



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
**FireSmart**<sup>™</sup>

# 2024 FireSmart Community Funding & Supports

Overview of program design changes  
and improvements

October 4, 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*



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
**FireSmart**<sup>™</sup>

*FireSmart, Intelli-feu and other associated Marks are trademarks of the  
Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre.*

# 2024 FireSmart Community Funding & Supports



## Agenda

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





BRITISH COLUMBIA  
**FireSmart**<sup>™</sup>

# 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)



## Reporting for Prior Projects

- 2019 and 2020 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports projects and all FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund projects must be complete and final reporting submitted in full
- 2021 and 2022 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program must be complete and the final report must be submitted in full (unless a project extension has been approved)
- All activities funded under the 2023 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program must either be: complete and the final report submitted, OR be within 120 days of completion and the Interim Report Form has been submitted



## Interim Report Form

- Applicants with 2023 projects that are within 120 days of completion can submit an Interim Report Form for the 2023 project.
- The Interim Report Form allows applicants to provide an overview of completed activities, activities remaining, and a timeline for project completion.
- If the Interim Report Form is submitted, applicants can apply for 2024 funding before submitting 2023 Final Reporting.



## Program Design Improvements Application Based Funding

### Review Prior to Submission:

- Worksheet 1 (FireSmart Activities) (Application-based funding only), 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





## Program Design Improvements – Allocation Based Funding

### Allocation-based Funding and Application-based Funding Models

- First Nations and Local Governments at higher risk of wildfire (Risk Class 1 to 3) and that have a FireSmart Position, participate in a Community FireSmart and Resiliency Committee and have an acceptable CWRP/CWPP are eligible to receive FireSmart Community Funding and Supports funding for FireSmart Activities only through an allocation based model.
- Applicants that do not meet these requirements will be able to apply under the Application-based funding model.



## Program Design Improvements – Allocation Based Funding

### Allocation-based Funding Process

- To confirm eligibility, Allocation-based funding applicants are required to submit an allocation-based funding request form (and any required attachments). If approved, applicants will receive an approval agreement and copy of the grant terms and conditions
- Allocation-based funding is for eligible FireSmart Activities only. Applicants who wish to pursue fuel management activities must submit a Worksheet 2 with all required attachments for adjudication.
- Funding for fuel management activities will be drawn from allocation funds. Proposed fuel treatments on Provincial Crown Land may be eligible for additional funding for only the fuel management activities on Provincial Crown Land



## Program Design Improvements – Allocation Based Funding

### Allocation-based Funding Process Continued

- Initial Payment – 25% of grant amount when the recipient returns the signed Approval Agreement. Post Grant Approval meetings are required. Progress Payments can be requested by submitting the Allocation Claims Form.
- Interim Reporting - An interim report, using the Allocation Claims Form, will be required at 12 months for all two-year projects
- Recipients can request project extension of up to one year
- Final reporting and all required attachments are required at the end of the project.



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
**FireSmart**<sup>™</sup>

# 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
- Purchase of power tools (eg. Chainsaws, brush saws, walk-behind lawn mowers, trimmers)



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
**FireSmart**<sup>™</sup>

# 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.
- Proposed treatments that include contiguous, logical treatment units that extend onto Provincial Crown Land may be eligible for additional funding for only the fuel management activities on Provincial Crown Land.





BRITISH COLUMBIA  
**FireSmart**<sup>™</sup>

# Program Material Review

# 2024 FireSmart Community Funding & Supports



## Contact Information

UBCM – (604) 270-8226 ext 220 or [cri@ubcm.ca](mailto:cri@ubcm.ca)

FNESS – 250 377-7600 or [qnelson@fness.bc.ca](mailto: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>





BRITISH COLUMBIA  
**FireSmart**<sup>™</sup>

**Questions?**