REDRIP Grant Application Submission (2<sup>nd</sup> intake) re: Phase 3 - Resolution</b>	

**Background:** There is an upcoming grant submission opportunity for Council to consider under the Rural Economic Diversification Infrastructure Program (REDRIP) which is in its second intake. The Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program (REDIP) is a grant launched by the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation (JEDI).

The Government of B.C. is investing up to \$33 million this year to create the Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program, which will support projects that promote the following:

- Economic diversification
- Resilience
- Clean growth opportunities
- Infrastructure development

The 2023-24 REDIP intake is open from July 4, 2023 to October 30, 2023 and applications must be submitted online by October 30, 2023. Funding decisions for this intake are scheduled for the spring of 2024.

**Discussion:** District staff are recommending that the following grant application be submitted under this funding program:

1. Rural Economic Diversification Infrastructure Program (second intake)

**Water Supply and Treatment Improvements - Phase 3**

Funding: 80/20 split.

Project: Louis Creek Industrial Park (LCIP) water main extension, bulk water station with service to Louis Creek EcoDepot, power supply and easements.

These improvements will provide water to the currently un-serviced industrial lots, as well as support potential workforce housing in the LCIP which will support Council's ongoing strategic plan of strengthening the economic opportunities in the Valley and enhance fire suppression availability in the area.

The option of a bulk water station addition to the system has also been discussed at the Council table, with a feasibility study in process for a joint venture with the TNRD to establish this potential new service at the Louis Creek EcoDepot. Approximately 10% of this grant funding, if awarded, will help facilitate this project should Council choose to move ahead with the project after the feasibility study is completed.

**Recommendations: THAT Council direct staff to submit an application for grant funding of up to \$1,000,000 for the extension and expansion of the LCIP water system, bulk water station with service to Louis Creek EcoDepot, power supply and easements through the Rural Economic Diversification Infrastructure Program (second intake), and**

**THAT Council, in support of the project, commits up to \$200,000 of the project as well as any cost overruns.**

Prepared by: B. Payette, CAO and C. Matthews, PW Manager