



# REGIONAL DISTRICT of Fraser-Fort George

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## REPORT FOR CONSIDERATION

TO: Chair and Directors  
FROM: Sarah White, General Manager of Financial Services  
DATE: March 7, 2025  
SUBJECT: Community Works Fund – Salmon Valley Volunteer Fire Department Storage Building  
SUMMARY: Purpose: Consider Approval of Funding

Attachments:

1. Backgrounder
2. Internal Application Community Works Fund
3. Community Works Fund Expenditures Policy RD-08-14

### RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. THAT the report dated March 7, 2025 regarding “Community Works Fund - Salmon Valley Volunteer Fire Department Storage Building” be received for information.
2. THAT funding from the Community Works Fund, of up to \$150,000 for the Salmon Valley Volunteer Fire Department Storage Building, be approved.

| ENTITLEMENT              | HOW VOTE COUNTED |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| All<br>1 Director/1 vote | Majority         |
| All<br>Weighted          | Majority         |

### ISSUE(S):

Fire Chiefs meet annually with the RDFFG to engage in strategic financial planning, addressing the needs for purchases and training. Each year, these needs are prioritized to determine which can be accommodated within the budget and which must be deferred until additional funding becomes available. The budgets for each Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) are itemized to outline anticipated expenses, including training, turnout gear, vehicle equipment, hall maintenance, truck maintenance, and utility costs.

The demand for inter-agency assistance, particularly during wildfire events, has been increasing annually. Each fire department is committed to enhancing training and expanding equipment inventories not only to strengthen internal resilience and response capacity but also to support neighboring communities in times of need.

The Salmon Valley Volunteer Fire Department (SVVFD) is quickly outgrowing its current facility and needs an additional building for storage purposes.

RDFFG Public Safety staff will work with the fire chief to make sure a permanent structure is built according to all building and planning requirements.

To complete the Salmon Valley Volunteer Fire Department Storage Building outlined above, the Board is being asked to consider approving funding from the Community Works Fund for up to \$100,000.

### RELEVANT POLICIES:

1. Community Works Fund Expenditures Policy RD-08-14
  - Defines the process to allocate funding from the Community Works Fund

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES ALIGNMENT:**

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous and Intergovernmental Partnerships | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Strength and Adaptability | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality Community Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Stewardship and Climate Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Awareness and Engagement                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory or Routine Business            |  |   |

**SERVICE RELEVANCE:**

The Salmon Valley fire protection was established in 1977 and provides fire protection to the community of Salmon Valley and the Wright Creek Road area. The fire department is funded by a property tax levied against the net taxable value of land and improvements within the service area.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):**

As of February 28, 2025, the uncommitted balance in the Community Works Fund is \$2,321,754.

In the 2025 budget plan, SVVFD has budgeted \$200,000 to put towards the construction of the storage facility and are requesting \$100,000 from the Community Works Fund with the remaining costs to be funded through operating budgets and reserves.

**OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):**

N/A

**DECISION OPTIONS:**

1. Approve recommendations.
  - Funding will be provided from the Community Works Fund.

Other Options:

- a. Defer the request if additional information is required
  - will result in a delay in completing the project.
- b. Deny the request
  - alternate funding would have to be obtained.

**COMMENTS:**

From my review of the application, the project appears to meet the eligibility requirements in the Community Works Fund Agreement. This project fits into the category of Fire Halls and Fire Station Infrastructure.

Respectfully submitted,

***“Sarah White”***

Sarah White  
 General Manager of Financial Services

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