



BRITISH COLUMBIA
FireSmart[™]

2024 FireSmart Community Funding & Supports

Overview of program design changes
and improvements

July 26, 2023

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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2024 FireSmart Community Funding & Supports



Agenda

1. Introductions and housekeeping
2. Program design improvements
3. FireSmart activities
4. CWRPs and fuel management
5. Program material review
6. Contacts
7. Questions





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Program Design Improvements



Program Design Improvements

Increased funding:

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

FireSmart Foundation:

- all applicants are required to have a FireSmart Position, participate in a [Community FireSmart & Resiliency](#) Committee and have an acceptable Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan (CWRP)/Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)





Program Design Improvements Continued

Review Prior to Submission:

- Worksheet 1 (FireSmart Activities), Worksheet 2 (Fuel Management) and/or Worksheet 3 (CWRPs) must be reviewed by BCWS and/or FNESS prior to submission
- Worksheet 2 or Worksheet 3 that include activities in BC Parks must be reviewed by BC Parks prior to submission

Redesigned Application Form and Worksheets:

- Application form and worksheets updated for efficiency and effectiveness



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Previous Funding

2019/2020/2021 FSERF – must be complete

2021/2022 FSCFS – must be complete or extended

2023 – must be complete or extended if two years from 2023 approval has passed





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FireSmart Activities



FireSmart Activities – New Funding

- FireSmart Assessments for Culturally Significant Sites and Green Spaces
- FireSmart projects for Culturally Significant Sites
- FireSmart projects for Green Spaces
- Completion of assessment recommended mitigation activities on homes owned by seniors or vulnerable populations and band owned housing. This work can be completed by FireSmart Crew Members and is limited to labour costs only.



FireSmart Activities – Expanded Funding and Other Updates

- Rebates for home and property owners increased to \$5,000 and now includes eligible new construction
- Purchase of FireSmart branded promotional items increased to \$5,000 per eligible applicant per year



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CWRPs & Fuel Management



CWRPs & Fuel Management

- New 2023 CWRP template
- New 2023 prescription guidance document
- Better guidance for cultural burning and prescribed fire activities
- Updated Spatial Data reporting requirements – RESULTS submissions for all Fuel Management projects
- For Fuel Management projects within BC Parks, prescription development will be required to utilize the BC Parks Prevention Prescription, Guidance and Operational Document.



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Program Material Review

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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/fire-fuel-management/contacts>





Questions?