

District of Barriere

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: October 3, 2023 – Late Entry Item	
To: Council	From: A.Wohlgemuth, Fire Chief & D. Ive, Deputy Chief
Re: UBCM Community Resiliency Fund - Council Resolution	

Background: *The Community Resiliency Investment* is a suite of funding streams and is intended to reduce the risk of wildfires and mitigate their impacts on BC communities. Funding is provided by BC Wildfire Services and is administered by UBCM.

Discussion: The intent of this project is to establish a strong and sustainable FireSmart community and resiliency program throughout the District of Barriere by developing a Community Wildfire Resiliency Program, FireSmart Committee, two FireSmart positions, conducting Neighborhood Wildfire Assessments, Ignition Zone Assessments and hosting educational meetings and events throughout the District. The District of Barriere is eligible for this funding opportunity.

These funds would cover the following for the community:

- ✓ A FireSmart Coordinator (35 hours per week- contract position - This position must be established to be awarded future funding for the programming)
- ✓ A Mitigation Specialist position (20 hours per week – contract position)
- ✓ A Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan (This must be established to be awarded future funding for the programming)
- ✓ FireSmart Educational material
- ✓ FireSmart Educational events and block party
- ✓ Business and Farm Specific education
- ✓ Neighborhood Wildfire Assessments and Ignition Zone assessments
- ✓ A FireSmart Committee (This must be established to be awarded future funding for the programming)
- ✓ Additional training for Fire Department Volunteers
- ✓ Mutual Aid training with neighboring departments
- ✓ Attendance to the 2024 Wildfire and Resiliency Training Summit
- ✓ Desks, computers, fuel, office chairs and cabinets for the program

The Grant application (including contract position and MERCS), is \$178,541.52

A Council resolution is required for the application.

Recommendation: THAT staff be directed to apply for funding in the amount of \$178,541.52 under the *UBCM Community Resiliency Investment* funding stream for the year long program.

Prepared by: A. Wohlgemuth, Fire Chief
Reviewed by: B. Payette, CAO