



...and Getting Better because of the
Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Provincially Funded Programs

Administered by UBCM



Highlights Package

For the Period Ending December 31, 2006

Status Report



Administration provided
by UBCM

Funding provided by:
Province of B.C.



**For program
information, visit**

**www.civicnet.bc.ca
under
Programs & Services**

**Local Government
Program Services**

LGPS Secretariate

Municipal House
545 Superior St
Victoria BC V8V 1X4

Phone: 250 356-5134
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Local Government Program Services

...programs to address provincial-local government shared priorities

January 31, 2007

Honourable Gordon Campbell
Premier
Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC V8V 1X4

Dear Premier Campbell:

BC is a great place and the theme for our 2006 year-end report on the provincial programs administered by UBCM is how that funding has allowed BC to become an even better place to live.

We have introduced a new look and feel to our reporting. Along with our summaries of project approvals that were funded, we are providing a series of highlight pages that offer quick snapshots of the programs and their benefits.

BC and UBCM are pioneering in this area of program delivery. Our initial emphasis was to be the most efficient and effective program delivery agent – the agent of choice, and I think we have delivered that.

We also wanted to be open and transparent and in financial terms we have consistently reported to the government and members on a timely basis with reports always available on our website.

We did all that, delivering almost 1,000 project applications in two years with just over two full time staff. But there is more to reporting than just numbers – we must do a better job of telling communities' stories of what your government's funding has allowed them to do. There are great stories to tell and we are beginning in this report to share them with you.

The stories will also be shared with others, including other communities that will inspire them to make BC the greatest place on Earth to live, work and play.

Sincerely,

Brenda Binnie
President

Enclosure



LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAM SERVICES PROGRAM SUMMARY AS AT DECEMBER 30, 2006

Funding provided
by

Province of
British Columbia

Background

Local Government Program Services provides program administration services for programs funded by the Province of British Columbia and designed to assist local governments. Local governments can access funding to address various issues in a locally based and community specific manner. UBCM provides dedicated program staff and specialized knowledge of local government requirements to ensure responsive programming for members. By using existing UBCM infrastructure, administrative costs are minimized, ensuring maximum value to communities.

Ongoing Funding Opportunities

Emergency Planning

Administered for the Provincial Emergency Program

Existing programming in support of emergency plan upgrading, plan exercising, and emergency personnel training will continue for 2007. Details of the current program are now posted on our web site. The deadline for applications is January 30, 2007.

Strategic Wildfire Protection Initiatives for Communities

Administered for the Ministry of Forests and Range

This program provides funding support for strategic wildfire prevention initiatives, including wildfire protection plans, fuel management pilot projects, or larger scale fuel management projects. Ongoing applications for these programs can be made online at <http://ground.hpr.for.gov.bc.ca/>

Community Tourism Program

Administered for the Province of British Columbia

This program is designed to assist communities in enhancing tourism activities in their community or region. Phase 1 of the Community Tourism Program was launched in July 2005 and is ongoing until March 30, 2007. This program is entitlement-based. Local government entitlements are available on the Local Government Program Services web site. UBCM is currently designing Phase II of the Program. Watch our site, www.civicnet.bc.ca for more information.

School Community Connections

Administered for the Ministry of Education by UBCM and the BC School Trustees Association

The program goal is to develop under-utilized schools into centres for community activities and services. The program is set up in three funding steps, which are designed to support partnerships between school boards and local governments:

- "Making the Connection" – up to \$5,000 per potential partnership.
- "Developing the Connection" – up to \$40,000 per partnership, one per school district.
- "Completing the Connection" – up to \$125,000 per partnership, one per school district.

The deadline for step 1 applications is April 1, 2007. The deadline for step 2 and 3 has been extended to December 1, 2007.

Seniors Housing and Support Services Initiative

Administered for the Ministry of Community Services

This program was developed to assist communities in developing strategies around provision of housing and services for their Senior population. Program activities include information sharing initiatives such as workshops and conferences, web-based information via www.seniorsincommunities.ca and a modest funding envelope to encourage community-based information sharing initiatives. Pilot projects exploring innovative solutions to senior's services are also underway.

Programs Underway

The application deadline has passed for the following program, and projects are underway.

Integrated Emergency Planning

Administered for the Provincial Emergency Program

A new program to facilitate cooperative or integrated emergency planning was launched Fall 2006. The program is designed to encourage a regional approach to planning which includes both local governments and First Nations.

Community Responses to Methamphetamine Funding

Administered for the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

The program was established to provide communities with resources to respond to local concerns around methamphetamine use and/or production. While communities may take differing approaches to the issue, the objective—to encourage development of awareness raising and educational strategies or to build capacity for a community response to the issue—remains the same.

West Nile Virus Risk Reduction Initiative

Administered for the Ministry of Health

This program provides financial assistance to local governments and First Nations to implement programs directed at mosquito control, with the intent of reducing the risk of West Nile Virus. Funding was also made available for programs on Crown Land.

Traffic Safety Pilot Projects

Administered for the Ministry of Community Services

This modest funding program supports the development of one community “Traffic Safety Commission” pilot project within the geographic area of each Area Association. UBCM has partnered with the BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation on this initiative.

Regional Community to Community Forum Program

Administered for the Ministry of Community Services and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

This program provides funding for jointly organized meetings between elected leaders from neighbouring First Nation and local governments for dialogue on issues of mutual interest and concern. This program has run since 1999 and is expected to continue – there are usually two calls for applications each year. The First Nations Summit is a partner in the program. For further information see the UBCM website under **Programs and Services: Cmty to Cmty Forum Program**.

Community Health Promotion Fund

Administered for the Ministry of Health

This program was developed to support pilot projects that assist communities to build the skills and abilities needed to address their own health promotion priorities; support best practice development, information sharing, and networking and strengthen collaboration between local governments, health authorities and other health-related organizations to protect and promote the health of their citizens.

Other Initiatives

Community Structural Protection Units

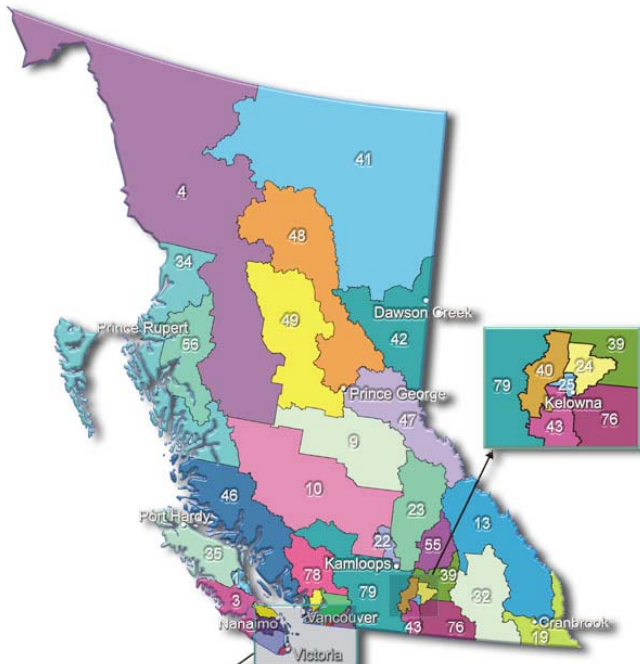
Administered for the Office of the Fire Commissioner/Ministry of Forests and Range

The Community Structural Protection Unit (SPU) project was developed to provide resources to create a community protection tool in the case of wildfire threat. The units are made available during the wildfire season. This program does not provide direct funding to communities, but programming includes training and orientation opportunities as well as educational programming.

For More Information:

For detailed information on these programs, please go to the UBCM web site at www.civicnet.bc.ca
Look under **Programs and Services for Local Government Program Services**.

*...and getting better because of the
provincially funded programs
administered by UBCM*



Program Highlights

- \$22 million distributed or committed since 2004
- Nearly 1000 successful project applications
- Each and every community has benefited from one or more of the programs
- Four programs under administration include all First Nations communities

*...and getting better
because UBCM administration maximizes
the dollars flowing to communities
and minimizes approval times*

Administrative Effectiveness

- Administration costs are less than ½% of grants
- 100% of provincial funds goes to communities
- Expedited approval times – standard turnaround time from application to approval is two weeks
- UBCM's membership has expressed a high level of satisfaction with program administration



...and getting better because UBCM has established procedures for reporting and accountability



...and getting better because of the support provided by these provincially funded programs

Accountability

- Met all targets for reporting to Premier, Ministers and Ministries
 - Posted quarterly financial statements on UBCM website
 - Provided each MLA with an annual summary of all grants in their constituencies
 - Provided each local government with a year end summary of activity and opportunity
 - Holdbacks in place for each program to ensure reporting accountability
-

Program Highlight Sheets - A Summary of each Program:

1. Community Responses to Methamphetamine Funding Program
2. Community Structural Protection Units
3. Community Health Promotion Fund
4. Emergency Planning Program
5. School Community Connections Program
6. Community Tourism Program
7. Seniors Housing and Support Initiative
8. Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiatives
9. West Nile Virus Risk Reduction Initiative

*...and more prepared to combat
the scourge of Crystal Meth*

Funding provided by the Province of BC



2006 Program Highlights

- \$2 million in funding announced at the 2005 UBCM convention; applications began to be received 45 days after the announcement
- All funds were committed by the March 2006 deadline for community-based programs
- A high percentage of programming established new Meth taskforces with an ongoing commitment to the issue
- All eligible applications funded due in part to good program design
- Work is underway to find effective tools to share program successes across jurisdictions

Key Indicators:

Small grants can leverage huge efforts at the local level – grants ranged from \$10,000-20,000; the lowest request was for \$725 and the highest was for \$40,000.

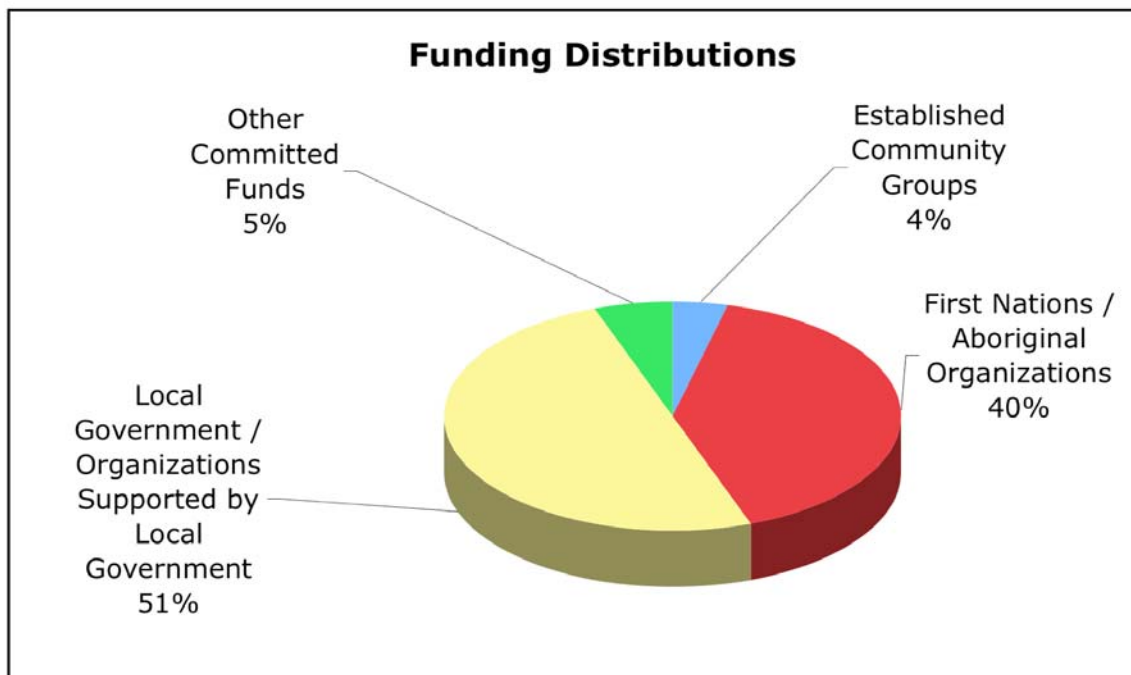
Community Profile:

In Burns Lake, the Province's investment led to the formation of the community's first Crystal Meth Task Force composed of members of the community, addiction counselors and the RCMP. Their educational programming has reached:

- Students in grades 8 & 9 and high risk youth in Burns Lake and neighbouring Grassy Plains
- The local businesses community with a "Meth Watch" program and information sessions for the general public
- Community members with training for first responders

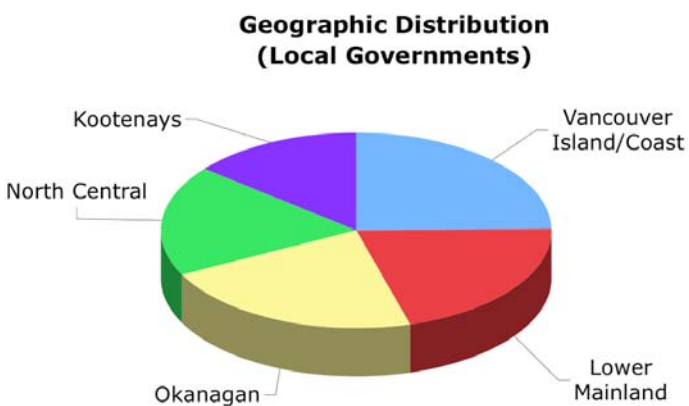


Downtown Burns Lake



Key Messages:

- Program developed in partnership between UBCM and Ministry of Solicitor General and Public Safety with assistance from Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation
- The first program in which UBCM has administered provincial funding to First Nations as well as local governments
- Monthly accountability reporting to the Crystal Meth Secretariat
- 161 applications funded with all regions of the province participating
- All funds committed within six months of Premier's announcement – recognizing the seriousness of the situation



*...and more prepared to combat
interface fires*

Funding provided by the Province of BC



Structural Protection Unit Trailers. Each trailer contains pumps, hoses, sprinkler kits, generators, water bladders and other items.

Activity Report:

Seven Deployments for 30 days:

Tumbler Ridge: 4 days on site
Structural assessments completed; sprinkler systems not utilized.

Cariboo Regional District; 2 days on site
Structural assessments completed for Enchiko Lodge; sprinkler systems not utilized.

Cariboo Regional District; 2 days on site
Structural assessments completed for Nasko; sprinkler systems not utilized.

Capital Regional District; 4 days on site
Galiano Island; 8 structures protected no losses incurred.

Thompson Lake Okanagan Regional District; 2 days on site
Johnson Lake; Structural assessments completed; sprinkler systems not utilized.

Okanagan Similkameen Regional District; 10 days on site
Pasaytan Valley; 41 structures protected; no losses incurred.

Okanagan Similkameen Regional District; 2 days on site
Keremeos / Border Lakes; staged; sprinkler systems not utilized.

2006 Program Highlights

- Active fire season in 2006
- Strategic deployments ensure resources are available in high-risk areas
- No structures lost since program inception; active fire season in 2006
- All four SPU's deployed during 2006

Two Strategic Placements:

SPUS placed in Prince George and Kamloops based on fire risk assessment.

Education and Communication:

With the OFC taking the lead, nine training sessions for structural and forest fire fighters has been held in across the province. These sessions focus on the unique demands of fighting fire in the interface. In 2006, training sessions were held in Penticton (2), Valemount, McBride, Armstrong, Lake Country, Westside, Kamloops and Cranbrook.

Informational packages informing local governments of the provincial service and encouraging community based structural protection capacity have been developed and distributed at the UBCM and Fire Chiefs conventions.

Key Messages:



SPU Deployment



- SPUs operate as a partnership utilizing the specializations of the Office of the Fire Commissioner, Ministry of Forests and Range Protection Branch and UBCM
- Promotes FireSmart and complements Strategic Wildfire and Emergency Planning Programs

*...and will help achieve the goal of making
BC the healthiest jurisdiction ever to
Host an Olympic and Paralympics Winter
Games*

Funding provided by the Province of BC



Fort St. John's Health Living Alliance

2006 Program Highlights

- Second year of the \$5 Million program with 29 Round 1 projects completed by year-end and 50 Round 2 projects approved for completion by 2007 year-end
- High member uptake and interest (about 150 applications received in both first and second rounds)
- Program design encourages local definition of priorities, building collaborative partnerships among local authorities, encourages innovation and promotes best practices and information sharing
- Project types address ActNow BC goals as well as transportation, homelessness, substance abuse as well as youth and healthy communities capacity building
- Developed and launched \$250,000 BC Healthy Communities Seed Grant Program

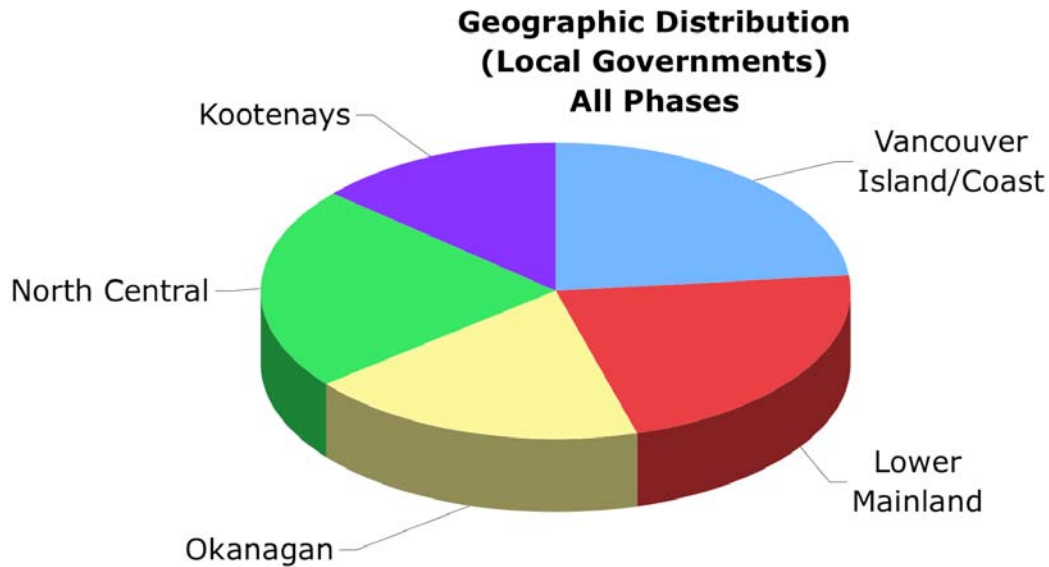
Key Indicators: A wide variety of innovative projects and community partners collaborating with local governments.

Community Profile: City of Cranbrook Health Connections Pilot – Juniper Place

Juniper Place is a central community hub which has brought together a broad range of key programs under one roof and provides a central community "window-in" to critical health and social services and supports. The Healthy Connections Pilot Project resulted in raising community awareness and securing "buy-in" through formation of a major stakeholder steering committee, implementation plan and a three-year budget for Juniper Place. Now that community agencies, organizations and the general public have been introduced to the facility, community needs have started to be addressed. The Steering Committee (which includes City of Cranbrook and other major stakeholders) continues to provide their assistance and support, without which sustainable financial resources would have been difficult to achieve.



Juniper Place Family Resource Center



Key Messages:

- Program partnership ties with BC Healthy Communities and Active Civic Employees
- Community partners include Regional Health Authorities, the non-profit community, School Districts, community organizations, First Nations and others
- Evaluation framework developed with first round project results under assessment.
- Regular updates to Ministry of Health and links with ActNow BC, BC Healthy Living Alliance, 2010 LegaciesNow, Community Food Action Initiative and Active Communities and Active Civic Employees Network



Gold River's Sprockids Project



*...and more prepared than ever before
because of four emergency planning grants*

Funding provided by the Province of BC



2006 Program Highlights

- Continued to build on successes of 2004 emergency planning program (one of the first administered by UBCM)
- Two new programs launched and 80 projects funded at a cost of \$400,000
- 2007 program designed and launched in December 2006 includes a unique element promoting local government and First Nations cooperation and coordination

Key Indicators:

Funded Applications:	Number	Approved
2004 Emergency Planning	66	\$827,038.73
2005 Emergency Planning	41	\$433,333.44
2006 Emergency Planning	57	\$335,481.00
2006 Integrated Emergency Planning	23	\$46,000.00
2007 Emergency Planning	1	\$9,200.00

One Community's Success Story

Locally developed Emergency Plans and training in the Peace River Regional District proved invaluable during the 2006 fire season. The Peace River Regional District had to declare a state of Local Emergency and activated an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) in Dawson Creek.

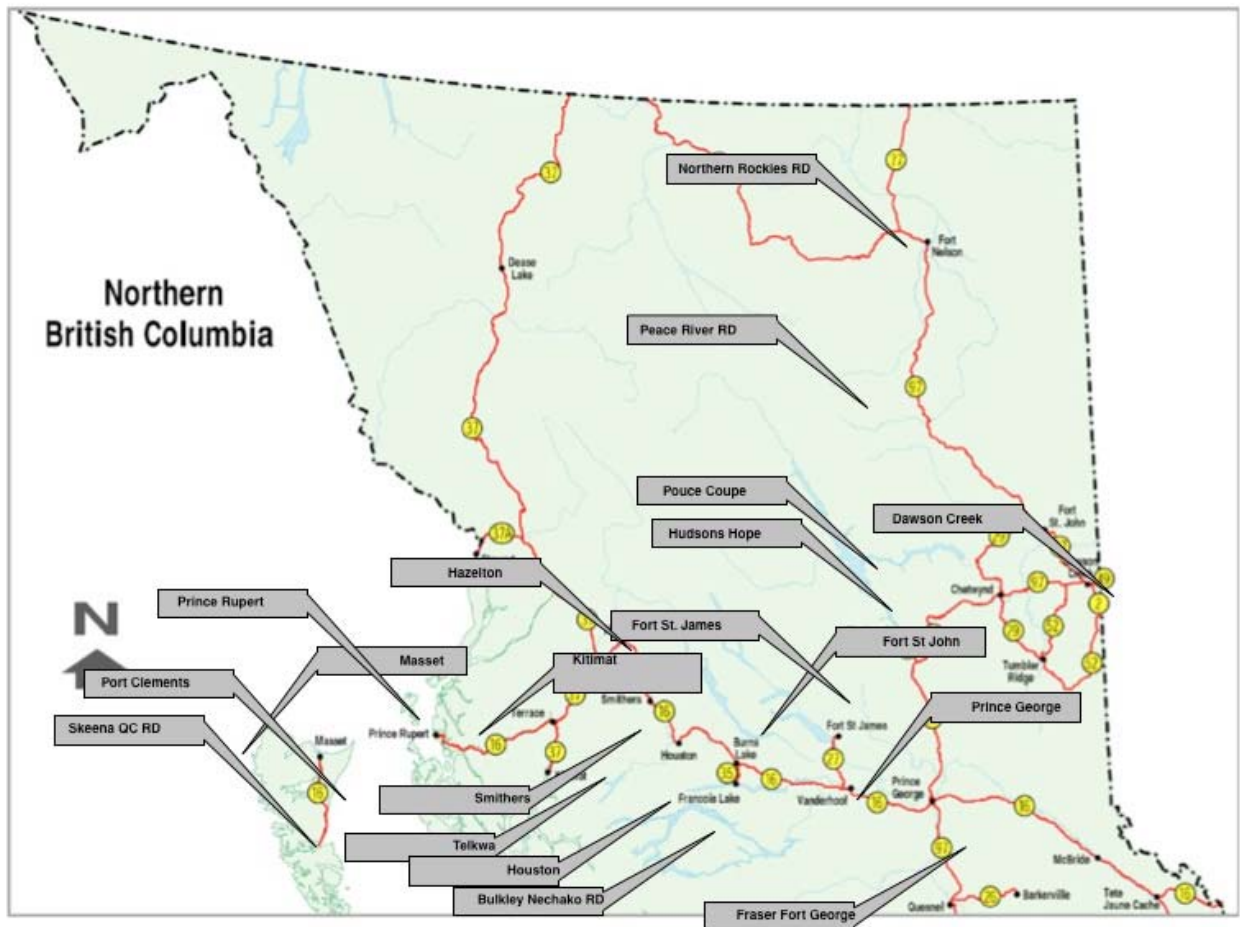
Between Fort St. John and Pink Mountain on the Alaska Highway, road closures were required, and in Wonowon an evacuation alert was necessary affecting 50 homes. Also within the Region, Tumbler Ridge activated their EOC and an Evacuation order was required.

This is a great example of Local Governments successfully implementing their Emergency Plan and ensuring the safety of their residents.

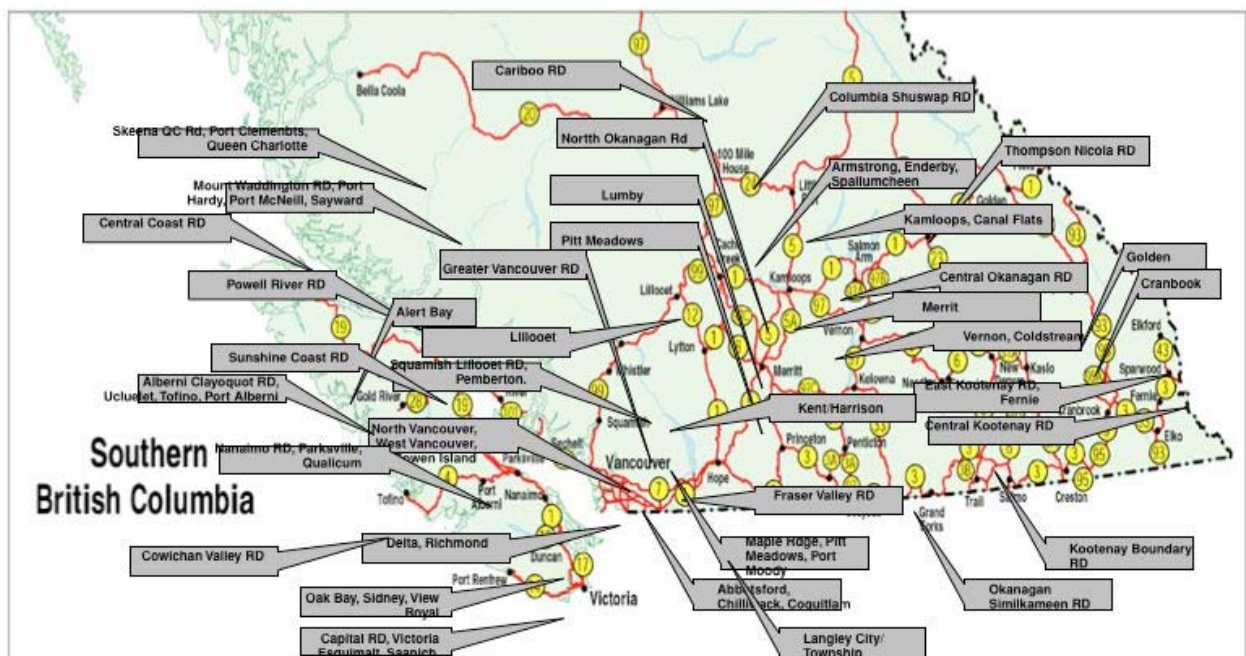


Highways were closed as smoke affected visibility near Pink Mountain.

Emergency Planning – Funded Applications Northern British Columbia



Southern British Columbia



Key Messages:

- All regional districts that were provincially mandated to undertake emergency plans have been funded for those planning activities
- Virtually every corner of the province has benefited
- The program encourages integrated cross-jurisdictional planning between First Nations and local governments
- The program has a flexible range of funding options recognizing the varying levels of preparedness among local governments
- UBCM staff assists the Provincial Emergency Program in facilitating leadership workshops and other informational sessions



School Community Connections Program

*Administered by UBCM in
partnership with BCSTA*

*...and will be an even better place
when we make better use of
schools for community use*
Funding provided by the Province of BC



2006 Program Highlights

- 54 applications approved over the three steps of the program for a total of \$829,000
- Approved projects range from early childhood education to shared recreational facilities
- Transforms under-utilized school capacity to benefit the wider community
- Facilitates cooperation between school district officials and local government elected officials

Key Indicators:

Out of 60 British Columbia School Districts, over half (37) have applied for funding to work with their local government partners to develop new community uses for existing infrastructure.

Community Profile: School District No. 5

The SCC project in School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay) has taken empty classroom space, completed specification upgrades, and reallocated the space for early learning and parent-tot programming. The project:

- provides early learning initiatives across the school district (renovating one classroom per community partner)
- includes Elkford, Sparwood, Regional District of East Kootenay and Cranbrook
- utilizes schools for the purposes of community support in younger demographics

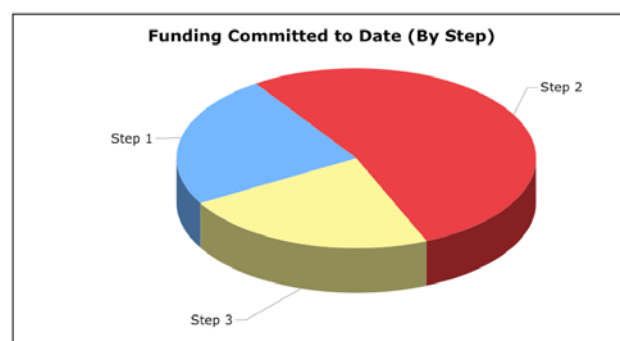
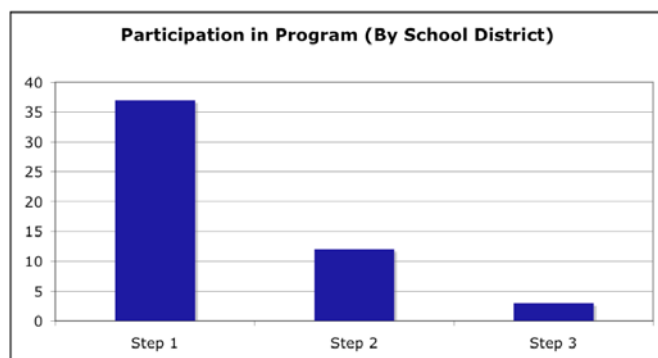


School District No. 5's
DEAR Room (Drop
Everything and Read)

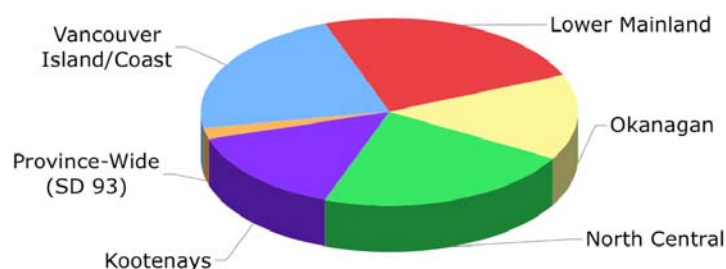
The School Community Connections Program has three steps

(see our Program Guide for more details).

1. “Making the Connection”: Bringing school boards and local governments together to consider resource sharing.
2. “Developing the Connection”: Supporting community planning regarding a proposed school asset for broader use.
3. “Completing the Connection”: Supporting “Connections” start-ups by providing highly leveraged funding.



Geographic Distribution (Local Governments)



Key Messages:

- Three phase approach encourages careful planning and stewardship
- Deadlines have been extended in light of labour dispute at launch of program; this will ensure maximum participation
- Program administered in partnership with the Ministry of Education, BC School Trustees Association



On going program includes dedicated website:
www.schoolconnections.ca

- ACEbc contracted to provide expertise to those considering the Community School model

...and will help to meet the provincial goal of doubling tourism by 2015.

Funding provided by the Province of BC



Funding provided for renovations of the O'Keefe Ranch heritage site.

2006 Program Highlights

- 290 projects funded in Phase 1
- Program emphasis on planning ensures communities make strategic allocations
- Program has received enthusiastic uptake by communities across BC
- 75% of local governments have already accessed their entitlements under the program prior to the March 31, 2007 deadline

Key Indicators: Program designed ensured that smaller jurisdictions participated as much as larger jurisdictions with dedicated tourism development staff:

Pop. 10,000 or smaller – 70% of communities accessed their funds

Pop. 10,000 to 100,000 – 80% of communities accessed their funds

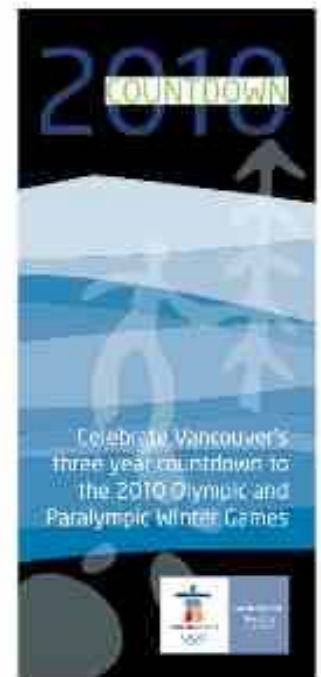
Pop. 100,000 or larger – 75% of communities accessed their funds

Community Profile: City of Vancouver

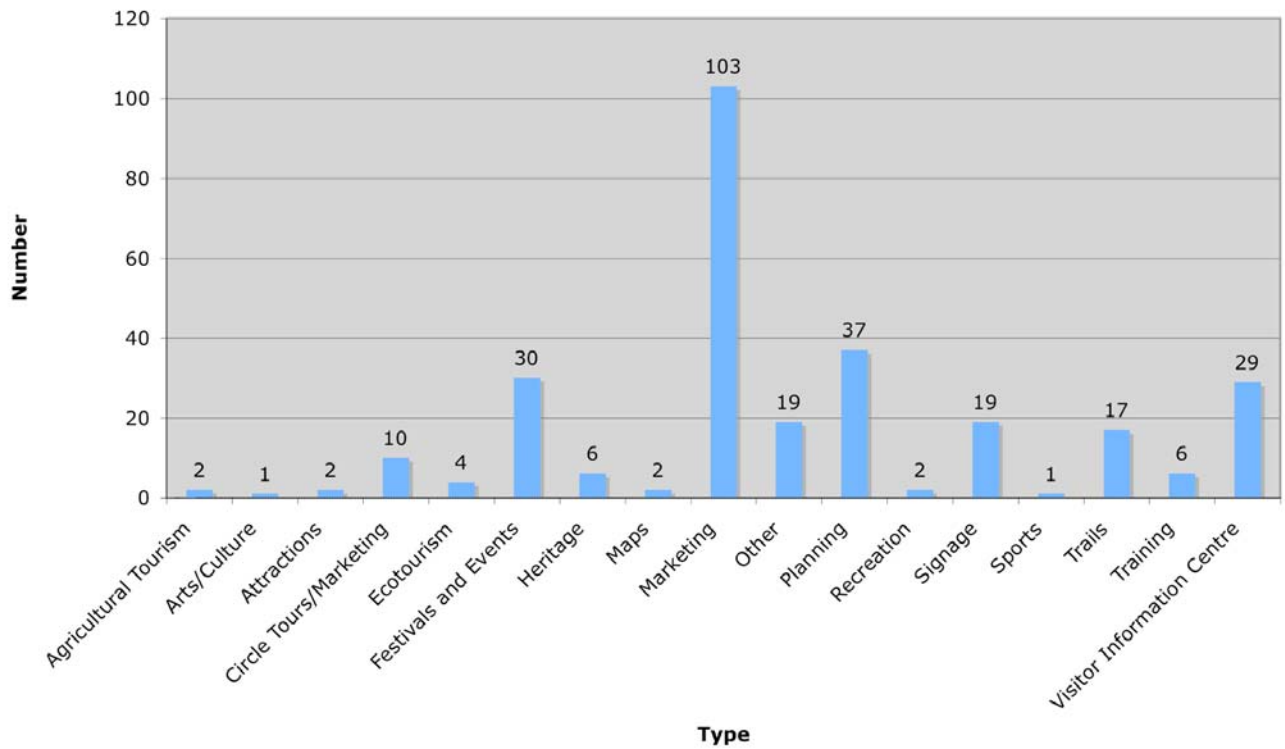
In Vancouver, Community Tourism dollars are being leveraged to support the City's preparations for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. The City is preparing its citizens for their role as hosts by building awareness and anticipation through its "3 Years To Go" campaign.

With a combination of bold, iconic advertising in bus shelters, events marking milestones and dedicating resources (the Countdown Clock, the lighting of the Olympic torch and placing of the Olympic and Paralympic flags) Vancouver is providing opportunity for its citizens to begin their participation in the Winter Olympics well before they begin.

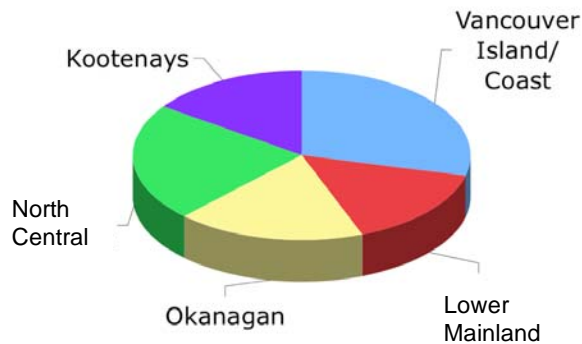
Updated signage at the entrances of Vancouver will also spread the news to city visitors that something amazing is on the way.



Community Tourism Program (Phase 1) Projects by Type



Geographic Distribution (Local Governments)



Key Messages:

- Encourages tourism planning to ensure best use of future funding
- Program is designed to complement rather than duplicate Tourism BC funding
- Monthly accountability reports to Ministry of Tourism and informational reporting to Tourism BC and Council of Tourism Associations of BC
- Program served as a prototype for enhance reporting for all other LGPS-administered programs

...and is planning for the housing and support services needed by a burgeoning seniors population.

Funding provided by the Province of BC



2006 Program Highlights

- 30 Seniors Dialogues to date in two rounds; round 3 underway
- 16 Pilot Projects finishing up from round 1; round 2 underway
- Upcoming survey of local government seniors housing and support actions and best practices – results to be released at Ministry of Health Seniors Symposium
- Besides funding, this program supports workshops at the Area Associations, research and surveys (profiled on the specially established website seniorsincommunity.ca)

Key Indicators: “Dialogues” in every region around BC are building partnerships and raising awareness for senior’s needs in local government planning. Pilot projects are testing innovative strategies around seniors housing and support.

Community Profile: Creston Greenhouse Pilot Project

The Town of Creston took under-used greenhouse capacity at a local college to create an opportunity for seniors to use their gardening skills in partnership with other community growers and students. The result is a project that provides companionship, therapeutic action and fresh produce year round for isolated seniors. Children in schools and single parents also receive fresh fruits and vegetables. The project partnered with the community Food Security program and the project built upon the existing Therapeutic Activation Program for Seniors, which uses flowers and plants from the project to beautify senior’s living spaces. The project has provided a powerful forum for building friendships for seniors in intermediate and long-term care addressing needs of emotional isolation.



Members of Creston’s TAPS program
at the greenhouse

Highlight Story: Saanich “Senior’s in Communities” Dialogue

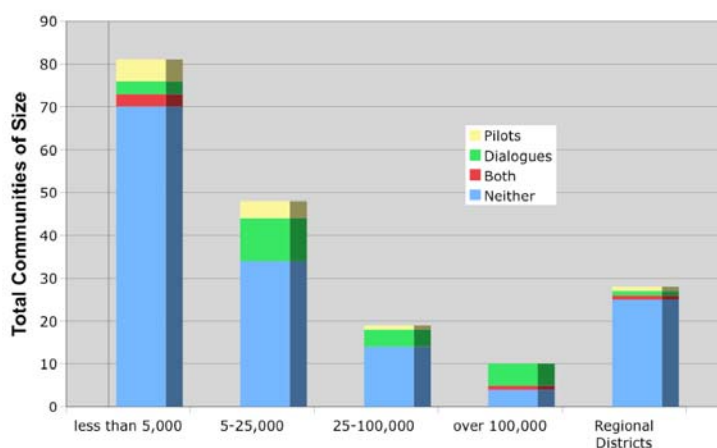
The District of Saanich used their funding for a Dialogue to bring together a wide spectrum of partners related to Seniors issues. These partners included members of the business community, Seniors Living Magazine, the Centre for Aging, Eldercare Foundations, long-term care managers, BC Transit, accessibility advocates as well as municipal officers for Community Services, Engineering and Planning.



Saanich's door-to-door seniors transit program

The result of this dialogue? A pilot project is underway to improve door to door access to public transit, responding to the most frequently cited issue across all of the dialogues: transportation.

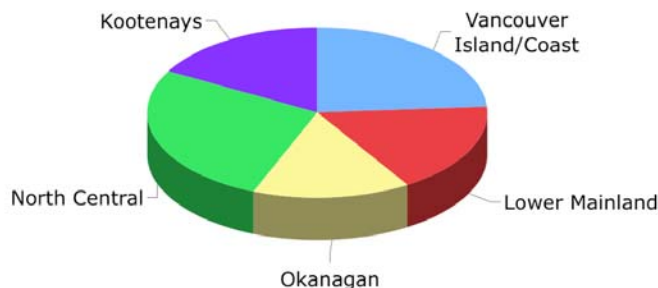
Distribution of Dialogues and Pilots in Different Sized Communities in BC



Key Messages:

- Communities placed priority on programs that would support dialogues with their seniors and senior support agencies
- Communities want to hear best practices from other communities
- Supports the Strategic Goal of Healthy Living and the Premier's Council on Aging
- Partners include Ministry Community Services, Ministry of Health (and World Health Organization initiative), Active Communities
- Seniors initiatives also benefit from other initiatives such as 2010 Legacies Now, Measuring Up (better access also benefits seniors)

Geographic Distribution (Local Governments)



Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiatives

Administered by UBCM

*...and the best prepared to plan and
mitigate against interface wildfires*

Funding provided by the Province of BC



2006 Program Highlights

- Program designed to facilitate careful planning for a complex and sensitive issue. Participants work through a three step process from developing a plan, implementing a smaller-scale pilot project, and finally conducting a larger scale operational fuel management project
- UBCM conducted research with its membership to ensure program guidelines meet community needs. Results have informed current planning
- 78 Wildfire Protection plans are already completed or underway, covering over half of the communities in the province

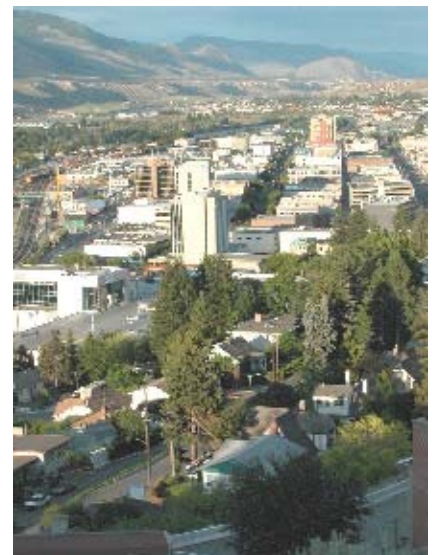
Key Indicators:

This program was conceived in 2004 in response to the “Filmon Report” and the 2003 wildfire season. At that time, very few communities had assessed the risk of interface fire threatening their communities. Community education has been a significant factor in the growing success of the program.

Community Profile: Kamloops

The City of Kamloops provides a “best practices” example in the field of “Community Strategic Wildfire Protection. Located in the dry-belt interior of the province, the semi-arid climate and the geographic features put the community at high risk of fire. The community had completed wildfire risk assessments prior to the launch of this program and accessed the CWPP program to update their assessment to include the recent impact of the Pine Beetle.

The completed CWPP adopts the Partners in Protection FireSmart principles and has served as the basis for embarking on larger scale operational fuel management treatments on municipal and crown lands within the municipal boundaries.



City of Kamloops

Key Messages:

**Geographic Distribution
(Local Governments)**



- A working partnership between Ministry of Forests and UBCM since 2004
- Programming includes provision of educational opportunities such as workshops and presentations
- Fuel management website developed to provide on-line application and reporting capability as well as information sharing
- Program complements Sprinkler Protection Units and Emergency Planning



West Nile Virus Risk Reduction Initiative *Administered by UBCM*

*...and the most prepared province in
Canada for the onset of West Nile Virus*

Funding provided by the Province of BC



2006 Program Highlights

- 89 applications received and all approved so local governments could put precautions in place
- A total of \$3.5 million in funding approved
- The program has provided protection to 264,196 British Columbians living in the highest risk areas of the province (local governments and First Nations)
- Builds on successful 2005 program

Key Indicators:

No incidents of West Nile outbreak occurred in BC this year. This program continues to reduce the risk of British Columbians contracting the West Nile Virus.

Community Profile: Thompson Nicola Regional District

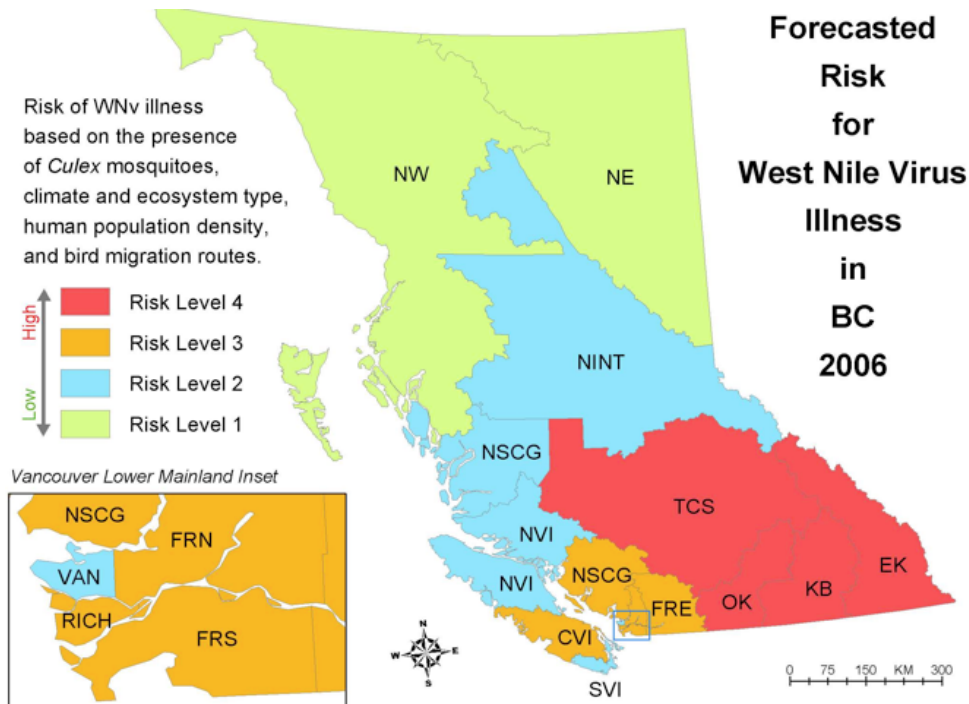
The Thompson Nicola RD West Nile Virus Prevention Initiative is a remarkable cooperative venture between the Regional District, seven municipalities and 21 First Nations communities within its boundaries. The Regional District and its partners have developed a program that provides:

- habitat mapping
- mosquito trapping (to determine species present)
- planning and implementation of larvicide programs
- planning for emergency adulticiding programs

In addition to effectively attaining the goal of risk management, this project also meets the goal of cooperative planning.

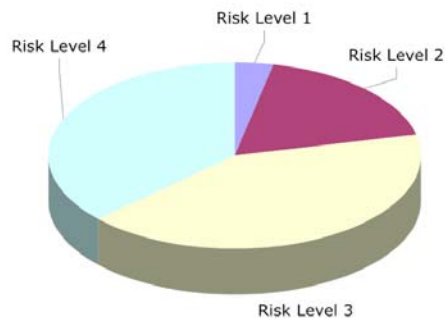


Town of Ashcroft



Key Messages:

Applications by Risk Level



- The program is very effective in reaching communities in high-risk region
- New sub-separate program for treatments on crown land proved successful
- Ministry of Health values UBCM as a one-stop administrator that is effective and accountable. In turn, UBCM values the relationship with the Ministry that gets funding to its members

