



BRITISH COLUMBIA
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2023 FireSmart Community Funding & Supports

Overview of program design changes and improvements

July 15, 2022

Funding provided by the Province of BC and administered by the Union of BC Municipalities in partnership with the First Nations' Emergency Services Society and BC Wildfire Service



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Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge all Indigenous peoples on whose territories we live, learn and work. We honor their connection to the land and respect the importance of diverse teachings, traditions and practices within these territories.



Agenda

1. Program design improvements
2. FireSmart activities
3. CWRPs and fuel management
4. Contacts
5. Questions





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Program Design Improvements



Program Design Improvements

Increased funding:

- Lower risk communities (risk class 4-5) – up to \$100,000
- Higher risk communities (risk class 1-3) – up to \$200,000

Expanded timeline

- All activities will be funded for two years

Open intake:

- One application between October 1, 2022 and December 31, 2023
- Applicants will be advised of the status of their application within 90 days of submitting a complete, eligible application.
- Applicants will be eligible to apply for future funding after two years from the date of the approval agreement or after the complete final report is submitted.



Previous Funding

2019 – must be complete

2020 – must be complete or
extended

2021 – must be complete or
extended





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FireSmart Activities



FireSmart Activities – New Funding

- Up to \$45,000 per application for the new FireSmart Structure Protection Trailer program
- FireSmart projects for critical infrastructure now include eligible new construction
- FireSmart projects for community assets have been added and include eligible new construction
- Honoraria for cultural leaders, Elders, Indigenous knowledge keepers, and/or cultural keepers now eligible for funding
- Expenses related to local cultural protocols (e.g. gifts, cultural ceremonies) now eligible for funding



FireSmart Activities – Expanded Funding

- FireSmart positions continue to be funded, now with job descriptions and expanded training
- Rebates for home and property owners increased to \$1,000 and now includes eligible new construction
- New 2022 CWRP template, including FireSmart Roadmap
- 2023 FireSmart BC Conference will include the Wildfire Urban Interface Symposium. Applications can include up to 4 staff and up to \$2,000 per staff



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CWRPs & Fuel Management



CWRPs & Fuel Management

- New 2022 CWRP template
- Application review process: applications with proposed fuel management or CWRPs will need to complete an eligibility review with the BC Wildfire Service or First Nations' Emergency Services Society before the application is submitted.
- Cultural and prescribed fire, including expenses related to local cultural protocols
- New 2022 prescription guidance document



Contact Information

UBCM – 250 356-2947 or cri@ubcm.ca

FNESS – 250 377-7600 or qnelson@fness.bc.ca

BCWS Prevention Staff and Wildfire Prevention Officers -

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/prevention/vegetation-and-fuel-management/fire-fuel-management/contacts>





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Questions?