

District of Barriere
REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: January 8, 2024	File: 530.20/Rpts
To: Council	From: T. Buchanan, Acting CAO
Re: Ministry of Housing – Legislative Housing Changes, Funding Support Award	

Background: The Province has introduced legislation to update and streamline development finance tools to assist local governments to help continue to fund the costs of infrastructure and amenities to support increased housing supply and growth. To support the new legislation changes, the Ministry of Housing recently announced \$51 million in capacity funding to support local governments’ work to update their processes to meet new requirements to accelerate approval processes and build the homes people need.

Discussion: Attached is a letter from the Ministry of Housing notifying the District of Barriere that the allocated amount of this funding support is \$158,596.00 and will be provided to the municipality by the end of the month.

Both the District of Barriere Official Community Plan (OCP) and Development Approvals Bylaw are overdue for updating and have been on the “to-do” list for quite some time but due to the high cost of these revisions, have been postponed due to funding shortages. However, this funding announcement supports these types of projects specifically. A general OCP refresh, combined with a new Development Approvals Bylaw and accompanying Process Policy, that incorporates a new Amenity Cost Charge (ACC) bylaw provision created within the new legislation, could be handled by one consultant as a single project.

TRUE Consulting has been involved in most of our engineering projects over the past decade and already has a good deal of foundational background for this project. It is suggested that staff seek a quote from TRUE Consulting for Council’s consideration. At that time, Council can consider if it would like to move forward with TRUE Consulting, or put the project out as a formal RFP.

Recommendation: That Council direct staff to seek a quotation for an OCP refresh and Development Approvals Bylaw with accompanying ACC Bylaw with a Process Policy from TRUE Consulting Inc. for consideration at a future Council Meeting.

Prepared by: T. Buchanan, Acting CAO



VIA EMAIL

Ref: 63760

December 21, 2023

Tasha Buchanan
Acting Chief Administrative Officer
District of Barriere
Email: bpayette@barriere.ca

Dear Tasha Buchanan:

I am writing to notify you of the funding allocation for the District of Barriere from the \$51 million capacity funding for local government implementation of the legislative changes to support housing initiatives, including small-scale multi-unit housing and proactive planning, development finance, and transit-oriented development.

The District of Barriere will receive \$158,596 by the end of January 2024.

The funding formula reflects the different legislative requirements for municipalities and regional districts, and that smaller communities may need more financial assistance because they have fewer resources.

The funding formula includes a base amount and a per-capita amount (based on BC Stats 2023 estimates).

- For municipalities, the base amount is \$150,000, and the per-capita amount is \$4.39.
- For regional districts, the base amount is \$80,000 and the per capita amount is \$5.80.

This funding is intended to support activities or projects local governments must undertake to meet the new legislative requirements. Examples include updates to an existing zoning bylaw, parking bylaw, Official Community Plan (OCP), Official Development Plan (ODP), Development Cost Charge (DCC) bylaw, Development Cost Levy (DCL) or

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Housing Needs Report (HNR), as well as the development of a new zoning bylaw, OCP, ODP, DCC, DCL or new amenity cost charge (ACC) bylaw. This funding can also be used to hire staff and/or consultants in support of these activities. More specific information on eligible projects, eligible project costs as well as the reporting requirements will be provided in the funding guidelines when the funding is distributed.

If you have any questions regarding the legislative changes or funding program, please contact Ministry of Housing staff at PLUM@gov.bc.ca or 250-387-3394.

Yours truly,



Bindi Sawchuk
Assistant Deputy Minister
Housing and Land Use Policy Division
Ministry of Housing

pc: Teri Collins, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Housing
Tracy Campbell, Executive Financial Officer, Ministry of Housing
Kaye Krishna, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Okenge Yuma Morisho, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs
Tara Faganello, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs
Kevin Volk, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Jessica Brooks, Executive Director, Ministry of Housing
Rebecca Penz, Director, Ministry of Housing