

---

**MEETING TYPE:** Regular Council Meeting  
**MEETING DATE:** October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024  
**AUTHOR:** Nick Van Dalen, Engineering Technician I  
**DEPARTMENT:** Utilities  
**ITEM TITLE:** Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Adaptation Grant  
**DESCRIPTION:** Council endorsement of a grant application through the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) through the Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Adaptation Fund.

---

### **PURPOSE**

To obtain Council support to apply for the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Adaptation funding stream for a Climate Change Hazard, Risk, & Vulnerability Assessment.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT a grant submission under the Provincial Union of British Columbia Municipalities Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation funding stream for Climate Change Hazard, Risk, & Vulnerability Assessment valued in the amount of \$150,000 be approved;  
AND THAT the District will provide overall grant management for the project.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The District of Lake Country has faced increasing risks and pressures on all of our natural resources due to recent natural hazards and human activities. With rising temperatures and more frequent extreme weather events driven by climate change, the district must assess and mitigate vulnerabilities to protect both its infrastructure and residents.

The District is looking to undertake a comprehensive Hazard, Risk, and Vulnerability Assessment (HRVA) to improve the District's preparedness and resilience to emergencies by assessing potential hazards, including increased heatwaves, droughts, wildfires, and floods, which are expected to intensify due to climate change.

Building on foundational work such as master plans, flood and inundation studies, and vulnerability assessments, the HRVA will provide a more holistic, data-driven approach to emergency planning. It will also integrate lessons learned from past incidents, such as the 2023 Lake Country Wildfire, which exposed opportunities to improve coordination with external partners. A key deliverable of this project would be the implementation of a GIS platform that quickly illustrates critical infrastructure and vulnerabilities within the District to external agencies, such as the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Engaging key partners, including neighboring jurisdictions, utility providers, emergency services, and local communities, the project will ensure collaborative planning and preparedness. By developing a resiliency implementation plan, the HRVA will prioritize mitigation strategies based on risk severity and likelihood, improving both short and long-term emergency response capabilities and ensuring a more climate-resilient future for Lake Country.

The Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation Funding Stream [Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation | Union of BC Municipalities \(ubcm.ca\)](https://www.ubcm.ca) is available for eligible projects, providing 100% funding up to \$150,000. The intent of the funding stream is to support eligible applicants to reduce risks from future disasters due to natural hazards and climate related risks through the development and implementation of effective strategies to prepare

for, mitigate, and adapt to those risks. This aligns with the objectives of a Climate Change and Hazard, Risk, & Vulnerability Assessment to consolidate hazard data, community engagement, and expert analysis to improve the District's ability to manage risks and protect its community from future hazards.

## **DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS**

The District of Lake Country is undertaking a comprehensive Hazard, Risk, and Vulnerability Assessment (HRVA) to identify potential risks, such as wildfires, floods, and heatwaves, which are expected to increase due to climate change. This HRVA will enhance emergency preparedness and infrastructure resilience by providing a data-driven framework to prioritize risk mitigation efforts.

The HRVA will deliver multiple benefits, including improved situational awareness, better coordination during emergency responses, and the ability to proactively address vulnerabilities in infrastructure and services. This assessment is being undertaken collaboratively by Protective Services and Infrastructure and Development Engineering, ensuring a unified approach to risk management. Externally, it will engage key stakeholders, including regional partners and the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), enabling efficient information sharing and response coordination.

We have submitted an expression of interest for this project under the Disaster Resilience and Innovation Funding (DRIF) grant program, administered through the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, requesting \$200,000, with the additional \$50,000 earmarked for developing a GIS platform to support real-time data access. However, a decision on this application will not be made until Spring 2025, and it faces significant competition due to a limited funding pool of \$40 million over two years.

This UBCM grant provides a maximum of \$150,000 under Stream 1: Foundation and Non-Structural Projects, which we are now applying for. If successful, the additional \$50,000 for the GIS platform would be covered through operational budgets. Given the uncertain funding landscape due to upcoming elections and high competition across grant programs, applying to both funding streams maximizes our chances of securing the necessary resources for this critical project. Both grant applications allow funding to be stacked. If we are successful in attaining the UBCM grant, there is an opportunity to request the remaining \$50,000 through the DRIF program.

## **APPLICABLE LEGISLATION, BYLAWS AND POLICY**

N/A

## **IMPACT ON INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES AND STAFF CAPACITY (if applicable)**

The completion of a Climate Change Hazard, Risk, & Vulnerability Assessment will provide a consolidated report of critical infrastructure and vulnerabilities within the District, that allows for a more holistic and proactive approach to emergency management. Implementation of a GIS platform that includes key components of the HRVA will improve information sharing during emergencies, thereby improving our resiliency and response to natural disasters.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

None                       Budget Previously Approved     Other (see below)

A Climate Change Hazard, Risk, & Vulnerability Assessment was not previously included in any five-year capital plans. If we are unsuccessful in obtaining this grant, staff would be looking to fund the HRVA through various capital reserves following Council approval.

## **CONSULTATION (Internal referrals, External Agencies, Committees, Stakeholders)**

Engaging key stakeholders, including neighboring jurisdictions, utility providers, emergency services, and local

communities, the project will ensure collaborative planning and preparedness.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Successful grant applications have protocols for community notification.

### ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Create and Support Opportunities for a Healthy, Active and Inclusive Community
- Create Infrastructure That Meets Community Needs
- Encourage Growth of the Downtown Core
- Ensure Sustainable Water Service Delivery for the Community
- Explore Opportunities to Engage With Regional Local Governments for the Betterment of the Community
- Honour Reconciliation by Strengthening Relationships and Inclusiveness With Our Indigenous Partners
- Identify and support improvements to the Development Process
- Implement the Agricultural Plan
- Preserve, Protect and Enhance Our Natural Environment
- Secure long term wastewater service delivery for our community
- Support Opportunities to Diversify Lake Country's Tax Base

### ALIGNMENT WITH MASTER PLANS

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Plan                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Official Community Plan                           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate Action Charter             | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation Master Plan 2019               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Needs Report                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary Sewer System Map                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Liquid Waste Management Plan Stage 1/2 Report | <input type="checkbox"/> Transit Future Plan-Central Okanagan Region-DRAFT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> McCoubrey Plateau Area Structure Plan         | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation for Tomorrow                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mobility Master Plan                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Master Plan                                 |

## OPTIONS

The following options are presented for Council's consideration:

- A. THAT the District of Lake Country submit a grant application under the Provincial Union of British Columbia Municipalities Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation funding stream for a Climate Change Hazard, Risk, & Vulnerability Assessment valued at in the amount of \$150,000;  
AND THAT the District will provide overall grant management for the project.
- B. THAT Council does not support the application to the Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation Funding Stream for a Climate Change Hazard, Risk, & Vulnerability Assessment.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nick Van Dalen, Engineering Technician I



---

**Report Approval Details**

Document Title:	2024 Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation Grant.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Sep 23, 2024

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

**Matthew Salmon, Infrastructure & Development Engineering Director - Sep 23, 2024 - 10:14 AM**

**Reyna Seabrook, Director of Corporate Services - Sep 23, 2024 - 10:50 AM**

**Paul Gipps, Chief Administrative Officer - Sep 23, 2024 - 11:50 AM**