



DISTRICT OF WEST VANCOUVER
750 17TH STREET, WEST VANCOUVER BC V7V 3T3

COUNCIL REPORT

Table with 2 columns: Field (Date, From, Subject, File) and Value (November 1, 2024, Gord Howard, Fire Chief, UBCM's Indigenous Cultural Safety & Cultural Humility Training Grant Application, 14.2700.07.2024)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the submission of a grant application for \$40,000 to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Community Resiliency Investment Program- Indigenous Cultural Safety & Cultural Humility Training be approved.

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval to submit a grant application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) to advance Indigenous cultural safety and cultural humility training within the Fire Department.

The application for this grant requires a resolution from Council authorizing the identified project to proceed.

The UBCM was submitted to meet the application deadline. However, UBCM will accept a Council resolution submitted after the application.

2.0 Legislation/Bylaw/Policy

There is no current applicable legislation, bylaw, or policy.

3.0 Council Strategic Objective(s)/Official Community Plan

This grant satisfies item 5.4 Address systemic racism in the organization found under section 5.0 Municipal Services. This grant also satisfies 6.8 Strengthen relationships with First Nations based on respect, equality, and meaningful engagement by exploring new pathways to reconciliation, such as increased engagement, dialogue, and collaboration found under section 6.0 Social Well Being.

## **4.0 Financial Implications**

This report seeks Council's approval to apply for grant funding to help advance cultural knowledge, safety, and humility. The \$40,000 grant would cover the cost of the training.

## **5.0 Analysis**

### **5.1 Discussion**

The West Vancouver Fire & Rescue (WVFR) 2024 Indigenous Cultural Safety and Cultural Humility Training grant application will allow crucial training to be made available to fire employees to strengthen our relationship with our local Indigenous community. The goal of this project is to engage with our Squamish Nation community for the purposes of developing a greater understanding of their culture and with the intent of collaborating and creating meaningful education to build positive community relationships for the firefighters delivering emergency services.

It is our responsibility to establish meaningful relationships with the Indigenous people we protect and be informed of their history. This allows us to deepen our understanding, collaborate and support them. This knowledge will also allow us to show genuine compassion in our delivery of our emergency services.

### **5.2 Sustainability**

This new knowledge and understanding of our Indigenous community will allow for a stronger relationship between the District as a whole, and the Squamish Nation and will positively impact all levels of collaboration moving forward.

## **6.0 Options**

### **6.1 Recommended Option**

That the submission of a grant application for \$40,000 to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund - 2024 UBCM Indigenous Cultural Safety & Cultural Humility Training be approved.

### **6.2 Considered Options**

Without Council approval of the grant application, the District would not be able to secure funding under the UBCM CEPF Program. This would impede the ability to move forward with this crucial training for District employees, which would allow us to move forward with strengthening our understanding and relationships with our Indigenous community.

## 7.0 Conclusion

Approving this motion to submit the grant application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund would allow the District to proceed with the implementation of Indigenous Cultural Safety & Cultural Humility Training.

Author: \_\_\_\_\_



Appendix A: UBCM CEPF - 2024 Indigenous Cultural Safety & Cultural Humility Training Application

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## Community Emergency Preparedness Fund

# Indigenous Cultural Safety and Cultural Humility Training

## 2024 Application Worksheet

Please complete and return the worksheet with all the required attachments by **November 1, 2024**. Applicants will be advised of the status of their application within 90 days of the application deadline.

All questions must be answered by typing directly in this form. **As all questions are reviewed and scored as part of the adjudication process, please do not leave any questions blank.**

If you have any questions, contact [cepf@ubcm.ca](mailto:cepf@ubcm.ca) or (604) 270-8226 ext. 220.

SECTION 1: Primary Applicant Information	
First Nation or Local Government Name: The District of West Vancouver	File Number*: 11350

*\*Refer to the LGPS Online Application Form submission confirmation email*

SECTION 2: Detailed Project Information
<p><b>1. Proposed Activities.</b> What <u>specific</u> activities will be undertaken as part of the proposed project? Refer to Section 6 of the <i>Program and Application Guide</i> for eligibility.</p> <p>a) Relationship building: In discussion with First Nations leaders as part of the co-design process it was made very clear that this project has to unfold in a series of workshops (not a one-off training event) to build trust and relationships, first and foremost. In total, over 60 West Vancouver Firefighters will benefit from these workshops. In these workshops, the participants will carve, share food, and learn about culture safety and humility through a program specific to North Shore First Nations and their traditions and history. Municipal and Nation-based staff participants will also share their stories of how their work contributes to resilience on the North Shore for mutual learning.</p> <p>b) Training. Please indicate who will receive the training. Training is for emergency management personnel only and not community members. Training will be delivered to firefighters who are first responders in the West Vancouver community.</p> <p>c) Meeting expenses:</p>

Most venues will be shared in kind as well as meeting materials etc. The workshops will provide meals for participants. Sharing food is a major part of the culture. Indigenous catering services will be hired to experience the diversity of cultural foods. Please see the budget attached for specific details.

## 2. Alignment with funding stream.

- a) Describe how the proposed activities align with the intent of the funding stream to enhance cultural safety and cultural humility in the delivery of local emergency management programs and services.

Each session and the Awakening Ceremony, if invited, is an opportunity for firefighters to learn from the Squamish Ocean Canoe Family as well as knowledge holders from the Squamish Nation and Tsleil-Waututh Nation. The intent is to deepen understanding of colonial truths and Indigenous resilience, as well as enhance understanding and relationships with each other.

- b) To what extent will the proposed activities be developed and delivered by an Indigenous organization.

Training will be developed and delivered by the International Sustainability Education Foundation who administer it for the Squamish Ocean Canoe Family.

- c) Will training be in-person and supportive of social-emotional experiential learning?

Training will be in-person, conducted over four 1-day sessions prioritizing hands-on experience, active engagement, and reflective practices.

- d) To what extent will the proposed activities be delivered by Indigenous owned and run facilities, catering, etc.

Squamish Ocean Canoe Family, co-designers of the project will facilitate the paddle carving workshops and share the knowledge they hold as it relates to this work.

Indigenous run catering companies will supply food for each of the events.

## 3. Engagement with First Nations and/or Indigenous Organizations. In the following questions, please identify the specific bands, Treaty First Nations, and/or Indigenous organizations as well as the specific traditional territory, reserve, or other First Nation's land that may be impacted by the proposed project.

- a) Which First Nations and/or Indigenous organizations were proactively engaged as part of the development of this application?

This project has been co-designed with the Squamish Ocean Canoe Family and in collaboration with Squamish Nation.

- b) Which First Nations and/or Indigenous organizations will participate in the proposed activities and what specific role will they play?

Squamish Ocean Canoe Family, co-designers of the project and will facilitate the paddle carving workshops and share the knowledge they hold as it relates to this work.

- c) Please indicate the extent to which staff and/or elected officials have undertaken Indigenous Cultural Safety and Cultural Humility Training.

District of West Vancouver (DWV) has engaged in Cultural Safety and Cultural Humility Training with their senior leadership teams. DWV has developed internal

training opportunities for staff at all levels and create staff engagement opportunities specific to events like Truth and Reconciliation Day.

*If applicable, evidence of support for the proposed activities from First Nations and/or Indigenous organizations has been submitted with this application. This could be in the form of a letter, email or other correspondence.*

- 4. Engagement with Neighbouring Jurisdictions and Affected Parties.** Identify any neighbours and/or partners (e.g., equity-denied populations, organizations that participate in the cultural safety and humility training) you will engage with as appropriate to the project.

Rural and remote communities may want to consider engaging with regional districts and/or health authorities, and First Nation applicants may want to consider engaging with the First Nations' Emergency Services Society or the First Nations Health Authority.

The project will engage with the local First Nation communities and the International Sustainability Education Foundation.

*If applicable, evidence of support for the proposed activities from neighbouring jurisdictions or other parties has been submitted with this application. This could be in the form of a letter, email or other correspondence.*

- 5. Contribution to a comprehensive, cooperative, regional approach, and benefits.** Please describe how your project will contribute to a comprehensive, cooperative, and regional approach to Indigenous cultural safety and cultural humility. What regional benefits will result from this project?

Improve individual and collective abilities to work effectively with Indigenous Peoples by gaining a situational awareness of the impacts of privilege, power, conscious and unconscious stereotypes, assumptions and biases on the delivery of emergency services. To provide Trauma-Informed Care by recognizing the presence of trauma symptoms and acknowledge the role that trauma may play in an individual's life.

- 6. Alignment with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action, the First Nation Health Authority, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.** Describe how your activities align with the above.

As a project co-developed with Indigenous organizations and First Nations leaders, this educational journey will be rooted in key UNDRIP articles such as Article 5 that protects Indigenous Peoples' right "to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions" and Article 26 that states that "Indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired."

This project upholds the key TRC principles such as political will, joint leadership, trust-building, accountability, and transparency, as well as a substantial investment of resources. By co-developing the approach through joint leadership and trust-building one carved paddle at a time, as well as direct investment in Indigenous organizations and businesses, the project advances multiple TRC principles at once. At the core, it begins with an individual journey of reconciliation by getting to know the truth and history of the land now known as the North Shore.

**7. Additional Information.** Please share any other information you think may help support your submission.

N/A

### SECTION 3: Required Attachments

The following separate attachments are required to be submitted as part of the application:

- Band Council, Treaty First Nation, or local government resolution **OR** a letter of support from the Band Manager, CAO or CFO for applications that request less than \$50,000 in funding. Resolutions and letters need to indicate support for the current proposed activities and willingness to provide overall grant management. All regional applications, or applications requesting more than \$50,000 in funding, will require resolutions to be submitted.
- Detailed budget that indicates the proposed expenditures from CEPF and aligns with the proposed activities outlined in the Application Worksheet. Although additional funding or support is not required, any other grant funding or in-kind contributions must be identified. Applicants are encouraged to use the [LGPS Budget and Financial Summary Tool](#).

For regional projects only:

- Band Council, Treaty First Nation, or local government resolution from the primary applicant, indicating support for the current proposed activities and willingness to provide overall grant management; and,
- Band Council, Treaty First Nation, or local government resolution from each sub-applicant that clearly states their approval for the primary applicant to apply for, receive, and manage the grant funding on their behalf. Resolutions from sub-applicants must include this language.

**SECTION 4: Signature** This worksheet is required to be signed by an authorized representative of the applicant (i.e., staff member or elected official). Please note all application materials will be shared with the Province of BC.

I certify that: (1) to the best of my knowledge, all information is accurate, (2) the area covered by the proposed project is within the applicant's jurisdiction (or appropriate approvals are in place) and (3) we understand that this project may be subject to a compliance audit under the program.

Name: Gord Howard

Title: Fire Chief

Signature\*:



Date: Oct 30, 2024

*\*A certified digital or original signature is required.*



**Documents should be submitted as Word, Excel, or PDF files. Total file size for email attachments cannot exceed 20 MB.**

**All documents should be submitted to Local Government Program Services,  
Union of BC Municipalities by email: [cepf@ubcm.ca](mailto:cepf@ubcm.ca).**

**Please note “2024-ICS” in the subject line.**

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