

Community Resiliency Investment Program

2026 FireSmart™ Community Funding and Supports

Application-based Funding for FireSmart Activities (Base Funding)

Program and Application Guide – Updated September 2025

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1. Introduction

The 2026 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program will have an open intake. Funding permitting, eligible applicants can submit one application between October 1, 2025 and September 30, 2026 using the [LGPS Online Application Tool](#). Applicants are encouraged to engage with the BC Wildfire Service and/or First Nations' Emergency Services Society while at the initial planning stages of their application.

Community Resiliency Investment program

The [Community Resiliency Investment](#) (CRI) program was announced by the provincial government in 2018 and is intended to reduce the risk of wildfires and mitigate their impacts on communities, First Nations and local governments.

As of September 2025, CRI includes two streams:

- Stream 1: FireSmart Community Funding and Supports, administered by the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM):
 - FireSmart Activities (Base Funding): limited to FireSmart activities and Community Wildfire Resiliency Plans (CWRPs)
 - New in 2026 - Additional Funding for Fuel Management
- Stream 2: [Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction](#), allocation-based program administered internally by the Ministry of Forests.

Please refer to [Appendix 1](#) for definitions of terms used in this guide. All defined terms are in **bold** in the program guide.

FireSmart Community Funding and Supports

The FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program provides funding to First Nations and local governments in BC to increase community resiliency by undertaking community-based FireSmart™¹ planning and activities that reduce the community's risk from wildfire. To date, 280 eligible applicants have received funding, including 132 First Nations and 148 local governments.

The First Nations' Emergency Services Society (FNESS) and the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) work with the Ministry of Forests (Ministry) to deliver the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program.

Allocation-based Funding for FireSmart Activities (Base Funding)

First Nations and local governments with a higher risk of wildfire, generally demonstrated by [Wildland Urban Interface \(WUI\) Risk Class](#) 1 to 3, that have a FireSmart Position, participate in a [Community FireSmart and Resiliency Collaborative](#) (CFRC) and have an acceptable CWRP or Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) are eligible to receive FireSmart Community Funding and Supports funding for FireSmart activities only through [Allocation-based Funding for FireSmart Activities](#).



¹ FireSmart, Intelli-feu and other associated Marks are trademarks of the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre.

Note: CWRPs and CWPPs must be complete and acceptable to the BCWS, FNESS and/or BC Parks (where applicable). To be considered acceptable, plans must be developed in accordance with the CWRP template and guidance document and must include assessment and identification of FireSmart and fuel management priorities. Please refer to [Appendix 3](#) for more information on when CWRPs should be amended or replaced with a new plan.

Application-based Funding for FireSmart Activities (Base Funding)

Base funding is scaled to offer eligible applicants with lower risk of wildfire, generally demonstrated by [WUI Risk Class](#) 4 and 5, to apply for up to \$150,000 per year (for up to two years), and applicants with a higher risk of wildfire, generally demonstrated by [WUI Risk Class](#) 1 to 3, to apply for up to \$200,000 per year (for up to two years).

2. Eligible Applicants for Application-based Funding for FireSmart Activities

All First Nations (bands, modern Treaty First Nations with treaties that are in effect, and Indigenous National Governments with authority for lands and resources) and local governments (municipalities and regional districts) in BC are eligible to apply.

Eligible applicants can submit one application for Application-based Funding for FireSmart Activities per funding stream intake. This includes applying as a **sub-applicant** in a regional application.

For the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program the following are also able to act as a **primary applicant**:

- An emergency management organization that is created by a regional district bylaw and approved by the Province of BC may act as the primary applicant on behalf of eligible applicants that participate in the established emergency management service. When acting as a **primary applicant** on behalf of eligible applicants, the regional emergency management organization may submit more than one application per funding stream intake provided that each eligible First Nation or local government that is included as a **sub-applicant** is only funded once per intake.
- An Indigenous governing body with authority for emergency management may act as the **primary applicant** on behalf of eligible First Nations. The Indigenous governing body may submit more than one application per funding stream intake provided that each eligible First Nation that is included as a **sub-applicant** is only funded once per intake.

Emergency management organizations created by a regional district and Indigenous governing bodies that are interested in submitting an application to act as the **primary applicant** must contact UBCM first and will be required to provide appropriate documentation related to membership, authority, and area of service.

3. Grant Maximum: Base Funding and Additional Funding

New in 2026 - For all eligible applicants, under Application-based Funding for FireSmart Activities or Allocation-based Funding for FireSmart Activities, base funding is limited to Worksheet 1: FireSmart activities and Worksheet 3: CWRPs.

New in 2026 - Funding for fuel management remains an eligible activity, however, the application process has changed to separate the funding, application process and required reporting for FireSmart activities and CWRPs from fuel management activities.

In order to ensure transparency and accountability in the expenditure of public funds, all other financial contributions for eligible portions of the project must be declared and, depending on the total value, may decrease the value of the grant. This includes any other grant funding and any revenue (e.g., sale of forest products) that is generated from activities that are funded by the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program.

Base Funding for First Nations and Municipalities

Eligible applicants have the option to apply for one-year or two-year funding. First Nations and municipalities can apply for 100% of the cost of eligible activities as follows:

- Eligible applicants with a higher risk of wildfire, generally demonstrated by WUI Risk Class 1 to 3, can apply for a maximum of \$200,000 per year (for up to two years).
- Eligible applicants with a lower risk of wildfire, generally demonstrated by WUI Risk Class 4 and 5, can apply for a maximum of \$150,000 per year (for up to two years).

For example, if a community with a lower risk class applies for funding for two years of eligible activities, they are eligible to apply for up to \$300,000 (i.e. \$150,000 per year). Or, if a community with higher risk class applies for funding for two years of eligible activities, they are eligible to apply for up to \$400,000 (i.e. \$200,000 per year).

Base Funding for Regional Districts

Eligible applicants have the option to apply for one-year or two-year funding. Regional districts can apply for 100% of the cost of eligible activities as follows:

- Eligible regional districts with a higher risk of wildfire, generally demonstrated by WUI Risk Class 1 to 3, can apply for a maximum of \$200,000 per year (for up to two years) plus up to \$50,000 per year (for up to two years) for each electoral area that is included in the application.
- Eligible regional districts with a lower risk of wildfire, generally demonstrated by WUI Risk Class 4 and 5, can apply for maximum of \$150,000 per year (for up to two years) plus up to \$50,000 per year (for up to two years) for each electoral area that is included in the application.

New in 2026 - regional districts will only be required to submit one Worksheet 1: FireSmart Activities in order to apply for base funding. This worksheet can include all of the electoral areas that are included in the application and regional districts will not be required to apply or report per electoral area.

A separate Worksheet 3: CWRPs will be required for each CWRP that is proposed in a regional district application.

Additional Funding for Impact from Wildfires

Updated in 2026 - Eligible applicants with an existing FireSmart program that were directly impacted during the 2025 wildfire season or that are directly impacted by wildfire(s) during the course of the **approved project** may apply to exceed the base funding maximum in order to support incremental FireSmart Activities due to increased local demand for wildfire risk reduction. This additional funding is limited to \$100,000 per year.

Refer to [Appendix 2](#) for more information. Worksheet 4: Impact from Wildfires is required to be submitted for consideration of additional funding. This worksheet will be reviewed by the BCWS and/or FNESS.

Additional Funding for Fuel Management

New in 2026 – Funding for fuel management remains an eligible activity under the 2026 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, however, the application process has changed to separate the funding, application process and required reporting for FireSmart activities (including CWRPs) from fuel management activities.

Starting in 2026, fuel management activities will be applied for under a separate application from FireSmart activities as follows:

- Eligible applicant must have an approved 2026 application under the Application-based Funding for FireSmart Activities or Allocation-based Funding for FireSmart Activities, either as a **primary applicant** or **sub-applicant**.
- Eligible applicant must have the required FireSmart foundations (refer to [Section 5](#)).
- The application process identified in [Application-based Funding for Fuel Management Activities](#) must be followed.
- When approved, fuel management activities will be a separate **approved project** from FireSmart activities and will have a separate approval agreement, **approved project start date** and **approved project end date**.
- *Updated September 2025* - Costs related to FireSmart positions are eligible under the Application-based Funding for Fuel Management program. However, applicants should carefully review all costs for FireSmart positions that are included in their approved FireSmart application to ensure that costs related to FireSmart positions are distinct between the two funding streams and, when combined, do not exceed the actual salary cost.

The Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program provides funding for the implementation of the Indigenous Engagement Requirements within the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act*. For more information visit the Province of BC's [website](#) or contact: EMCR.IERFunding@gov.bc.ca.

4. Eligible Projects and Regional Applications

To be eligible for funding under the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, applications must demonstrate that proposed activities will increase community resiliency by undertaking community-based FireSmart planning and activities that reduce the community's risk from wildfire.

New in 2026 - Eligible applicants must choose to apply either as a single applicant (i.e. no sub-applicants) or as either a **primary applicant** or **sub-applicant** in a regional project.

Funding requests from two or more eligible applicants for regional projects may be submitted as a single application for eligible, collaborative projects. In this case, the maximum base funding per year would be calculated by the number of eligible applicants included in the application and the associated risk class and grant maximum of each. Applications for regional projects must include Worksheet 1: FireSmart Activities and may include Worksheet 3: CWRPs and Worksheet 4: Impact from wildfire(s).

The **primary applicant** submitting the application for a regional project is required to submit a resolution as outlined in [Section 7](#) of this guide. Each **sub-applicant** is required to submit a resolution that clearly states their approval for the primary applicant to apply for, receive and manage the grant funding on their behalf.

It is expected that regional projects will demonstrate cost-efficiencies in the total grant request.

5. Requirements for Funding

As part of both the development of the application package and the delivery of the **approved project**, local governments are encouraged to proactively engage with local First Nations and Indigenous organizations, such as Friendship Centres and Métis Chartered Communities. Engagement by local governments both locally and regionally can help build relationships with First Nations, benefit both communities and enhance reconciliation. More information on engagement best practices is available on the following Province of BC webpage: [Local government and First Nations engagement](#).

Required FireSmart Foundation

To qualify for funding, all applicants are required to have a FireSmart Position, participate in a [Community FireSmart and Resiliency Collaborative](#) and have an acceptable CWRP/CWPP.

Note: CWRPs and CWPPs must be complete and acceptable to the BCWS, FNESS and/or BC Parks (where applicable). To be considered acceptable, plans must be developed in accordance with the CWRP template and guidance document and must include assessment and identification of FireSmart and fuel management priorities. Please refer to [Appendix 3](#) for more information on when CWRPs should be amended or replaced with a new plan.

For applicants that do not have a FireSmart Position, participate in a [CFRC](#) or have an acceptable CWRP/CWPP, eligible activities for 2026 funding will be limited to:

- FireSmart Position(s) and training for the position(s) (as outlined in [Section 7A of Table 1](#)).
- Community FireSmart and Resiliency Collaborative (as either the lead agency or participating in a [CFRC](#) that is led by another agency).
- CWRP development.
- Attending the Wildfire Resiliency and Training Summit.
- New in 2026 - Wildland live fire training ([Section 7J of Table 1](#)).

While the CWRP is under development, additional eligible activities are limited to:

- General FireSmart education (as outlined in [Section 2 of Table 1](#)).
- Completing FireSmart assessments in areas of higher wildfire risk, such as **neighbourhoods** adjacent to the forested edge and/or areas that fall in an overall high to extreme category:
 - FireSmart assessments for eligible **First Nation owned buildings, publicly owned buildings, publicly and First Nations owned critical infrastructure, cultural sites and/or green spaces** (as outlined in [Section 3E of Table 1](#))
 - [FireSmart HIZ Assessments](#) for homes and properties
 - [Wildfire Mitigation Program Assessments](#) for homes or properties
 - FireSmart **Neighbourhood** Recognition Programs (FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition Program or FireSmart BC Local FireSmart Collective Program): [Neighbourhood Wildfire Hazard Assessments](#) (Local FireSmart Collective Assessment) and [FireSmart Neighbourhood Plans](#) (Collective Action Plan)
 - New in 2026 - [FireSmart Farm and Ranch Assessments](#) (note: this assessment form is only available after completion of Farm and Ranch Assessment training)

Eligibility Review by BCWS and/or FNESS

For all applications under the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports application-based funding program, the eligibility screening section of the application worksheet(s) must be completed by the BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer/Prevention Specialist and/or FNESS Wildfire Resiliency Advisor before the worksheet is submitted:

- Worksheet 1: FireSmart Activities. This is required to be submitted for all applications for base funding.
- Worksheet 2: Fuel Management. Refer to the [Application-based Funding for Fuel Management Activities](#) program guide but note that an approved 2026 application for FireSmart activities (as a **primary applicant** or **sub-applicant**) is required before a fuel management application can be initiated. For all applications that include activities in BC Parks, applicants are required to review Worksheet 2 with BC Parks. The eligibility screening section must be completed by BC Parks before the application is submitted.

- Worksheet 3: CWRPs. This is required to be submitted as part of applications for base funding only if the eligible applicant is applying to amend or develop a new CWRP. For all applications that include activities in BC Parks, applicants are required to review Worksheet 3 with BC Parks. The eligibility screening section must be completed by BC Parks before the application is submitted.
- Worksheet 4: Impact by Wildfires. This can be submitted with an application for base funding, or after base funding has been approved.

Please note that during active fire seasons or other emergency response deployments, BCWS and FNESS capacity will be limited which could affect adjudication timelines.

Reporting for Prior Projects

In order to apply for 2026 Application-based Funding for FireSmart Activities:

- All activities funded under the 2021 and 2022 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program must be complete and the final report must be submitted in full.
- All activities funded under the 2023 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 2024 and 2025 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program must either be:
 - Complete and the final report is submitted, OR
 - Within 120 days of the **approved project end date** and the [Interim Report Form](#) has been submitted.

Upon receipt of the Interim Report Form UBCM will confirm the updated **approved project end date** and the updated final report deadline. At this time, applicants may submit their application for 2026 base funding. UBCM will undertake the normal review process however the 2026 base funding application will not be approved until the complete 2024 or 2025 final report is submitted.

If there is a possibility that your project will end sooner or later than the **approved project end date**, please contact UBCM as soon as possible to discuss options.

Additional Funding Requirements

To qualify for funding, all eligible activities must:

- Generally speaking, be located within the applicant's administrative boundary and/or for assets or infrastructure that are owned by the **primary applicant** or **sub-applicant**.
- Include new activities or represent a new phase of an existing project (retroactive funding is not available unless specifically identified in this guide).
- Be capable of completion by the applicant by the **approved project end date**.
- Be supported by a current CWRP or CWPP acceptable to the BCWS, FNESS and/or, where applicable, BC Parks, that includes assessment and identification of FireSmart and fuel management priorities.
- Where applicable, be completed by a qualified professional that is accredited by their professional association.
- Ensure compliance with applicable federal and provincial legislation and regulations and local authority (e.g., burning bylaws or other bylaws or plans).
- Where applicable, be eligible for required approvals for authorizations and/or permits from the **Provincial Crown Land Manager** (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) and/or other land managers (e.g., Indigenous Services Canada).

6. Eligible and Ineligible Costs and Activities

Eligible costs are direct costs that are approved for funding, properly and reasonably incurred, and paid by the applicant to carry out eligible activities. Unless otherwise noted, eligible costs can only be incurred from the date of application submission until the final report is submitted.

[Table 1](#) identifies the activities that are eligible for funding and provides annual cost maximums for those activities. Refer to the Application Worksheet and Final Report Worksheet for required submissions for each proposed activity. For regional district applications that include electoral areas, the cost maximums are annual cost maximums for eligible activities per electoral area.

Updated in 2026 - Applicants are required to propose costs within the cost maximums that reflect local, reasonable estimates. However, unless noted otherwise in Table 1, applicants with mitigating circumstances (e.g., remote community) can propose costs higher than the maximums if a rationale (e.g. increased shipping costs, additional travel costs) is provided and accepted. In all cases, eligible activities must be cost-effective.

Where applicable, applicants are encouraged to collaborate on proposed activities with **Provincial Crown Land Manager** (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) and/or other land managers (e.g., Indigenous Services Canada).

Table 1: FireSmart Activities Eligible for Funding	
1. FIRESMART POSITIONS	
<i>In order to increase local capacity, applicants are required to have a FireSmart position to oversee eligible activities applied for in Worksheet (WS) 1, 2, 3 and/or 4 and to establish a sustainable FireSmart program. Applicants are required to have a FireSmart position in their community.</i>	
Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Incremental FireSmart positions (e.g. creating a new position or adding new responsibilities to an existing position), based on the recommended job descriptions : - FireSmart Coordinator - Local FireSmart Representative - Wildfire Mitigation Specialist - Wildfire Forest Professional	Required cost estimate in WS1, WS2, WS3 and/or WS4. <i>The primary focus of FireSmart positions is to support eligible FireSmart activities but other activities related to emergency management (i.e. EOC, ESS, evacuations), structural fire and/or forestry (i.e. Indigenous Guardians) are eligible as no more than 20% of job duties.</i>
B. Seasonal FireSmart positions based on the recommended job descriptions : <u>New in 2026</u> - Junior FireSmart Coordinator (Summer Students/youth position) - FireSmart Crew Member	<i>Seasonal positions do not meet the required FireSmart foundation for having a FireSmart position.</i>

2. EDUCATION (Required in all applications)

Public education and outreach play a critical role in helping communities prepare for wildfire by promoting a sense of empowerment and shared responsibility. All applications are required to include an education component in this section. For costs associated with the purchase of FireSmart resources please visit Resources on [FireSmartBC.ca](https://firesmartbc.ca).

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Update signage, social media, applicant websites and/or newsletters, and community education materials or displays related to a proposed activity in categories 2 through 12 below. <i>Note: Ember mascots will be available on a limited basis and regional allocation will be considered before approval.</i>	• Banners: up to \$1,800 (total order per year) • Posters: \$275 (total order per year) • Videos specific to community wildfire resiliency: up to \$11,775 each per year • Tents, including walls: up to \$2,450 each • Vehicle decals: up to \$830 (total order per year) • T-shirts: up to \$1,230 (total order per year) • Ember mascot: up to \$9,200
B. Promote/distribute FireSmart educational resources, such as FireSmart 101, Wildfire Risk Reduction Basics, FireSmart Canada Ambassador training, Local FireSmart Representative training, FireSmart Begins at Home app, social media, FireSmart BC materials.	Required cost estimate in WS1
C. Organize, host or support FireSmart events: Wildfire Community Preparedness Day, Farm and Ranch Wildfire Preparedness workshop, Neighbourhood Champion workshop (Collective Advocate Workshop), community FireSmart day, and/or wildfire season open houses.	Up to \$6,140 per event
D. Support the FireSmart BC Education Program at local school districts. This includes promotional materials for contests, banners, and targeted education events at schools to promote the education program curriculum.	Up to \$615 per school per year
E. Support the FireSmart BC Library Program at local/regional libraries. This program includes Wildfire Resiliency Literacy Kits, Ember Activity Packages, Colouring Contest materials, and access to Storytime Videos with Ember.	Up to \$615 per branch or \$2,050 per independent library to support the whole Library Program, or, up to \$310 per branch for the purchase of books from the Wildfire Resiliency Literacy Kit
F. Support the FireSmart BC Plant Program at local garden centres or nurseries. Includes plant tags, banners, staff buttons and in-store advertising.	Up to \$2,765 per location
G. Targeted public education to support implementation of fuel management activities, including cultural burning, prescribed fire and wildland live fire training.	Required cost estimate in WS1

3. COMMUNITY PLANNING

Community planning is a very effective tool for reducing wildfire risk for lands and buildings within the administrative boundaries of First Nation communities and local governments.

Refer to the [Wildfire-Resilience Best Practice Checklist for Home Construction, Renovation and Landscaping](#) or [FireSmart BC Landscaping Hub](#).

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Develop a CWRP in accordance with the instruction guide and template. Refer to Appendix 3 for more information on developing a CWRP.	Up to \$35,850 (depending on Area of Interest (AOI) and proposed activities in the Eligible WUI) and with required cost estimate in WS3 <i>Applicants are required to have a current and acceptable CWRP/CWPP for their community</i>
B. Amend existing CWRPs that are less than 5 years old. Refer to Appendix 3 for more information on amending a CWRP.	Up to \$17,950 (depending on AOI and proposed activities in the Eligible WUI) and with required cost estimate in WS3
C. <i>New in 2026</i> - Develop or amend bylaws related to open fires as defined in the <i>Wildfire Act</i>.	Up to \$11,880 <i>Bylaws must address aspect(s) of open fire that a local government or a First Nation is responsible for regulating. Section 4 of the Wildfire Act divides responsibility for wildfire prevention between the Provincial and local governments</i>
D. Develop FireSmart policies and practices for the design and maintenance of First Nations land and publicly owned land, such as parks and open spaces.	Required cost estimate in WS1
E. Develop FireSmart policies and practices for the design and maintenance of First Nations owned buildings and publicly owned buildings.	Required cost estimate in WS1
F. Complete FireSmart assessments for community buildings, structures and/or land, limited to First Nation owned buildings, publicly owned buildings, publicly and First Nations owned critical infrastructure, cultural sites and/or green spaces. <i>A list of buildings, assets and/or locations that are proposed to be assessed, and the ownership of each is required to be submitted to UBCM prior to commencing work</i>	<i>Refer to Sec. 8 of Table 1 for assessment and mitigation of eligible critical infrastructure</i> <i>Refer to Sec. 9 of Table 1 for assessment and mitigation of eligible community assets</i> <i>Refer to Sec 10 of Table 1 for assessment and mitigation of eligible cultural sites</i> <i>Refer to Sec 11 of Table 1 to apply for assessment and mitigation of eligible green spaces</i> <i>Refer to Sec. 12 of Table 1 to apply for assessments for homes and properties</i>
FireSmart Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Assessment	Up to \$275 per structure (generally 1 to 3 hours to complete)
FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment	Up to \$945 per structure (generally 4 to 8 hours to complete)

Eligible Activities (Community Planning – cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
Wildfire Mitigation Program Assessment	Initial assessment – Up to \$370 per structure (generally 2 to 4 hours to complete)
Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription (<i>Updated September 2025</i> - required to be completed by applicant and BCWS or FNESS before Cultural Sites and Green Spaces Assessment is started)	Up to \$275 per location/structure (generally 1 to 3 hours to complete)
FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces Assessment (<i>Updated September 2025</i> - only eligible if the checklist confirms that the proposed area meets the requirements for funding for Cultural Sites or Green Spaces)	Up to \$945 per structure/location (generally 4 to 8 hours to complete) with ownership of land in WS1
4. DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS <i>Community land use and development in wildfire-prone areas affects the susceptibility of the community at different scales and in terms of where and how a community is, or will be, developed.</i> <i>Refer to the Wildfire-Resilience Best Practice Checklist for Home Construction, Renovation and Landscaping, FireSmart BC Landscaping Hub and Wildfire Development Permit Areas: non-technical guide for FireSmart Coordinators in British Columbia</i>	
Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Amend Official Community Plans, Comprehensive Community Plans and/or land use, engineering and public works bylaws to incorporate FireSmart principles.	Up to \$11,880
B. Revise landscaping requirements in zoning and development permit documents to incorporate FireSmart principles.	Up to \$11,880
C. Establish or revise Development Permit Areas for Wildfire Hazard to incorporate FireSmart principles.	Up to \$11,880
D. Amend referral processes for new developments to ensure multiple departments, including the fire department and/or emergency management personnel, are included.	Up to \$11,880
5. INTERAGENCY CO-OPERATION <i>Interagency cooperation may include local fire departments, First Nation and/or local government staff and elected officials, Provincial Crown Land Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) and/or other land managers (e.g., Indigenous Services Canada), provincial ministries (e.g., EMCR and BCWS), industry representatives and other stakeholders.</i>	
Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Develop and/or coordinate a new or existing Community FireSmart and Resiliency Collaborative (CFRC) <u>as the lead agency</u> . <i>Note: eligible costs include development, coordination, administration, and travel. Staff wages and costs related to back-filling positions are not eligible for funding.</i>	Up to \$2,450 per meeting or up to \$12,090 per year <i>Applicants are required to be participating in a CFRC</i>
B. Participate in a CFRC that is led by another agency.	Up to \$1,230 per meeting or up to \$6,145 per year

Eligible Activities (Interagency Co-operation – Cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
C. Participate in an integrated fuel management, cultural burning and/or prescribed fire planning table (generally led by Ministry staff in collaboration with communities) to support the integration of fuel management planning across jurisdictional boundaries.	Up to \$1,230 per meeting
D. Provide Indigenous cultural safety and humility training to emergency management personnel to more effectively partner with, and provide assistance to, Indigenous communities for both wildfire prevention and suppression.	Required cost estimate in WS1
E. Attend the Wildfire Resiliency and Training Summit. <i>Note: eligible costs include conference fee and travel (including accommodations and per diems). Staff wages and costs related to back-filling positions are not eligible for funding.</i>	Up to four staff per eligible applicant, up to \$2,250 per attendee per year
6. EMERGENCY PLANNING <i>Community preparations for a wildfire emergency require a multi-pronged approach for a community to respond effectively to the threat of wildfires as a whole.</i>	
Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Develop and/or participate in cross-jurisdictional meetings and <u>tabletop exercises</u> specifically focused on wildfire preparedness and suppression, including seasonal wildfire readiness meetings.	Up to \$2,455 per meeting
B. Assess community water delivery ability as required for suppression activities as follows: For areas serviced by a municipal/regional water system: assess community water delivery ability as required for suppression activities, limited to current water system evaluation and available flow analysis. For areas not serviced by a municipal/regional water system: assess community water delivery options as required for suppression activities.	Up to \$11,880
C. Assess, inventory and <u>purchase</u> FireSmart structure protection equipment. <i>Refer to Appendix 4 for more information on the eligible FireSmart Structure Protection Unit expenditures.</i>	<i>Updated in 2026</i> - Up to \$50,000 per year (note: higher funding requests will not be considered)
D. Use and/or promote EMCR Wildfire Preparedness Guide and/or Wildfire Evacuation Checklist for community emergency preparedness events focused on wildfire.	Up to \$6,145 per event
7. FIRESMART TRAINING AND CROSS TRAINING <i>Updated September 2025 - Cross-training fire department members, emergency management personnel and, where supported by the approved applicant, cooperative community wildfire response organizations, supports local FireSmart activities, including a safe and effective wildfire response.</i> <i>For all virtual courses, eligible costs include course fee, required course materials, and travel (including accommodations and per diems) only if required for internet connection or access to necessary technology. For all in-person courses, eligible costs include course fee, required course materials, and travel (including accommodations and per diems).</i> <i>Staff wages and costs related to back-filling positions are not eligible for funding.</i>	

Eligible Activities (Training and Cross-Training – Cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Training for FireSmart Positions. <i>Refer to the recommended job descriptions for the training required for each position. Only qualifications identified in the job descriptions are eligible for funding.</i>	Required training breakdown for each proposed position and cost estimate in WS1
B. Local FireSmart Representative training (free, online).	Required cost estimate in WS1
C. Wildfire Mitigation Program – Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (WMS) training <u>for new applicants to the WMP program.</u> <i>To become a WMS, the WMP workshop (max. 14 attendees) must be completed.</i> <i>If training is delivered by Provincial FireSmart BC Wildfire Mitigation Program Administrators, the workshop instructor cost and course fees are \$2,500 and the local cost (facility rentals, coordination, etc.) is up to \$2,000.</i> <i>If the training is delivered by a certified WMS trainer (see row D below) the local cost (facility rentals, coordination, etc.) is up to \$2,000.</i> <i>Note: eligible costs can include travel expenses to attend training outside of community (including accommodations and per diems). Refer to Appendix 5 for more information on the WMP program.</i>	Up to \$4,500 per workshop, depending on workshop instructor, with required cost estimate in WS1 Up to four staff per eligible applicant to travel to workshop outside of their community
D. <u>New in 2026</u> - Wildfire Mitigation Specialist 'Train the Trainer' This course is available for active WMS to become a certified WMS trainer that can instruct WMS training (as in row C above) to staff <u>within their community or neighbouring communities.</u> <i>Note: eligible costs can include travel expenses to attend a workshop outside of community (including accommodations and per diems). Refer to Appendix 5 for more information.</i>	Up to \$2,000 for local costs (facility rentals, coordination, etc.) with required cost estimate in WS1 Up to two staff per eligible applicant to travel to workshop outside of their community
E. <u>New in 2026</u> - FireSmart BC Farm and Ranch training (free, online course for FireSmart positions) that is required in order to conduct Farm and Ranch Assessments.	Required cost estimate in WS1
F. <u>New in 2026</u> - FireSmart BC Landscaping Course (free, online course for public works, lands, and/or parks staff).	Required cost estimate in WS1
G. Cross-train <u>fire department members</u> in wildland urban interface (WUI) training. The following are the <u>only</u> courses eligible for funding:	
• Wildfire Risk Reduction Basics Course (free, online course for non-forest professionals that provides an introduction to the key concepts to minimize the negative impacts of wildfires in BC).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• Fire Life & Safety Educator (public education course for fire safety education).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• ICS-100 (Incident Command System - introduction to an effective system for command, control, and coordination of response at an emergency site; available online).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• SPP-WFF1 Wildland Firefighter Level 1 (includes S-100, S-185).	Required cost estimate in WS1

Eligible Activities (Training and Cross-Training – Cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
• S-100 Basic fire suppression and safety (basic fire suppression training) and S-100A (annual refresher).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• S-185 Fire entrapment avoidance and safety (general knowledge course on wildfire safety and entrapment avoidance for local governments, contract crews, and First Nations).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• S-231 Engine Boss (training for structure defense program in a WUI event).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• SPP-115 Structure Protection Program (training for structure protection within the WUI).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• WSP-P-WFF1 Trainer (train the trainer for WFF1).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• Task Force Leader (TFL) (for structure defense only; course for structural fire personnel to monitor and assess specialty resources that work together to accomplish a common task).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• Division/Group Supervisor (DIVS) (for structure defense only; course for structural fire personnel to implement assigned portion of the Incident Action Plan and be responsible for all operations conducted in the division/group).	Required cost estimate in WS1
H. <u>Updated September 2025</u> - Cross-train cooperative community wildfire response organizations . The following are the <u>only</u> courses eligible for funding:	
• S-100 Basic fire suppression and safety (basic fire suppression training) and S-100A (annual refresher).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• S-185 Fire entrapment avoidance and safety (general knowledge course on wildfire safety and entrapment avoidance for local governments, contract crews, and First Nations).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• ICS-100 (Incident Command System - introduction to an effective system for command, control, and coordination of response at an emergency site; available online).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• SPP-115 Structure Protection Program (training for structure protection within the WUI).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• Wildfire Risk Reduction Basics Course (free, online course for non-forest professionals that provides an introduction to the key concepts to minimize the negative impacts of wildfires in BC).	Required cost estimate in WS1
I. Cross-train emergency management personnel: • Introduction to Emergency Management in Canada (basic concepts and structure of emergency management). • ICS-100 (introduction to an effective system for incident command, control, and coordination of response at an emergency site; available online).	Required cost estimate in WS1

Eligible Activities (Training and Cross-Training – Cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
J. <u>New in 2026</u> - Training to develop cultural and prescribed fire practitioners: • BCTREX - Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (collaborative, hands-on training event designed to bring together firefighters, land managers, researchers, and other stakeholders to conduct prescribed burns while gaining experience and exchanging knowledge). • RX310 Introduction to Fire Effects - An introduction to fire effects that offers an overview of the fundamental principles and ecological impacts of fire across diverse ecosystems. • S-211 The Fire Environment for Firefighters and Dispatchers - An introduction to the influences of weather, topography, and fuels on wildland fire behavior to support safe and effective fire management decisions. • S-290 Principals of Fire Behaviour – An intermediate-level instruction on the factors that influence wildland fire behavior, including fuels, weather, and topography, to support predictive decision-making in fire operations. • S-291 Understanding the Fire Weather Index Systems - Introduces the components and application of the Canadian Fire Weather Index (FWI) System for evaluating and predicting fire danger conditions. <i>Note: The above s-series courses will become available for eligible applicants to access starting in Fall 2025.</i>	Required cost estimate in WS1 BCTREX is limited to one staff person per year
K. <u>New in 2026</u> - Wildland Live Fire Training. Eligible applicants must work with BCWS zone staff to: • Identify suitable location, for live fire training burns • Obtain necessary authorizations • Develop burn plans • Implement the live fire training burn • Debrief to inform future training and project planning <i>Proposed projects must be discussed with a BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer or Prevention Specialist and/or FNESS Wildfire Resiliency Advisor prior to submitting an application.</i> <i>Refer to Appendix 6 for more information on Wildland Live Fire Training.</i>	Project description and budget is required to be submitted with Worksheet 1 Confirmation of approval in principle from BCWS Zone staff is required to be submitted <u>before the application is approved</u>
8. FIRESMART PROJECTS FOR CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE <i>Implementing recommended FireSmart improvements to local critical infrastructure demonstrates wildfire prevention principles and best practices to community members and other stakeholders.</i> <i>Updated September 2025 - To be eligible for funding, applicants must provide a completed FireSmart assessment, confirmation of ownership and description of role in emergency response to a wildfire event for all proposed critical infrastructure projects at the time of application submission. Refer to Appendix 7 for funding requirements for critical infrastructure.</i> <i>If mitigation work is not being proposed, then assessment should be applied for under Section 3F of Table 1.</i>	

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Complete an initial FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment before mitigation work is started (completed assessment must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission).	Up to \$945 per structure (generally 4 to 8 hours) <i>Refer to Section 3 of Table 1 to apply for FireSmart assessments for community buildings, structures and/or land</i>
B. Complete recommended mitigation activities identified in the assessment, limited to labour and material costs required to complete activities outlined in Table 6 (Appendix 7) .	<u>Updated in 2026</u> - Up to \$50,000 per eligible structure, including building materials and labour (note: higher funding requests will not be considered)
C. Complete second FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment after mitigation work is complete (required).	Up to \$945 per structure (generally 4 to 8 hours)

9. FIRESMART PROJECTS FOR COMMUNITY ASSETS

Implementing recommended FireSmart improvements to local community assets demonstrates wildfire prevention principles and best practices to community members and other stakeholders.

Updated September 2025 - To be eligible for funding, applicants must provide a completed FireSmart assessment, confirmation of ownership and description of role in emergency response to a wildfire event for all proposed community asset projects at the time of application submission. Refer to [Appendix 7](#) for funding requirements for critical infrastructure.

If mitigation work is not being proposed, assessment(s) should be applied for under Section [3F of Table 1](#).

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Complete an initial FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment for the proposed community asset before mitigation work is started (completed assessment must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission).	Up to \$945 per structure (generally 4 to 8 hours) <i>Refer to Section 3 of Table 1 to apply for FireSmart assessments for community buildings, structures and/or land</i>
B. Complete recommended mitigation activities identified in the assessment, limited to labour and material costs required to complete activities outlined in Table 6 (Appendix 7) .	<u>Updated in 2026</u> - Up to \$50,000 per eligible structure, including building materials and labour (note: higher funding requests will not be considered)
C. Complete second FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment after mitigation work is complete (required).	Up to \$945 per structure (generally 4 to 8 hours)

10. FIRESMART PROJECTS FOR CULTURAL SITES

Cultural Sites are locations of historical and cultural importance to Indigenous communities, preserving their heritage, traditions, and connection to the land. These include, but are not limited to, culturally modified trees, traditional dwellings, burial sites, and ceremonial sites.

Updated September 2025 - To be eligible for funding, all projects must have a completed Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription, with Section B completed by BCWS or FNESS, and, if the checklist confirms the proposed area meets the requirements for funding, a completed FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces Assessment (CSGS) is required at the time of application submission.

*In cases where **cultural sites** are located on **Provincial Crown Land** confirmation that the proposed activities are supported will be required from Provincial Crown Land Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) and must be submitted to UBCM at the time of application submission.*

*If mitigation work is not being proposed, assessment(s) should be applied for under Section [3F of Table 1](#). Refer to [Appendix 8](#) for complete funding requirements for **cultural sites**.*

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Complete Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription before CSGS Assessment is started (completed checklist must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission). <i>Updated September 2025</i> – the checklist is required to be completed by the applicant and BCWS or FNESS before the Cultural Sites Assessment is started.	Up to \$275 per location/structure (generally 1 to 3 hours to complete)
B. Complete initial FireSmart CSGS Assessment for the proposed cultural site before mitigation work is started (completed assessment must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission). <i>Updated September 2025</i> – the completion of the FireSmart CSGS Assessment is only eligible if the checklist confirms that the proposed area meets the requirements for funding for Cultural Sites.	Up to \$945 per location/structure (generally 4 to 8 hours)
C. Complete recommended mitigation activities identified in the FireSmart CSGS Assessment, limited to labour and material costs required to complete activities outlined in Table 7 (Appendix 8).	<i>Updated in 2026</i> - Up to \$25,000 per eligible location, including building materials and labour
D. Complete second FireSmart CSGS Assessment after mitigation work is complete (required).	Up to \$945 per location/structure (generally 4 to 8 hours)

11. FIRESMART PROJECTS FOR GREEN SPACES

Green spaces include parks, gardens, cemeteries, naturalized spaces, trails and pathways, linear parks and greenways, rights-of-way and boulevards. Green spaces are limited to **First Nations owned land or publicly owned land**.

Updated September 2025 - To be eligible for funding, all projects must have a completed Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription, with Section B completed by BCWS or FNESS, and, if the checklist confirms the proposed area meets the requirements for funding, a completed FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces (CSGS) Assessment at the time of application submission.

If mitigation work is not being proposed, assessment(s) should be applied for under Section [3F of Table 1](#). Refer to [Appendix 8](#) for funding requirements for green spaces.

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Complete Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription before CSGS Assessment is started (completed checklist must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission). <i>Updated September 2025</i> – the checklist is required to be completed by the applicant and BCWS or FNESS before the Green Spaces Assessment is started.	Up to \$275 per location/structure (generally 1 to 3 hours to complete)

Eligible Activities (Green Spaces – Cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
B. Complete initial FireSmart CSGS Assessment for the proposed cultural site before mitigation work is started (completed assessment must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission). <i>Updated September 2025</i> – the completion of the FireSmart CSGS Assessment is only eligible if the checklist confirms that the proposed area meets the requirements for funding for green spaces.	Up to \$945 per location/structure (generally 4 to 8 hours)
C. Complete recommended mitigation activities identified in the FireSmart CSGS Assessment, limited to labour and material costs required to complete activities outlined in Table 7 (Appendix 8).	<i>Updated in 2026</i> - Up to \$25,000 per eligible location, including building materials and labour (note: higher funding requests will not be considered)
D. Complete second FireSmart CSGS Assessment after mitigation work is complete (required).	Up to \$945 per location (generally 4 to 8 hours)
12. FIRESMART ACTIVITIES FOR HOMES AND PROPERTIES <i>First Nations and local governments have a key role to play in supporting residents, homeowners and property owners, including farms and ranches, to undertake FireSmart activities that demonstrate wildfire prevention principles and best practices.</i> <i>To be eligible for funding, all FireSmart activities must be located in the FireSmart Home Ignition Zone (with home and/or property owner's written consent).</i>	
Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. FireSmart Activities for Homes and Properties.	<i>Refer to Section 3F of Table 1 to apply for FireSmart assessments for community buildings, structures and/or land</i>
- Conduct FireSmart HIZ Assessments for homes and properties, limited to: - Data collection activities using HIZ assessment. - Digitizing HIZ assessment information. - Simple reporting (for community members, Council, etc.). - Basic mapping for PDF product.	Up to \$275 per structure (generally 1 to 3 hours to complete)
Offer local rebate programs to home and property owners that complete eligible FireSmart activities. <i>Refer to Appendix 9 for more information.</i>	<i>Updated in 2026</i> - Rebates are limited to 50% of the total cost of the eligible activities identified in Table 8 (Appendix 9) and up to \$5,000 per property (note: higher funding requests will not be considered)
- Completion of recommended mitigation activities identified in a completed FireSmart Assessment, limited to labour costs required to complete activities outlined in Table 8 (see Appendix 9) for: - Homes and properties owned by seniors (65 years of age or older), elders, people with limited mobility or vulnerable populations who cannot undertake mitigation activities themselves.	

Eligible Activities (Homes and Properties – Cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
Band owned housing occupied by elders, people with limited mobility or vulnerable populations and who cannot undertake mitigation activities themselves.	
B. <u>New in 2026</u> - FireSmart Activities for Farms and Ranches	<i>Refer to Section 3 of Table 1 to apply for FireSmart assessments for community buildings, structures and/or land</i>
- Conduct Farm and Ranch Assessments for farms and ranches, limited to: - Data collection activities using Farm and Ranch Assessment. - Digitizing Farm and Ranch Assessment information. - Simple reporting (for community members, Council, etc.). - Basic mapping for PDF product. - Facilitating Farm and Ranch Wildfire Plan preparation utilizing the Farm and Ranch Guide.	Up to \$275 per structure (generally 1 to 3 hours per structure to complete)
Offer local rebate programs to farm and ranch property owners that complete eligible FireSmart activities. <i>Refer to Appendix 9 for more information.</i>	<i>Updated in 2026</i> - Rebates are limited to 50% of the total cost of the eligible activities identified in Table 8 (Appendix 9) and up to \$5,000 per property (note: higher funding requests will not be considered)
C. FireSmart Neighbourhood Recognition Programs (FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition Program or FireSmart BC Local FireSmart Collective Program). <i>Refer to Appendix 5 for requirements for funding this activity and note that the assessment and plan are required to be completed in the same intake.</i>	Neighbourhood Wildfire Hazard Assessments (Local FireSmart Collective Assessment) - Up to \$515 per neighbourhood (collective) (generally 3 – 4 hours to complete) FireSmart Neighbourhood Plans (Collective Action Plan) -Up to \$1,230 per neighbourhood (collective)
D. Conduct Wildfire Mitigation Program Assessments for individual homes or properties, <u>limited to</u> : - Upon completion of certification, receipt of a Wildfire Mitigation Program driveway sign. - Data collection and management using WMP data base. - Simple reporting (for community members, Council, etc.). - Basic mapping for PDF product. <i>Refer to Appendix 5 for requirements for funding.</i>	Initial assessment – Up to \$370 per structure (generally 2 to 4 hours to complete) Follow-up inspection – Up to \$185 per structure (generally 1 to 2 hours to complete)
E. Provide off-site vegetative debris disposal for home and properties where FireSmart vegetation management has been undertaken, including: - Provide sharpening services for gardening hand tools. - Provide a dumpster, chipper or other collection method. - Waive tipping fees. - Provide curbside debris pick-up.	Required cost estimate in WS1 Refer to Additional Information on the Use and Disposal of Wood Chips Generated by FCFS-Funded Projects

Additional Eligible Costs and Activities

In addition to the activities identified in [Table 1](#), the following expenditures are also eligible provided they relate directly to eligible activities:

- Incremental applicant staff costs (e.g., creating a new position or adding new responsibilities to an existing position). Eligible expenses include wages/salary, mandatory employment related costs as required by federal or provincial law, and other employment related costs as required by the approved applicant.
- New in 2026 - Incremental administrative and/or operating costs that are directly related to eligible activities (cell phone plans and/or software licenses for FireSmart positions, lease and insurance costs for storage of FireSmart materials, insurance for vehicles for FireSmart positions, etc.).
- Consultant/contractor costs. Please note: if you intend to hire a professional (planner, forester) to support proposed activities, professional consultant rates will only be considered for activities that represent respective professions. For other activities (e.g. social media, planning events or administering rebate programs) consultant rates are expected to be commensurate with the type of activity being undertaken.
- Honoraria for cultural leaders, Elders, Indigenous knowledge keepers, and/or cultural keepers when they are scheduled to speak, present, or teach. Note: these honoraria should reflect the role of Indigenous Peoples as subject matter experts and be equitable to consultant rates.
- Expenses related to local cultural protocols (e.g., gifts, cultural ceremonies).
- Translation costs and the development of culturally appropriate education, awareness, or engagement materials.
- Identification of community and cultural values through engagement. This includes seeking advice from Indigenous Knowledge Holders and other experts (e.g., health authorities, First Nations Health Authority, biologists, etc.) and engaging the community (e.g., equity-denied populations, Indigenous organizations, such as Friendship Centres and Métis Chartered Communities), Indigenous Nations, local governments, agricultural sector, critical infrastructure owners, etc.
- Updated in 2026 - Purchase of tools (e.g., hand saws, loppers), power tools (e.g., chainsaws, brush saws, walk-behind lawnmowers, string trimmers), and/or drones that do not require pilot certificate or registration (i.e. microdrones that are less than 250 grams) required for eligible activities (up to \$5,000 per eligible applicant per year).
- Purchase of IT equipment (limited to tablet computers, compatible Satellite Emergency Notification Devices, Global Positioning System trackers and required accessories) required for eligible activities (up to \$5,000 per eligible applicant per year).
- New in 2026 - Expenses related to first aid training and kits that are incremental to the [Occupational Health and Safety Regulation](#) requirements for a workplace/employer and that are required specifically for eligible activities.
- Lease of equipment and/or vehicles (with the exception of trailers or equipment for FireSmart structure protection).
- Presentation to Band Council, or modern Treaty First Nation government, local government Council, Board, community organizations, etc.
- Public information costs (e.g., workshops, printed materials) that align with the intent of the funding stream and provide benefit to the community at large.

Ineligible Costs and Activities

Any activity that is not outlined in [Table 1](#) or is not directly connected to activities approved in the application is not eligible for grant funding. This includes:

- Routine or ongoing operating and/or planning costs or activities that are not incremental to the project or not directly related to eligible activities.
- Development or amendment of plans or maps primarily intended for emergency response.

- Development of databases.
- Purchase of software, software licences, service subscriptions, or membership fees.
- Development of FireSmart plans (with the exception of CWRPs, amendments to existing CWRPs and [FireSmart Neighbourhood Plans \(Collective Action Plans\)](#)).
- Development or update of feasibility studies (including water tank location analysis).
- Purchase of vehicles/trailers (with the exception of trailers for FireSmart structure protection).
- Purchase, construction, siting or maintenance of Fire Danger rating signs.
- Purchase of non-[FireSmart BC](#) branded items for community events and/or recruitment/retention of volunteers.
- Purchase of emergency supplies (e.g., first aid kits, evacuation supplies) for community members or households.
- New in 2026 - First aid training and kits that are required to meet [Occupational Health and Safety Regulation](#) requirements for a workplace/employer.
- Wildfire threat assessments and fuel treatment unit identification on **private land**. Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) wildfire threat assessments may be eligible if located within the **Eligible WUI** and the PMFL owner has consented in writing.
- Generally speaking, wildfire threat assessments and fuel treatment unit identification outside of the **Eligible WUI**.
- For FireSmart crew activities only:
 - Purchase of machinery and/or livestock for grazing.
 - Work undertaken by the Ministry of Forests, including Provincial **prescribed fire** staff support.
 - Any third-party requirements to address hazard abatement under the *Wildfire Act*.
 - Hazard abatement activities related to existing or decommissioned sawmills (e.g., removal of slabs and/or sawdust).

7. Application Requirements and Process

The LGPS Online Application Tool is required to be used. Refer to Appendix 10 for full information.
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Application Deadline

The 2026 Application-based Funding for FireSmart Activities funding stream will have an open intake. Funding permitting, eligible applicants can submit one application between October 1, 2025 and September 30, 2026.

Applicants will be advised of the status of their application within 120 days of submitting a complete, eligible application.

Submission of Applications

Applications are required to be submitted in two steps prior to the application deadline:

1. [LGPS Online Application Form](#): This online form must be completed for all applications to LGPS funding programs and includes questions that are common to all grant applications. When the LGPS Online Application Form is submitted, the applicant will receive an email confirmation including the file number that has been assigned to the application, and a copy of the Application Worksheet that must be completed as part of Step 2.
2. Application Worksheet: This worksheet contains questions that are specific to the funding stream and must be submitted by email to UBCM with all other required attachments.

Refer to [Appendix 10](#) for more information on this process and the information that will be required to be submitted during each step, including all application questions.

Required Application Contents

All applicants are required to complete the LGPS Online Application Form and submit an electronic copy of the complete application, as outlined in Table 2:

Table 2: Summary of Required Application Contents and Related Attachments <i>Refer to the Application Worksheet and Final Report Worksheet for required submissions for each proposed activity.</i>	
Required Submissions	Related Attachments (as required)
Application Worksheet	Completed CWPP or CWRP (if not previously submitted).
Worksheet 1: Proposed FireSmart Activities	- Community Planning – A list of buildings, assets and/or locations that are proposed to be assessed and the ownership of each. - Cross Training – Training breakdown for each FireSmart position with cost calculation; project description and budget for wildland live fire training <u>and</u> confirmation of approval in principle from BCWS Zone staff is required to be submitted before commencing training. <u>Updated September 2025</u> - FireSmart Projects for Critical Infrastructure - Confirmation of ownership, description of role in emergency response to a wildfire event and completed initial FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment(s). <u>Updated September 2025</u> - FireSmart Projects for Community Assets - Confirmation of ownership, description of role in emergency response to a wildfire event and completed initial FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment(s). <u>Updated September 2025</u> - FireSmart Projects for Cultural Sites - Completed checklist(s) with Section B completed by BCWS or FNESS; completed initial FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces Assessment(s). <u>Updated September 2025</u> - FireSmart Projects for Green Spaces - Completed checklist(s) with Section B completed by BCWS or FNESS; completed initial FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces Assessment(s). - In cases where critical infrastructure, community assets or cultural sites are located on Provincial Crown Land confirmation that the proposed activities are supported will be required from Provincial Crown Land Manager.
Worksheet 2: Proposed Fuel Management Activities	Refer to Application-based Funding for Fuel Management Activities program guide.
Worksheet 3: Proposed New/Amended CWRP	<u>Updated September 2025</u> - PDF map <u>and</u> Google Earth compatible KML file, at appropriate scale, outlining the AOI and Eligible WUI. All maps must meet the general requirements for all maps outlined in Section B of Appendix 11.

Required Submissions	Related Attachments (as required)
Worksheet 3: Proposed New/Amended CWRP (Cont'd)	- In cases where the applicant proposes risk assessments in Eligible WUI outside of the AOI, confirmation that the proposed risk assessments activities are supported will be required <u>at the time of application submission</u> from Provincial Crown Land Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails), other land managers (e.g. Indigenous Services Canada, local governments) and/or First Nations (where overlap on reserves and/or traditional territories may exist). This is limited to exceptional circumstances only. - In cases where the applicant proposes threat assessments in the Eligible WUI in Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL), confirmation that the proposed threat assessments activities are supported will be required <u>at the time of application submission</u> from the PMFL.
Worksheet 4: Additional Funding for Applicants Impacted by Wildfires	- Worksheet 4 can be submitted with the application or at a later date. - Community Planning – A list of buildings, assets and/or locations that are proposed to be assessed and the ownership of each.
Band Council, Treaty First Nation, or local government Council or Board resolution, (<u>or</u> letter of support from Band Manager, CAO or CFO when a single applicant with a request under \$50,000 only), indicating support for the current proposed activities and willingness to provide overall grant management.	
<u>For regional projects only:</u> Council, Board or Band Council resolution from each sub-applicant that clearly states approval for the primary applicant to apply for, receive and manage the grant funding on their behalf.	

Review of Applications

UBCM will perform a preliminary review of applications to ensure the required application contents have been submitted and to ensure that basic eligibility criteria have been met. Only complete application packages will be reviewed.

Where required, complete, eligible applications (with eligibility screening section completed by BCWS, FNESS and/or BC Parks) will be scored by the local BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer/Prevention Specialist or FNESS Wildfire Resiliency Advisor. Point values and weighting have been established within each of these scoring criteria. Only those applications that meet a minimum threshold point value will be considered for funding.

Higher application review scores will be given to projects that:

- Align with the intent of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program to clearly increase community resiliency by undertaking community-based FireSmart planning and activities that reduce the community's risk from wildfire.
- Demonstrate evidence of local wildfire risk (within the past five years) and rationale for proposed activities. This can include:
 - Wildfire risk class of 1, 2 or 3 for the general area of interest.
 - Current local threat assessments that show wildfire threat in proximity to values at risk within and around the community that have been supported by the BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer/Prevention Specialist and/or FNESS Wildfire Resiliency Advisor.
 - Demonstrated history of recent repeated and/or significant interface wildfires and evacuations.
- Demonstrate evidence of engagement with First Nations and/or Indigenous organizations in advance of submitting the application and as part of the proposed project (e.g., collaborative planning tables; incorporating First Nation values and perspectives in proposed activities; existing outreach, plans, engagement reports or processes; including First Nation engagement costs in the budget; completion of Indigenous Cultural Safety and Cultural Humility Training).

- Include collaboration with one or more partners (e.g., community or resident organization, First Nation or Indigenous organization, other local governments, industry, or other levels of government).
- Are within cost maximums established in [Table 1](#), demonstrate cost-effectiveness and reflect local, reasonable estimates.
- In cases where the total project cost exceeds the grant request, include **in-kind contributions** to the project from the eligible applicant, community partners or other grant funding.

Following this, the Evaluation Committee will assess all eligible applications. All funding decisions will be made by UBCM.

All application materials may be shared with the Province of BC, First Nations' Emergency Services Society and FireSmart BC.

8. Grant Management and Applicant Responsibilities

Grants are awarded to eligible applicants only and, as such, the applicant is responsible for completion of the project as approved and for meeting reporting requirements. Applicants are also responsible for proper fiscal management, including maintaining acceptable accounting records for the project. UBCM reserves the right to audit these records.

Notice of Funding Decision and Payments

All applicants will receive written notice of funding decisions. Approved applicants will receive an Approval Agreement, which will include the terms and conditions of any grant that is awarded, and is required to be signed and returned to UBCM.

Grants are awarded in two payments: 50% at the approval of the project when the signed Approval Agreement has been returned to UBCM, and the eligible remainder when the project is complete and UBCM has received and approved the required final reporting.

Please note that in cases where revisions are required to an application, or an application has been approved in principle only, the applicant has 30 days from the date of the written notice of the status of the application to complete the application requirements. Applications that are not completed within 30 days may be closed.

Updated October 2025 - Payment by Direct Deposit

Approved applicants may request to have all grant payments made by direct deposit. Please note that all payments to local governments are already made by direct deposit.

In order to receive payments by direct deposit, approved applicants are required to submit:

- UBCM Direct Deposit Authorization Form for a bank account registered in the name of the approved applicant. Direct deposit payments will not be made to accounts registered to an individual or to an entity that is not the same as the approved applicant.
- Resolution or motion from the approved applicant (e.g., Band Council, Treaty First Nation, local government Council or Board, society Board of Directors) authorizing UBCM to make all future grant payments by direct deposit.

Post-Grant Approval Meetings

As a requirement of grant funding, all approved applicants are required to meet with the BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer/Prevention Specialist or FNESS Wildfire Resiliency Advisor, or designate, to discuss the **approved project** prior to commencing work.

In addition, where applicable, approved applicants are encouraged to meet with the Provincial Crown Land Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails)

and/or other land managers (e.g. Indigenous Services Canada) to discuss the project prior to commencing work.

Progress Payments

To request a progress payment, approved applicants are required to submit the [Interim Report Form](#). The form will require the following information:

- Description of activities completed to date
- Description of funds expended to date
- Written rationale for receiving a progress payment

Changes to Approved Projects (Amendment Requests)

Approved grants are specific to the project as identified in the approved application, and grant funds are not transferable to other projects. Generally speaking, this means funds cannot be transferred to an activity that was not included in the approved application.

Approval from UBCM and/or the Evaluation Committee will be required for any variation from the **approved project**. Depending on the complexity of the proposed amendment, requests may take up to 120 days to review.

To propose changes to an **approved project**, applicants are required to submit the [Interim Report Form](#). If UBCM determines the amendment is eligible for consideration, applicants will be required to submit:

- Amended application package, including updated, application worksheet(s), and an updated Council, Board or Band Council resolution/letter of support.
- For regional projects only: evidence of support from **sub-applicants** for proposed amendments.
- Written rationale for proposed changes to activities and/or expenditures.

Applicants are responsible for any costs above the approved grant unless a revised application is submitted and approved prior to work being undertaken.

Extensions to Project End Date

All approved activities are required to be completed within the time frame identified in the Approval Agreement and all extensions beyond this date must be requested in writing and be approved by UBCM.

The [Interim Report Form](#) must be submitted for all extension requests over six months.

Extensions will not exceed one year from the date of the original final report deadline. An Interim Report Form will be required at 12 months for all two-year projects.

Recognition of Funding and Funders

When recognizing funding, please state that the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports funding stream is administered by the Union of BC Municipalities and funded by the Province of BC. UBCM is active on X, Bluesky, LinkedIn and Facebook. When possible, please mention or tag UBCM on social media posts that are related to projects that are funded by programs that UBCM administers.

Guidelines on using the BC logo, including downloadable files, are available [here](#)

9. Interim Reporting and Final Report Requirements and Process

Reporting requirements do not apply to any product, data or information which may include Indigenous knowledge. The Ministry of Forests respects the First Nations principles of OCAP®.

Applicants will be eligible to apply for future funding after the **approved project end date** of the 2026 project or, if approved by UBCM, after the complete 2026 final report is submitted.

Interim Reports for Two Year Projects

An interim report is required at 12 months for all two-year projects.

Updated September 2025 - To meet this requirement, applicants are required to submit the [Interim Report Form](#).

Final Reports

An electronic copy of the complete final report package is required for all projects.

Updated September 2025 - To meet this requirement, applicants are required to submit the Application-based Funding for FireSmart Activities Final Report (and all required attachments as outlined in Table 3). This will require completion of the Final Report Worksheet and the completion of the relevant Worksheet 1 (Year 1/Year 2), Worksheet 3 and/or Worksheet 4.

When final report requirements are met, a payment for the eligible remaining grant amount will be issued.

Table 3: Summary of Required Final Report Contents and Related Attachments	
<i>Refer to the Application Worksheet and Final Report Worksheets for required submissions for each proposed activity.</i>	
Required Submissions	Related Attachments (as required)
Final Report Worksheet	
Final Report Worksheet 1	• Education – Electronic samples of educational materials. • Community Planning – All updated/completed bylaws, policies, practices and plans; all completed checklists and assessments. • Development Considerations – All updated/completed bylaws, policies, practices and plans. • Emergency Planning – All updated/completed water delivery assessments; list of purchased FireSmart structure protection equipment. • Cross Training – List of completed training for each FireSmart position with cost calculation; a project report and financial summary for wildland live fire training. • FireSmart Projects for Critical Infrastructure - Completed post-mitigation FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment(s). • FireSmart Projects for Community Assets - Completed post-mitigation FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment(s). • FireSmart Projects for Cultural Sites - Completed post-mitigation FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces Assessment(s). • FireSmart Projects for Green Spaces - Completed post-mitigation FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces Assessment(s). • FireSmart Activities for Homes and Properties – Summary report and sample of completed FireSmart HIZ Assessments and/or FireSmart Farm and Ranch Assessments; list of addresses that received a rebate and rebate amounts; list of addresses where eligible mitigation work was completed <u>and</u> a general description of the work at each address; completed neighbourhood assessments and/or plans; summary report of completed WMP Assessments.
Final Report Worksheet 2: Fuel Management Activities	• Refer to the Application-based Funding for Fuel Management Activities program guide.

Required Submissions	Related Attachments (as required)
Final Report Worksheet 3: New CWRP/Amended CWRP	• Copy of the completed or amended CWRP. • Completed Wildfire Threat Assessment Worksheet(s) and photos. • Maps and spatial data as outlined in Appendix 11.
Final Report Worksheet 4: Additional Funding for Applicants Directly Impacted by Wildfires	• Education – Electronic samples of educational materials. • Community Planning – All updated/completed bylaws, policies, practices and plans; all completed checklists and assessments. • Development Considerations – All updated/completed bylaws, policies, practices and plans.
Final Report Worksheet 4: Additional Funding for Applicants Directly Impacted by Wildfires (Cont'd)	• FireSmart Activities for Homes and Properties – Summary report and representative sample of completed FireSmart HIZ Assessments and/or FireSmart Farm and Ranch Assessments; list of addresses that received a rebate and rebate amounts; list of addresses where eligible mitigation work was completed, <u>and</u> a general description of the work at each address; completed neighbourhood assessments and/or plans; summary report of completed WMP Assessments
Copies, excerpts and/or links to all materials produced with grant funding.	
Photos of funded activities and/or completed projects and links to media directly related to the funded project.	

Submission of Interim Reporting and Final Reports

Interim and final reports should be submitted as Excel, Word, or PDF files. Total file size for email attachments cannot exceed 20 MB.

All interim and final reports should be submitted to Local Government Program Services, Union of BC Municipalities by e-mail: cri@ubcm.ca.

Review of Interim Reporting and Final Reports

UBCM will perform a preliminary review of all reports to ensure the required report elements have been submitted. Following this, all complete final reports and deliverables may be reviewed by BCWS, FNESS and/or, where applicable, BC Parks before grant payment is released.

All final report materials may be shared with the Province of BC, First Nations' Emergency Services Society, and FireSmart BC. The Province is moving towards a public dashboard that will highlight all plans and proposed/completed **fuel management treatments**. This would include spatial components and attributes and include changes to spatial requirements for CWRPs.

10. Additional Information

Union of BC Municipalities

E-mail: cri@ubcm.ca

Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 220

Appendix 1: Definitions for FireSmart Community Funding and Supports Program

Approved project: Activities and costs included in the approved application that are to be completed from the **approved project start date** to the **approved project end date**.

Approved project start date: The date of the approval agreement for the approved project. However, eligible costs can be incurred from the date of application submission until the final report is submitted.

Approved project end date: The date identified in the approval agreement as the approved project end date. Generally speaking, this will be 12 months or 24 months from the date of the approval agreement depending on whether an applicant has applied for funding for one or two years.

Area of Interest (AOI): The AOI is the geographic scope of the CWRP. For the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, the AOI is the area within the municipal boundary, regional district boundary, or boundary of **First Nations land**. Refer to [Appendix 3](#) and the CWRP instruction guide and template for more information.

Updated September 2025 - **Cooperative Community Wildfire Response (CCWR) organization:** For the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, a CCWR organization is an incorporated business entity, such as a non-profit society or fire brigade, that has an accountable leadership structure, operates outside of structural fire protection jurisdiction and is willing to follow the command and direction of BC Wildfire Service.

Cultural Burning: A practice that has existed since time immemorial, with traditional knowledge passed down from generation to generation. It holds different meanings for different Indigenous communities but is often defined as the controlled application of fire on the landscape to achieve specific cultural objectives. These burns are typically implemented at low intensity, with guidance from an Elder or Fire Knowledge Keeper. Common objectives include, but are not limited to cultural and language preservation, fuel mitigation, food and medicinal plant revitalization, and habitat enhancement.

Cultural Sites: Locations of historical and cultural importance to Indigenous Nations preserving their heritage, traditions, and connection to the land. These may include, but are not limited, to culturally modified trees, traditional dwellings, burial sites, and ceremonial sites.

Eligible Wildland Urban Interface (WUI): For the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, the **Eligible WUI** is generally defined as a maximum of one kilometer from structures within the AOI with a structure density class greater than 6.

First Nations land: First Nation reserve land, land owned by a modern Treaty First, land under the authority of an Indigenous National Government, or other land owned or governed by a First Nation or modern Treaty First Nation.

First Nations owned buildings: Buildings owned by a modern Treaty First Nation or buildings owned by a First Nation band.

Green Spaces: For the purpose of FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, green spaces are limited to **First Nations owned land** or **publicly owned land** and only include:

- Parks: open areas with lawns, trees, and amenities for recreation, including playgrounds, sports fields, and picnic areas.
- Gardens: spaces featuring a variety of plants and flowers, often with educational purposes.
- Cemeteries.
- Naturalized spaces: undeveloped areas within urban settings.
- Trails and Pathways: walking and biking routes connecting different parts of a city or town.
- Linear Parks and Greenways, including former railway lines.

- Right-of-Ways and Boulevards: landscaped roadside areas with trees and vegetation.

In-Kind expenditures: The use of resources of the approved **primary applicant** or **sub-applicant(s)** for the development or implementation of the **approved project**. For example, the use of meeting rooms owned by the approved **primary applicant** or **sub-applicant(s)** can be an in-kind expenditure.

Neighbourhood/Collective: A neighbourhood or collective is considered to be an area of continuous land and structures that make logical sense to work together as community members. It may include homes, green spaces, farms/ranches, and/or other buildings and infrastructure.

Prescribed fire: The planned and deliberate application of fire to a specific land area to achieve a variety of land management objectives such as wildfire risk reduction, preserving Indigenous cultural values, improving wildlife habitat, and forest health.

Primary applicant: Eligible applicant that is the primary contact for the application and that is responsible for project oversight, grant management and all reporting requirements.

Private land: Fee-simple land that is not owned by a level of government.

Provincial Crown Land: Land (or land covered by water like rivers or lakes) that is owned by the Province of BC.

Publicly owned buildings: Buildings owned by a local government or public institution (such as health authority or school district).

Updated September 2025 - **Publicly owned land:** Land owned by a local government or land owned by a public institution (such as a health authority or school district). For the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, lands owned by colleges and universities are generally not considered publicly owned land. However, with rationale and support from FNESS and/or BCWS, land owned by a university identified in the Universities Act, Thompson Rivers University Act or Royal Roads University Act and/or land owned by a college identified in the College and Institute Act may be considered for funding for eligible fuel management activities.

Publicly and First Nations owned critical infrastructure: Assets owned by a local government, public institution (such as health authority or school district), First Nation or modern Treaty First Nation that are either:

- Identified in a local Emergency Management Plan [Hazard, Risk & Vulnerability Analysis](#) and/or [Critical Infrastructure assessment](#)
- Essential to the health, safety, security or economic wellbeing of the community and the effective functioning of government (such as fire halls, emergency operations centres, radio repeaters, etc.).

Sub-applicant(s): In the case of regional projects, the sub-applicants are eligible applicants that are included in an approved application.

Vegetation management: The general goal of **vegetation management** is to reduce the potential wildfire intensity and ember exposure to people, infrastructure, structures and other values through manipulation of both the natural and cultivated vegetation that is within or adjacent to a community.

Vegetation management can be accomplished at various scales:

1. **FireSmart vegetation management:** removal, reduction, or conversion of flammable vegetation in order to create more fire-resistant areas
2. **Fuel management treatments:** the manipulation or reduction of living or dead forest and grassland fuels to reduce the rate of spread and head fire intensity and enhance the likelihood of successful suppression.

Appendix 2: Additional Funding for Applicants Directly Impacted by Wildfires

Updated in 2026 - Eligible applicants with an existing FireSmart program that were directly impacted by the 2025 wildfire season or by wildfire(s) during the **approved project** may apply to exceed the base funding maximum in order to support incremental FireSmart activities due to increased local demand for wildfire risk reduction.

Additional funding for applicants directly impacted by wildfire is limited to:

- Communities that experienced, as a direct result of the 2025 wildfire season or wildfires during the **approved project**:
 - Structural impacts to homes;
 - Structural impacts to critical infrastructure; and/or
 - Evacuation alerts and/or orders on the recommendation of the BC Wildfire Service.
- Eligible applicants that have an existing FireSmart program and can demonstrate an increase in demand for FireSmart activities since wildfire season.
- Activities identified in Table 4 that are incremental to any activities that have been approved under the FireSmart Community Funding & Supports program.
- No more than \$100,000 in additional funding per year.
- Single applicants (i.e., not as part of regional applications).

Updated September 2025 - In addition, in order to qualify for additional funds, the applicant must have an approved 2026 application under Application-based Funding for FireSmart Activities or Allocation-based Funding for FireSmart Activities, either as a primary applicant or sub-applicant or include the request for additional funds in their 2026 application.

Worksheet 4: Impact from Wildfires is required to be submitted for consideration of additional funding. This worksheet will be reviewed by the BCWS and/or FNESS.

Table 4: Activities Eligible for Funding for Applicants Directly Impacted by Wildfires	
1. FIRESMART POSITIONS	
Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Incremental FireSmart positions (e.g. creating a new position or adding new responsibilities to an existing position), based on the recommended job descriptions : • FireSmart Coordinator • Local FireSmart Representative • Wildfire Mitigation Specialist • Wildfire Forest Professional	Required cost estimate WS4. <i>The primary focus of FireSmart positions is to support eligible FireSmart activities but other activities related to emergency management (i.e. EOC, ESS, evacuations), structural fire and/or forestry (i.e. Indigenous Guardians) are eligible as no more than 20% of job duties.</i>
B. Seasonal FireSmart positions based on the recommended job descriptions : • <u>New in 2026</u> - Junior FireSmart Coordinator (Summer Students/youth position) • FireSmart Crew Member	<i>Seasonal positions do not meet the required FireSmart foundation for having a FireSmart position</i>

2. EDUCATION	
Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Update signage, social media, applicant websites and/or newsletters, and community education materials or displays related to a proposed activity in categories 2 through 5 below. <i>Note: Ember mascots will be available on a limited basis and regional allocation will be considered before approval.</i>	• Banners: up to \$1,800 (total order per year) • Posters: \$275 (total order per year) • Videos specific to community wildfire resiliency: up to \$11,775 each per year • Tents, including walls: up to \$2,450 each • Vehicle decals: up to \$830 (total order per year) • T-shirts: up to \$1,230 (total order per year) • Ember mascot: up to \$9,200
B. Promote/distribute FireSmart educational resources, such as FireSmart 101, Wildfire Risk Reduction Basics, FireSmart Canada Ambassador training, Local FireSmart Representative training, FireSmart Begins at Home app, social media, FireSmart BC materials.	Required cost estimate in WS4
C. Organize, host or support FireSmart events: Wildfire Community Preparedness Day, Farm and Ranch Wildfire Preparedness workshop, Neighbourhood Champion workshop (Collective Advocate Workshop), community FireSmart day, and/or wildfire season open houses.	Up to \$6,140 per event
D. Support the FireSmart BC Education Program at local school districts. This includes promotional materials for contests, banners, and targeted education events at schools to promote the education program curriculum.	Up to \$615 per school per year
E. Support the FireSmart BC Library Program at local/regional libraries. This program includes Wildfire Resiliency Literacy Kits, Ember Activity Packages, Colouring Contest materials, and access to Storytime Videos with Ember.	Up to \$615 per branch or \$2,050 per independent library to support the whole Library Program, or; Up to \$310 per branch for the purchase of books from the Wildfire Resiliency Literacy Kit
F. Support the FireSmart BC Plant Program at local garden centres or nurseries. Includes plant tags, banners, staff buttons and in-store advertising.	Up to \$2,765 per location
G. Targeted public education to support implementation of fuel management activities, including cultural burning, prescribed fire and wildland live fire training.	Required cost estimate in WS4

3. COMMUNITY PLANNING

Community planning is a very effective tool for reducing wildfire risk for lands and buildings within the administrative boundaries of First Nation communities and local governments.

Refer to the [Wildfire-Resilience Best Practice Checklist for Home Construction, Renovation and Landscaping](#) or [FireSmart BC Landscaping Hub](#).

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Amend existing CWRPs that are less than 5 years old. Refer to Appendix 3 for more information on amending a CWRP.	Up to \$17,950 (depending on AOI and proposed activities in the Eligible WUI) and with required cost estimate in WS3
B. <i>New in 2026</i> - Develop or amend bylaws related to open fires as defined in the <i>Wildfire Act</i> .	Up to \$11,880 <i>Bylaws must address aspect(s) of open fire that a local government or a First Nation is responsible for regulating. Section 4 of the Wildfire Act divides responsibility for wildfire prevention between the Provincial and local governments</i>
C. Develop FireSmart policies and practices for the design and maintenance of First Nations land and publicly owned land , such as parks and open spaces.	Required cost estimate in WS4
D. Develop FireSmart policies and practices for the design and maintenance of First Nations owned buildings and publicly owned buildings .	Required cost estimate in WS4
E. Complete FireSmart assessments for community buildings, structures and/or land, limited to First Nation owned buildings, publicly owned buildings, publicly and First Nations owned critical infrastructure, cultural sites and/or green spaces , including:	Refer to Section 5 of Table 4 to apply for assessments for homes and properties
• FireSmart Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Assessment	Up to \$275 per structure (generally 1 to 3 hours to complete)
• FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment	Up to \$945 per structure (generally 4 to 8 hours) with required identification of buildings and ownership in WS1
• Wildfire Mitigation Program Assessment	Initial assessment – Up to \$370 per structure (generally 2 to 4 hours to complete)
• Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription (<i>Updated September 2025</i> - required to be completed by applicant and BCWS or FNESS before Cultural Sites and Green Spaces Assessment is started)	Up to \$275 per location/structure (generally 1 to 3 hours to complete)
• FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces Assessment (<i>Updated September 2025</i> - only eligible if the checklist confirms that the proposed area meets the requirements for funding for Cultural Sites or Green Spaces)	Up to \$945 per structure/location (generally 4 to 8 hours) with ownership of land in WS1

4. DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Community land use and development in wildfire-prone areas affects the susceptibility of the community at different scales and in terms of where and how a community is, or will be, developed.

Refer to the [Wildfire-Resilience Best Practice Checklist for Home Construction, Renovation and Landscaping](#), [FireSmart BC Landscaping Hub](#) and [Wildfire Development Permit Areas: non-technical guide for FireSmart Coordinators in British Columbia](#)

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Amend Official Community Plans, Comprehensive Community Plans and/or land use, engineering and public works bylaws to incorporate FireSmart principles.	Up to \$11,880
B. Revise landscaping requirements in zoning and development permit documents to incorporate FireSmart principles.	Up to \$11,880
C. Establish or revise Development Permit Areas for Wildfire Hazard to incorporate FireSmart principles.	Up to \$11,880
D. Amend referral processes for new developments to ensure multiple departments, including the fire department and/or emergency management personnel, are included.	Up to \$11,880

5. FIRESMART ACTIVITIES FOR HOMES AND PROPERTIES

First Nations and local governments have a key role to play in supporting residents, homeowners and property owners, including farms and ranches, to undertake FireSmart activities that demonstrate wildfire prevention principles and best practices.

To be eligible for funding, all FireSmart activities must be located in the [FireSmart Home Ignition Zone](#) (with home and/or property owner's written consent).

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. FireSmart Activities for Homes and Properties.	<i>Refer to Section 3 of Table 4 to apply for FireSmart assessments for community buildings, structures and/or land.</i>
- Conduct FireSmart HIZ Assessments for homes and properties, limited to: - Data collection activities using HIZ assessment. - Digitizing HIZ assessment information. - Simple reporting (for community members, Council, etc.). - Basic mapping for PDF product.	Up to \$275 per structure (generally 1 to 3 hours to complete)
Offer local rebate programs to home and property owners that complete eligible FireSmart activities. <i>Refer to Appendix 9 for more information.</i>	<i>Updated in 2026</i> - Rebates are limited to 50% of the total cost of the eligible activities identified in Table 8 (Appendix 9) and up to \$5,000 per property (note: higher funding requests will not be considered)
Completion of recommended mitigation activities identified in a completed FireSmart Assessment, limited to labour costs required to complete activities outlined in Table 8 (see Appendix 9) for:	Required cost estimate in WS4

Eligible Activities (Homes and Properties – Cont’d)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
○ Homes and properties owned by seniors (65 years of age or older), elders, people with limited mobility or vulnerable populations who cannot undertake mitigation activities themselves. ○ Band owned housing occupied by elders, people with limited mobility or vulnerable populations and who cannot undertake mitigation activities themselves.	
B. <u>New in 2026</u> - FireSmart Activities for Farms and Ranches	
• Conduct Farm and Ranch Assessments for farms and ranches, limited to: ○ Data collection activities using Farm and Ranch Assessment. ○ Digitizing Farm and Ranch Assessment information. ○ Simple reporting (for community members, Council, etc.). ○ Basic mapping for PDF product. ○ Facilitating Farm and Ranch Wildfire Plan preparation utilizing the Farm and Ranch Guide.	Up to \$275 per structure (generally 1 to 3 hours per structure to complete)
• Offer local rebate programs to farm and ranch property owners that complete eligible FireSmart activities. <i>Refer to Appendix 9 for more information.</i>	Rebates are limited to 50% of the total cost of the eligible activities identified in Table 8 (Appendix 9) and up to \$5,000 per property (note: higher funding requests will not be considered)
C. FireSmart Neighbourhood Recognition Programs (FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition Program or FireSmart BC Local FireSmart Collective Program). <i>Refer to Appendix 5 for requirements for funding this activity and note that the assessment and plan are required to be completed in the same intake.</i>	Neighbourhood Wildfire Hazard Assessments (Local FireSmart Collective Assessment) - Up to \$515 per neighbourhood (collective) (generally 3 – 4 hours to complete) FireSmart Neighbourhood Plans (Collective Action Plan) -Up to \$1,230 per neighbourhood (collective)
D. Conduct Wildfire Mitigation Program Assessments for individual homes or properties, <u>limited to</u>: • Upon completion of certification, receipt of a Wildfire Mitigation Program driveway sign. • Data collection and management using WMP data base. • Simple reporting (for community members, Council, etc.). • Basic mapping for PDF product. <i>Refer to Appendix 5 for requirements for funding.</i>	Initial assessment – Up to \$370 per structure (generally 2 to 4 hours to complete) Follow-up inspection – Up to \$185 per structure (generally 1 to 2 hours to complete)
E. Provide off-site vegetative debris disposal for home and properties where FireSmart vegetation management has been undertaken, including: • Provide sharpening services for gardening hand tools. • Provide a dumpster, chipper or other collection method. • Waive tipping fees. • Provide curbside debris pick-up.	Required cost estimate in WS4 Refer to Additional Information on the Use and Disposal of Wood Chips Generated by FCFS-Funded Projects

Appendix 3: Funding Requirements for Community Wildfire Resiliency Plans

For the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, applicants are required to have a current and acceptable CWRP/CWPP for their community.

Note: CWRPs and CWPPs must be complete and acceptable to the BCWS, FNESS and/or BC Parks (where applicable). To be considered acceptable, plans must be developed in accordance with the CWRP template and guidance document and must include assessments and identification of FireSmart and fuel management priorities.

Eligible applicants are strongly encouraged to engage with BCWS or FNESS as early as possible when considering a new or amended CWRP.

NOTE: The province is moving towards a public dashboard that will highlight all plans and proposed/completed **fuel management treatments**. This would include spatial components and attributes and include changes to spatial requirements for CWRPs.

Community Wildfire Resiliency Plans

CWRPs are local and/or regional plans that are intended to increase communities' capacity and understanding of wildfire threat and risk by identifying achievable and accountable FireSmart action items that support wildfire risk reduction. The life span of a CWRP may vary in different communities. For the purpose of FireSmart Community Funding & Supports funding, there is not a set time that a CWRP is considered to be valid for.

To be considered acceptable, CWRPs must be developed in accordance with the [CWRP instruction guide and template](#). The CWRP instruction guide and template are intended to help communities develop a comprehensive and science-based approach to wildfire risk reduction that reflects local priorities and provincial goals for prevention and mitigation.

The CWRP instruction guide and template ensure that all FireSmart disciplines are well represented in the resiliency planning process and are designed to empower communities to develop a CWRP in a collaborative, cost-effective, and time-efficient manner.

The FireSmart Coordinator is generally the project lead for CWRP development (or amendment), with support from external consultants and/or contractors when needed. The goal is to build capacity within the community for both the development and implementation of the CWRP.

Regional and local [Community FireSmart and Resiliency Collaboratives](#) (CFRCs) also play a key role in the development, maintenance and implementation of the CWRP. [CFRCs](#) bring partners together under a common vision that reflects a comprehensive approach toward risk reduction and resiliency measures as outlined with CWRPs.

First Nations and local governments are encouraged to review their CWRPs annually and to amend the plan when there are local changes in community composition, forest health, wildfire risk, etc. If a CWRP does not exist, or BCWS, FNESS and/or BC Parks have identified that the current plan is no longer acceptable, eligible applicants can develop a new CWRP or, if the current plan is less than 5 years old, amend an existing plan to address the change in local conditions.

Developing a New CWRP

If an eligible applicant has identified the need to amend their current CWRP, or if BCWS, FNESS and/or BC Parks have identified that the current plan is no longer acceptable, existing CWRPs that are more than 5 years old must be replaced with a new CWRP.

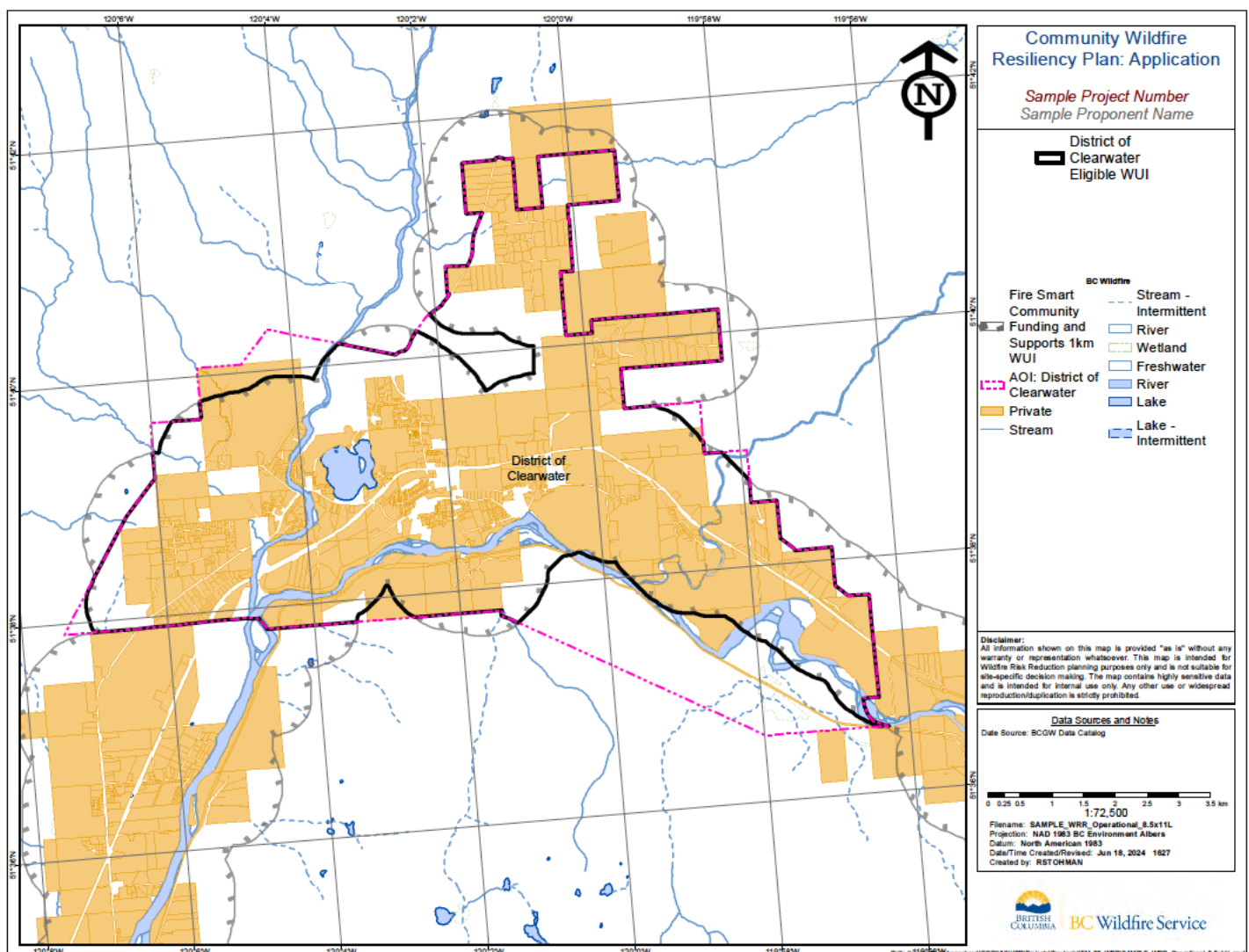
The **Area of Interest (AOI)** is the geographic scope of the CWRP. For the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, the **AOI** is the area within the municipal boundary, regional district boundary, or boundary of **First Nations land**. For regional districts this could be the boundary of one or more electoral areas. The **AOI** could also include more than one neighbouring area. For example, a municipality and neighbouring electoral area could create a shared **AOI**.

Refer to the [CWRP instruction guide and template](#) for more information.

Risk and threat assessments are a critical component of CWRPs. When developing or amending a CWRP, risk and threat assessments are generally limited to the **Eligible WUI**, which for the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, is generally defined as a maximum of one kilometer from structures within the **AOI** with a structure density class greater than 6. Structural data updates may be collected and/or assembled as part of a CWRP, although it is not required if existing data is available.

Map 1 provides an example of the **AOI** and **Eligible WUI**. A full-size version of this map is available [here](#).

Applicants are advised to use the [Province of BC Data Catalogue](#) for PSTA and WUI spatial data layers.



Map 1: Sample AOI and Eligible WUI

To be eligible for funding:

- Local government land and **First Nations land** within the **Eligible WUI** must be assessed, but risk assessments on **Provincial Crown Land** within the **Eligible WUI** is voluntary (but eligible for funding).
- In cases where the applicant proposes risk assessments in **Eligible WUI** outside of the **AOI**, confirmation that the proposed risk assessments activities are supported will be required at the time of application submission from the Provincial Crown Land Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails), other land managers (e.g., Indigenous Services Canada, local government) and/or First Nations (where overlap on reserves and/or traditional territories may exist). This is limited to exceptional circumstances only.
- In cases where the applicant proposes threat assessments in the **Eligible WUI** in Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL), confirmation that the proposed threat assessments activities are supported will be required at the time of application submission from the PMFL.

Amending an Existing CWRP

If an eligible applicant has identified the need to amend their current CWRP, or if BCWS, FNESS and/or BC Parks have identified that the current plan is no longer acceptable, existing CWRPs that are less than 5 years old can be amended to include/update:

- FireSmart Road Map.
- Recently acquired land or areas of new development, etc.
- Ground-truthing for new treatment units.
- Significant changes to forest stand composition and/or forest health changes or impacts.
- Integrating other plans or information.

Application Requirements

In addition to the required application materials for the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program (refer to [Table 2](#)), applicants are required to submit:

- Worksheet 3: Proposed New or Amended CWRP.
- Updated September 2025 - PDF map and Google Earth compatible KML file, at appropriate scale, outlining the **AOI** and **Eligible WUI**. All maps must meet the general requirements for all maps outlined in Section B of [Appendix 11](#).
- In cases where the applicant proposes risk assessments in **Eligible WUI** outside of the **AOI**, confirmation that the proposed risk assessments activities are supported will be required at the time of application submission from Provincial Crown Land Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails), other land managers (e.g. Indigenous Services Canada, local government) and/or First Nations (where overlap on reserves and/or traditional territories may exist). This is limited to exceptional circumstances only.
- In cases where the applicant proposes threat assessments in the **Eligible WUI** in Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL), confirmation that the proposed threat assessments activities are supported will be required at the time of application submission from the PMFL.

Final Report Requirements

In addition to the required final report materials for the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program (refer to [Table 3](#)), applicants are required to submit:

- Copy of the completed CWRP.
- Completed Wildfire Threat Assessment Worksheet(s) and photos.
- Updated September 2025 - Maps and spatial data as outlined in [Appendix 11](#). All maps must meet the general requirements for all maps outlined in Section B of [Appendix 11](#).

Appendix 4: Funding Requirements for FireSmart Structure Protection Units

Updated in 2026 - Applicants are eligible to purchase up to \$50,000 (per year) of eligible equipment for FireSmart Structure Protection Units (SPUs) limited to items listed in Table 5 (below). For regional district applications that include electoral areas, the eligible purchase is up to \$50,000 (per year) per electoral area.

Table 5 provides specifications for eligible equipment and recommended quantities. Approved applicants can determine the amount and type of equipment to be purchased annually based on what is needed locally or regionally to enhance capacity.

In order to develop a local FireSmart SPU program, it is recommended that eligible applicants commit to completion of a FireSmart SPU and purchase initial equipment, start the process of [requesting a Structure Protection Community Assessment](#) (or have one incorporated within their CWRP), and train staff to support a structure protection program (refer to [Table 1](#) for training that is eligible for funding).

For more information on the SPU requirements and Structure Protection Community Assessments please contact the BCWS Fire Services at SPCO@gov.bc.ca.

Requirements for Funding

- Only equipment purchases are eligible for funding. Renovation and/or repair of SPUs and leasing of SPUs or equipment is not eligible for funding.
- All equipment MUST be labeled with applicant name and contact information to prevent loss during local deployment at wildland-urban interface fires.
- The FireSmart SPU will remain a local resource and not be considered for provincial deployments under the BCWS/FCABC Interagency Agreement.

Table 5: Activities Eligible for Funding for FireSmart Structure Protection Units			
Category	Item	Description	Recommended Quantity
Trailer	20 feet (not including tongue) with a minimum of 9800 lbs GVW, containing one spare tire complete with rims, jack, tire wrench and roadside emergency markers (reflective triangles).		1 (max)
Pump Tool Kit Boxes	Each box contains all the items in the SPU Pump Toolbox Content list below.		6
Pumps	High Pressure Mark 3 / Watson and Wick 375	Either: 6 Mark 3's / Watson or Wicks or 5 Mark 3's / Watsons or Wicks and 1 BB 4	6
Suction Hoses	2" / 51mm Suction hose x 10' / 3.2m	With aluminum foot valve and strainer	7
Fuel Cans	Fuel Cans	25 Litre Jerry Cans	12
Fuel Lines	Fuel Lines	Single Can	8 single lines total; 1 in each pump box and 2 spares
Fuel Lines, extra	Extra Fuel lines	Dual fuel line for pumps	7
Berms	Portable Berms	4' x 4' for pump site containment	2

Category	Item	Description	Recommended Quantity
Hose, BCT = BC Thread (see hose specifications below)	2.5" / 64mm diameter Non-percolating	50' / 15.2m BCT couplings 300 psi, 2100 kPa to BCWS specifications	20
Hose, QC = Quick Couple (see hose specifications below)	1.5" / 38mm diameter percolating	100' / 30.5m QC 300 psi to BCWS specifications 2100 kPa	25
	1.5" / 38mm diameter percolating	50' / 15.2m QC 300 psi to BCWS specifications 2100 kPa	50
Hose, GHT = Garden Hose Thread (see hose specifications below)	Econo 5/8" / 16mm or ¾" / 19mm diameter hose	50' / 15.2m with ¾" / 19mm GHT couplings 300 psi 2100 kPa	150
	Econo 5/8" / 16mm or ¾" diameter hose	25' / 7.62m or 30' / 9.1m with ¾" 19mm GHT couplings 300 psi 2100 kPa	100
Nozzles	¾" / 19mm GHT thread	Brass	5
Valves	1.5" / 38mm	3-way QC with shutoff	30
Sprinklers	Roof Butterfly ½" / 13mm head	39.5' / 1m overall length aluminum pole with ¾" / 19mm M x FGHT threads (4.3 USGPM / 19.5 LPM @ 50 psi / 345 kPa = 26' / 7.9m wetted radius)	30
	Washing Machine Hoses	5' or 6'	15
	End Caps	¾" FGHT	15
	Impact Sprinkler	Large 1" / 25mm or ¾" / 19mm, ½" / 13mm steel dual step spike, brass head, full circle impact 7/32" / 5.6mm nozzle, 7.8 USGPM / 35.5 LPM @ 50 psi / 345 kPa = 55' / 16.8m wetted radius), or 3/16" / 4.8mm nozzle, 5.8 USGPM / 26.4 LPM @ 50 psi / 345 kPa = 51' / 15.5m wetted radius	50 (up to 25 can be offset sprinklers if have 50% as step spike, also can substitute medium for large)
	Impact Sprinkler	Small ½" / 13mm, steel dual step spike, brass head, full circle impact 5/32" / 4mm nozzle, 4.3 USGPM / 9.5 LPM 50 psi / 345 kPa = 41' / 12.5 m wetted radius) or	50 up to 25 can be offset sprinklers if have 50% as step spike; can substitute medium sprinklers for small but smaller nozzles are required

Category	Item	Description	Recommended Quantity
Sprinklers (Cont'd)	Impact Sprinkler (Cont'd)	764" / 2.8mm nozzle, 2.0 USGPM / 9.1 LPM @ 50 psi / 345 kPa = 36' / 11 m wetted radius	(see above)
	WASP Gutter Mount Sprinkler	Large, 5.0 USGPM @ 50 PSI Gutter Mount	25
	WASP Gutter Mount Bracket	Fascia/Fence Brackets	25
	Painter's Pole	Adjustable 12'	1
Water thieves	2.5" / 64mm M x F BAT thread x 1.5" / 38mm QC	Pyrolite	15
	1.5" / 38mm QC x 3/4" / 19mm male GHT with shutoff	Pyrolite or plastic	100
Adapters	Valves, Couplers, Wyes	2.5" / 64mm hydrant gate valve F x M BCT	2
		2.5" / 64mm BCT double female coupling	1
		2.5" / 64mm BCT double male coupling	1
		2.5" / 64mm BCT gated wye	1
		2.5" / 64mm BCT to 1.5" 38 mm QC	5
		Hydrant wrench	2
	Miscellaneous 3/4" / 19mm GHT (Econo)	3-way 3/4" / 19mm GHT individually gated	20
		3/4" / 19mm GHT double female adaptor	25
		1.5" / 38mm QC x 3/4" / 19mm GHT male reducers	5
		1.5" / 38mm QC x 3/4" / 19mm GHT female increasers	5
		3/4" / 19mm GHT Ball valve shutoffs	10
Portable Tank (Relay Tank)	Portable Tank	2500 imperial gallon / 11,365 Litre	2
	Drain Valve Kit	3" / 76mm M to 2" / 64mm M drain valve assembly with shutoff	2
Ladders	Extension	24' / 7.3m Grade A	1

Category	Item	Description	Recommended Quantity
Lighting Kit	Generator	2,500 watts minimum	1
	Halogen or LED Yard Light	Double head with stand or similar	2
	Extension Cord	50' / 15.2m 12 gauge	2
	Power Bar	Exterior Rated	1
Fire Fighting tools	Shovel	Spade	1
	Pulaski		1
	McLeod Tool		1
	Axe	2.5 lb / 1.1kg 28" / 71cm handle	1
	Backpack Pump	5 gal / 22L collapsible	1
Impact Tool Kit	Impact Driver only	With case, charger, 2 batteries, bit set	2
Two Carpenters Tool Kits boxes: Each Tool Kit must contain these items in each box	Tool Belt	4 pockets	1
	Claw Hammer		1
	Pry Bar	18" / 46cm	1
	Staple Gun	(or hammer) with staples	1
	Pliers	Channel lock 10" / 25cm	1
	Screwdriver	Multi	1
	Wrench	Crescent 6" / 15cm	1
	Wrench	Crescent 10" / 25cm	1
	Wrench	Pipe 14" / 36cm	1
	Conduit Clamps	50 – 3/8" / 9.5mm in bag 2 hole	4
	Pipe Strapping	100 feet	1
	Tin Snips	+ - 10" / 25cm	1
	Screws	100 – 1 3/4" / 44mm	4
	Screws	100 – 2 1/2" / 64mm	4
	Nails	50 – 2 1/2" / 64mm duplex	4
Poly	Rolls	2000 square foot 61m x 6 ml Heavy (roll is 20' x 100')	2
Sign boards	Chloroplast / Felt Marking Pens	2' / 61cm x 2' / 61cm blank	20
Tape	Flagging Tape Rolls	Red, orange, yellow, blue, green (2" including corresponding identification wording clearly legible "SPU" in black)	5 of each colour
	Teflon		2 rolls
	Duct		2 rolls

Category	Item	Description	Recommended Quantity
Tape (Cont'd)	Electrical		2 rolls
Rags	Rags	Box (1 kg)	2 boxes
Miscellaneous Tools	Rake	Leaf	1
	Broom	24" Push	1
	Cutters	Bolt 24" / 61cm or 36" / 91cm	1
	Saw	Carpenter hand	1
	Circular Saw, wood	Electric - cordless	1
Trailer Miscellaneous	Tie Down Straps	15" / 38cm bungee cords	5
		20" / 51cm bungee cords	5
		30" / 76cm bungee cords	5
		Cargo shelf strap 6' / 1.8m	5
		Ratchet (Pair)	1
Rope	Poly Rope -3/8"/9.5mm	500' Roll	1
Safety Items	Fire Extinguisher	5 lb / 2.2 kg ABC	1
	First Aid Kit	Advanced First Aid Kit	1
	Cones	Safety marker 18" / 46cm	2
	PFDs	Personal Floatation Devices	2
Chainsaw Kit	Chainsaw	Min. 57 cc with 20" / 51cm bar	1
	Chainsaw Gas Can	5 L	1
	PPE	Chaps, regular with minimum 3600tcs	1
	Tool Kit	Bar wrench, grease gun, spare spark plug, chain filing gauge	1
	Files	Chain & Raker	2
		Aluminum ball back check valve for discharge side of pump QC.	1
SPU Tool Box		Spark plug, spare for pump.	1
		Rewind rope, spare for pump.	1
		Mesh wire screen to wrap foot valve.	1
		Water thief 1.5" / 38mm QC to 3/4" / 19mm GHT with shutoff.	1
		3/4" / 19 brass nozzle.	1

Category	Item	Description	Recommended Quantity
SPU Tool Box (Cont'd)		1.5" / 38mm QC 10' 3.2m high pressure (450 psi 3150 kPa) "pony" hose for tandem hookup or first length before back check valve.	1
		1.5"/38mm QC nozzle, 4 in 1 multi-orifice (i.e. Hansen).	1
		Priming bucket, collapsible.	1
		3-way valve with shutoff 1.5"/ 38mm QC.	1
		Mini grease gun for pump.	1
		Tool kit appropriate for pump	1
		Hose wrench for suction hose.	1
		Tandem adaptor 2" / 51mm F NPSH x 1.5" QC to run 2 pumps in series.	1
		1.5" / 38mm male adaptor NPSH x QC.	1
		1.5" / 38mm female adaptor NPSH x QC.	1
		Single fuel line for pump.	1
		Gasket kit (spares for GHT fittings, pump, suction hose, discharge hoses).	1
Miscellaneous	Machete	24" / 60cm	1
	Wheelbarrow or Cart	Contractor Grade	1

As of March 2023, the following hose specification requirements must be met:

- 15 ft econo hose will no longer be accepted and hose length must be 25 foot or 30 foot.

Hose description specifications – 1 ½"

Hose must meet the following specifications:

- FIREBREAK II, percolating hose, manufactured by Mercedes Textiles Limited, is the current BCWS hose standard.
- Hose must be 38mm in diameter, 100% synthetic, percolating forestry hose and must meet ULC – S519.1-14 "Standard for Synthetic Percolating Forestry Hose".
- Hose must be in 30.5m lengths or 15.25m and coupled with two (2) forged, external-lug quarter turn couplings, complete with face washers and must meet ULC-S551-13 "Standard for Forged External-Lug, Quick Connect Couplings and Adapters for Forestry Fire Hose". Couplings must have ULC Stamp.
- Hose must have a 27mm long expansion ring with back up and face washers for the couplings.

- Hose will have ULC stamp, hose type identification, the year of manufacture and batch number. The identifiers are to be placed immediately after the specification marking, approximately one meter from each end of the hose in addition to being placed at the center of the hose.

Hose description specifications – 2 ½”

Hose must meet the following specifications and other manufactured hose will not be considered.

- Each hose end must have: aluminum coupling 2 ½” X 2 ¾” BAT, (Right/Left set) one end is the Female threaded coupling and the other end is Male Threaded.
- FORESTGUARD II hose, manufactured by Mercedes Textiles Limited: is the current BCWS hose standard.

Specifications of this hose are:

- Hose must be 64mm in diameter, 100% synthetic, non-percolating forestry hose and must meet ULC – S518.1.
- Coupled with Two (2) extruded aluminum and hard coat anodized male & Female Threaded couplings - 2½” X 2¾” BAT, (Right/Left set).

Structure Protection Community Assessment

The purpose of a Structure Protection Community Assessment is to create a pre-plan management template for use by BCWS Structure Protection Specialist (SPS) and the community that enhances response assessment to WUI events affecting small communities (> 1000 population), including First Nations, by:

1. Soliciting local information through a timely and simple process in a widely accessible medium.
2. Explicitly including the priorities of local communities.
3. Providing a means to pre-plan and share situational awareness in response planning with first responders who arrive at **WUI** events with limited understanding of local geographic, economic, environmental, and social/cultural issues.
4. Leveraging available technologies to achieve objectives 1-3 above.

Communities with a population greater than 1000 should incorporate pre-incident planning into their Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan to achieve the same goals as the Structure Protection Community Assessment.

The goal of this plan is to provide response agencies with a strategic framework to use for the protection of improved properties or other values at risk in the event of a significant wildfire. This plan is separated into two parts; the first includes general information intended for use prior to an incident. Information intended for review and implementation during non-emergency periods by local communities. The second is more specific information about each of the identified critical infrastructures, intended to provide an incoming Incident Management Team or SPS with accurate predetermined structural and cultural priorities requiring protection as well as to identify tactical and operational information, as necessary. This plan recognizes the capability of the local fire department and the contributions that can be made by local, regional and provincial fire service resources.

DISCLAIMER

The recommendations made in the Structure Protection Community Assessment are based on fire probabilities for the conditions observed at the time of the survey. It must be understood that all fire scenarios cannot be addressed and that the plan is not an absolute. The plan should be used as a guide and implemented in part or in whole as circumstances dictate. The key to continued credibility of a Structure Protection Community Assessment is the time and accuracy employed to maintain the information

provided. The document should be reviewed by community officials or their designate and updated on an annual basis prior to wildfire season.

Communities looking for Community Structure Protection Assessments can contact BCWS Fire Services at SPCO@gov.bc.ca for further information.

Appendix 5: FireSmart Neighbourhood Recognition Programs (FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition Program or FireSmart BC Local FireSmart Collective Program) and Wildfire Mitigation Program

[The FireSmart Neighbourhood Recognition Programs](#) (FireSmart Canada Neighborhood Recognition Program or FireSmart BC Local FireSmart Collective Program) and the [Wildfire Mitigation Program](#) (WMP) are excellent resources for communities and individual residents. However, it is important to understand the intent of each in order to apply for funding through the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program.

Both the FireSmart Neighbourhood Recognition Programs and the Wildfire Mitigation Program can and should exist within a community. The FireSmart programs focus on **neighbourhood/collective** involvement, engagement and education, and the WMP provides mitigation recommendations for the action of individual homeowners. Together the programs can assist communities in becoming wildfire resilient.

FireSmart Neighbourhood Recognition Programs

Neighbourhood programs focus on engaging **neighbourhoods** and community organizations to encourage them to create a FireSmart action plan to protect their **neighbourhood** and/or shared spaces.

Additional information about the FireSmart BC Local FireSmart Collective Program is available at firesmartbc.ca.

Wildfire Mitigation Program

The Wildfire Mitigation Program is a collaboration between fire departments, local governments, Indigenous communities, the private sector and homeowners in B.C.

A Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (WMS) completes an assessment that provides residents with:

- An in-depth, on-site assessment conducted by experienced fire professionals.
- An opportunity for property owners to identify mitigation actions unique to their property.
- A detailed follow up report with customized mitigation actions designed to measurably reduce the wildfire risk to their property.
- An opportunity to earn FireSmart certification acknowledging mitigation achievements. The certificate is given upon successful completion of required mitigation actions and an on-site follow up inspection.
- This type of recognition can be used to enhance real estate transactions by reassuring prospective buyers that the appropriate level of wildfire risk reduction has been achieved on the property.
- The mitigation certificate can also be shared with local insurance providers to showcase mitigation activities and potentially increase a homeowner's ability to maintain insurance coverage.

Wildfire Mitigation Specialist "Train the Trainer"

New in 2026 - Introduced in 2025, the WMS "Train the Trainer" workshop is available to active WMS to be trained to instruct WMS workshops to staff within their community and neighbouring communities.

- Once a WMS has completed the WMS train the trainer workshop, they are certified as a WMS trainer.
- Certified trainers offer the training "in house" to staff from their community or neighbouring communities.
 - Up to \$2,000 can be applied for to cover local costs (facility rentals, coordination, etc.)
 - Up to four staff to travel to the workshop from outside the community (including accommodations and per diems).

- An approved applicant can only host two courses a year with a minimum of five participants per course.
- FNESS led training for First Nations
 - FNESS staff can deliver Wildfire Mitigation Specialist workshops during community visits at no cost to the community.
 - Up to \$2,000 can be applied for to cover local costs (facility rentals, coordination, etc.).
 - Participant's travel to attend a FNESS Wildfire Mitigation Specialist workshop from outside the community (including accommodations and per diems) is also eligible (up to four staff per eligible applicant).
- Under all circumstances, staff wages and costs related to back-filling positions are not eligible for funding.

Appendix 6: Funding Requirements for Wildland Live Fire Training

New in 2026 – Wildland Live Fire Training is an initiative designed to enhance cross-training and inter-agency collaboration between local fire services and BCWS. These projects are required to be developed in partnership with BCWS zone staff, who will assist in identifying suitable sites, securing necessary authorizations, developing burn plans, implementing live fire operations and completing a debrief to inform future training and project planning.

Approved applicants are responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable legislative and regulatory requirements, including securing land use authorizations and burn approvals in accordance with the *Wildfire Act* and its regulations. All BCWS Prescribed fire processes and templates can be found on the [Planning a Burn](#) page.

The primary objectives of Wildland Live Fire Training are to:

- Strengthen cross-training and inter-agency collaboration between local fire services and BCWS.
- Build local capacity, operational knowledge, and response integration across jurisdictions.
- Support the coordination and delivery of prescribed burns while prioritizing the development and readiness of fire service personnel.
- Strengthen the development of localized cultural and prescribed fire burn programs.

Approved applicants are required to work in collaboration with BCWS zone staff to complete the following:

- Identify suitable site locations for training burns. Training sites do not need to overlap with areas designated for treatment in the CWRP. While sites must fall within the community's **AOI**, selection should prioritize safe, practical locations that support cross-training and hands-on learning.
- Obtain necessary authorizations to conduct burns from the designated land manager(s).
- Develop burn plans and secure all required approvals. Burn plans must be reviewed and endorsed by a CRx Wildfire Prevention Officer or BCWS certified Technical Specialist.
- Implement the burn project in coordination with BCWS and possibly other local fire departments. Local fire services may also partner through existing mutual aid agreements and utilize current systems to mobilize resources and support across communities.
- Complete a debrief or after-action review to evaluate training outcomes, identify lessons learned, and inform future training opportunities, project planning, and the development of regular maintenance or prescribed fire programs.

Site complexity will depend on the crew's experience, availability, capacity, and level of preparation. These small, prescribed burn projects typically target light, flashy fuels such as grass or needle cast. However, if a project involves more complex fuel structures and falls outside the scope of Wildland Live Fire Training objectives, it should be considered as a Fuel Management project under the Fuel Management Program Guide and would require submission and approval of Worksheet 2: Fuel Management Activities.

All proposed Wildland Live Fire Training projects must be discussed with a BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer or Prevention Specialist and/or FNESS Wildfire Resiliency Advisor prior to submitting an application.

Application Requirements

Updated September 2025 - In addition to the required application materials for the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program (refer to [Table 2](#)), applicants are required to submit:

- Project description for proposed wildland live fire activities, including location, rationale for selection of location (e.g., high-risk areas identified in CWRP) and readiness to implement (e.g., status of required authorizations and burn plan development).
- Learning objectives: describe the skills or competencies that participants will gain from the wildland live fire training as well as any other proposed learning objectives.

- Partnerships: provide information on local or regional fire departments that will participate.
- Budget for proposed wildland live fire activities.

Wildland Live Fire Training projects require preliminary approval in principle from BCWS Zone staff to confirm alignment with authorizations, resource capacity, connectivity to existing initiatives, and overall feasibility. Confirmation of approval in principle from BCWS Zone staff is required to be submitted before the application is approved.

Final Report Requirements

Updated September 2025 - In addition to the required final report materials for the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program (refer to [Table 3](#)), applicants are required to submit:

- Project summary of completed wildland live fire activities, including:
 - Overview: completed activities, lessons learned and summary of challenges and successes.
 - Fuel management: if the project included fuel management treatment prior to the training burn, provide a description of the fuel management that was undertaken and the total hectares treated.
 - Area burned: provide the total land area burned as part of wildland live fire training.
 - Training outcomes: describe the skills or competencies that participants gained from the wildland live fire training and the extent to which learning objectives were met.
 - Partnerships: provide information on local or regional fire departments that participated in the completed activities, including information on any mutual-aid agreements that may be in place.
 - Community impact: describe how the wildland live fire training provided broader benefits (e.g., increased community confidence, awareness or readiness) and how the completed project will contribute to long-term fire response capacity and readiness.
- Google Earth compatible KML file of boundary of total land area burned.
- Financial summary, based on approved budget, for completed wildland live fire activities.

Appendix 7: Funding Requirements for FireSmart Projects for Critical Infrastructure and Community Assets

For the purpose of funding, the following are not eligible as FireSmart Projects for Critical Infrastructure: roads and bridges, gas stations, hotels and transfer stations.

For critical infrastructure, eligible projects must be **First Nations owned buildings, publicly owned buildings or publicly or First Nations owned critical infrastructure** that are currently designated as critical to support effective emergency response to a wildfire event. This includes structures designated as Emergency Operations Centres or Emergency Support Services facilities (e.g., reception centres, group lodging locations for evacuees), water pump stations, communications towers, and electrical generating stations, but does not include all critical infrastructure identified through the Local Authority Emergency Plan.

For community assets, eligible projects must be buildings or properties owned by local non-profit groups or community associations that are currently designated as critical to support effective emergency response to a wildfire event. This includes structures designated as Emergency Operations Centres or Emergency Support Services facilities (i.e. reception centres, group lodging locations for evacuees).

In cases where critical infrastructure or community assets are located on **Provincial Crown Land** confirmation that the proposed activities are supported will be required from Provincial Crown Land Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) at the time of application submission.

FireSmart Projects for Critical Infrastructure and Community Assets can include:

- Completion of required initial [FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment](#) before mitigation work is started (completed assessment must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission).
- Retrofitting existing structures/properties.
- New construction, provided that:
 - Construction was completed within past 12 months from date of application.
 - Construction follows the [Wildfire-Resilience best-practice checklist for home construction, renovation and landscaping](#).
 - Only incremental FireSmart expenditures, limited to activities identified in Table 6, are eligible.
 - An eligible assessment is completed when construction is complete.
- Completion of a second required [FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment](#) after mitigation work is complete.

Please note that all assessments must be conducted by a qualified Local FireSmart Representative (LFR) or a qualified Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (WMS).

Table 6: Eligible Activities FireSmart Projects for Critical Infrastructure and Community Assets		
Buildings		
1	Roof material and construction	• Install class A UL/ASTM fire rated roof covering (e.g. metal, rated hot lay, clay tile or asphalt shingles) • Remove unrated roof covering (including wood shakes and wood shingle roofs)

Buildings (Cont'd)		
2	Roof covering	• Ensure there are no gaps, openings that expose combustible building components, or enclosed spaces where embers could accumulate, lodge, or penetrate
3	Gutters (combustible or non- combustible)	• Ensure there are non-combustible gutters (metal or aluminum), no exposed combustible fascia/roof covering above gutters, or no gutters • Remove combustible gutters (plastic, vinyl, wood) and/or exposed combustible fascia/roof covering above gutter • Install metal angle flashing or drip edge where gutters are installed to protect the roof and any exposed fascia from ignition
4	Cleanliness of roof and gutters	• Remove all needles, leaves, or other combustible materials
5	Eaves	• Ensure all eaves are closed or no eaves/no gaps or holes/no unprotected areas to attic /interior of building, vents with 3 mm (1/8") non-combustible screening, operational louvres and flaps/ASTM ember resistant rated vents
6	HVAC/active ventilation systems	• Ensure all HVAC/active ventilation systems have 24-hour onsite operator, or remote shut-down capability
7	Exterior siding	• Install ignition resistant (cement fibre board, log) or non-combustible siding (stucco, metals, concrete, brick/stone)
		• Ensure there are no gaps or cracks, missing siding, or holes
8	Walls	• Ensure there is no less than 15 centimetres non-combustible vertical ground-to-siding surface consistently around the building
9	Fire resistant windows or doors (including large doors/garage doors)	• Install tempered glass in all doors and windows and have no gaps in ANY doors, OR no windows
10	Underside of the balcony, deck, porch, other building extensions or open foundation	• Ensure balcony, deck, porch, or other building extensions/open foundations are sheathed in with fire resistant/non-combustible materials, or non-combustible siding, no gaps or cracks, OR open heavy timber, non-combustible or fire-rated construction OR non-combustible surface and no combustible debris under deck/extension AND treated Immediate, Intermediate, and Extended Zones and slope set-back (if applicable)
11	Building set back from the edge of a slope	• Ensure the building is located on flat ground that extends to the full distance of the Extended Zone
Critical Structures – Utility Poles, Communications Towers, Pipeline Valve Stations		
12	Valve station/substation/ propane tanks	• Ensure a non-combustible surface is continuous under all combustible infrastructure
13	Utility line poles	• Ensure poles/support structures are constructed of non-combustible material (metal or concrete)
		• Ensure non-combustible or combustible poles or support structures are free of petroleum/accelerant-based coatings, cracks, and gaps where embers may accumulate, lodge, or penetrate and a non-combustible surface is continuous under all combustible infrastructure

Critical Structures – Utility Poles, Communications Towers, Pipeline Valve Stations (Cont'd)		
14	Critical component (weather stations, antennae masts)	Ensure critical components are not constructed of materials that are susceptible to damage from significant radiant or convective heat fluxes OR critical components constructed of materials that are susceptible to damage from significant radiant or convective heat fluxes and Immediate Zone, Intermediate Zone and/or Extended Zones are treated
		Ensure critical components are not constructed of materials that are susceptible to damage from embers OR critical components constructed of materials that are susceptible to damage from embers are free of any gaps, holes or areas where embers could accumulate, lodge, or penetrate
FireSmart Immediate Zone (0 to 1.5 metres)		
15	1.5 metres from furthest extent of critical building or structure (includes overhangs, extensions and decks)	- Replace combustible surfaces with non-combustible surfaces (mineral soil, gravel, paving stones etc.) - Remove or mitigate combustible debris, materials, fences, or vegetation
FireSmart Intermediate Zone (1.5 to 10 metres)		
16	Non-critical buildings and flammable substances or other combustible materials (vehicles, flammable liquids, debris, construction material etc.)	- Ensure flammable substances are moved outside of the Intermediate Zone, OR are placed in an approved fire-resistant storage container - Ensure outbuildings and other combustible materials are mitigated to meet FireSmart guidelines or if left unmitigated, moved outside of the Intermediate Zone to a minimum of 15 m (50 feet)
17	Trees	- Remove coniferous trees from this zone OR mitigate mature conifers (limb to 2 metres or ⅓ of canopy, whichever is less, and ensure 3 metres crown spacing where ecologically appropriate) - Promote deciduous trees that are resistant to wildfires
18	Surface vegetation and combustible materials	- Cut and maintain grass to less than 10 centimetres - Plant low-growing, well-spaced, fire-resistant plants and shrubs, avoid having any woody debris, including mulch - Ensure surface debris is kept to a minimum. Remove dead branches, excessive build-up of pine needles, and heavy accumulation of grass
FireSmart Extended Zone (10 to 30 metres)		
19	Surface Vegetation	- Reduce surface vegetation - long grass and flammable shrubs - Reduce accumulations of branches, logs and debris - Promote the growth of deciduous trees in this zone, OR ensure that conifers are separated to 3 meters of crown spacing (where ecologically appropriate), and limbed to a minimum of 2 meters or ⅓ of canopy, whichever is less

Appendix 8: Funding Requirements for FireSmart Projects for Cultural Sites and Green Spaces

Eligible applicants are strongly encouraged to engage with BCWS or FNESS as early as possible when considering FireSmart projects for **green spaces** or for **cultural sites**. Depending on the location, proposed activities, and size of treatment area, fuel management may need to be considered instead of **FireSmart vegetation management**.

Cultural Sites are locations of historical and cultural importance to Indigenous communities, preserving their heritage, traditions, and connection to the land. These include, but are not limited to, culturally modified trees, traditional dwellings, burial sites, and ceremonial sites.

In cases where **cultural sites** are located on **Provincial Crown Land** confirmation that the proposed activities are supported will be required from Provincial Crown Land Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) at the time of application submission.

Green spaces include parks, gardens, cemeteries, naturalized spaces, trails and pathways, linear parks and greenways, rights-of-way and boulevards. **Green spaces** are limited to **First Nations owned land** or **publicly owned land**.

Updated in 2026 - For both cultural sites and green spaces, project locations are not required to be within the **Eligible WUI**.

Updated September 2025 - To be eligible for funding, all FireSmart Projects for Cultural Sites and Green Spaces projects must have a completed Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription, with Section B completed by BCWS or FNESS, and, if the checklist confirms the proposed area meets the requirements for funding, a completed FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces (CSGS) Assessment.

FireSmart Projects for **Cultural Sites** and **Green Spaces** include:

- [Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription](#) is required to be completed before CSGS Assessment is started (completed checklist must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission).
- Completion of [FireSmart CSGS Assessment](#) before mitigation work is started (completed assessment must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission).
- **FireSmart vegetation management** practices to decrease CSGS wildfire risk.
- Only incremental FireSmart expenditures, limited to activities identified in [Table 7](#), are eligible.

All assessments for CSGS are required to follow the [CSGS Guide](#) and be completed on the [CSGS Assessment](#) before mitigation work begins. A secondary assessment is required to be completed after mitigation activities are undertaken.

Please note that all CSGS Assessments must be conducted by a qualified Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (WMS) that has current training qualifications from FireSmart BC or by a Forest Professional with LFR training, that is working within their scope of practice.

Table 7: Eligible Activities FireSmart Projects for Cultural Sites and Green Spaces

Cultural Site or Green Space		
1	Brushing of trees and shrubs	- Remove conifers that are no greater than 2 metres in height - Ensure shrubs are spaced either individually or as clusters to break up fuel continuity - Ensure surface fuels are mitigated by removing heavy accumulation of dead branches, logs, leaves or needles, and wood chips
2	Pruning of trees and shrubs	- Ensure conifer trees are pruned to 2 metres above ground or 1/3 of canopy, whichever is less - Ensure flammable shrubs and excessive build up are removed from tree drip line
3	Plant selection	- Ensure there is a mix of deciduous and coniferous trees present if possible - Ensure flammable shrub species are replaced with FireSmart plant guide species (if culturally and/or ecologically appropriate). Prioritize native species to reduce maintenance and water use if replacing existing plants
4	Hardscaping	- Ensure landscaping timbers are properly mitigated, i.e. replace wooden ties with non-combustible material - Ensure bark mulch is replaced with non-combustible material
5	Slope	- Ensure extra measures are taken when CSGS has slope as a contributing risk factor (slope of 10% or greater could require a slope adjustment, whereby the zone distances with their corresponding mitigation requirements are doubled) - Ensure horizontal and vertical vegetation fuels are broken up with appropriate spacing (3 meters of crown spacing (where ecologically appropriate), and limbed to a minimum of 2 metres or 1/3 of canopy, whichever is less. On steep slopes, the height of limbing requirements may increase
Cultural Site (with a precise focal point)		
FireSmart Immediate Zone (0 to 1.5 meters)		
6	1.5 meters from furthest extent of focal point or specific value	- Replace combustible surfaces with non-combustible surfaces - Remove combustible debris, materials, fences, or vegetation
FireSmart Intermediate Zone (1.5 to 10 meters)		
7	Trees	- Remove coniferous trees from this zone or mitigate mature conifers (limb to 2 metres and ensure 3 metres crown spacing where ecologically appropriate) - Promote deciduous trees that are resistant to wildfires

FireSmart Intermediate Zone (1.5 to 10 meters) – cont'd		
8	Surface vegetation and combustible materials	• Cut and maintain grass to less than 10 centimetres • Plant low-growing, well-spaced, fire-resistant plants and shrubs. Avoid having any woody debris, including mulch • Ensure surface debris is kept to a minimum. Remove dead branches, excessive build-up of pine needles, and heavy accumulation of grass
FireSmart Extended Zone (10 to 30 meters)		
9	Trees	• Mitigate or remove coniferous trees or replace with deciduous tree species • Limb conifer tree branches within 2 metres of the ground or $\frac{1}{3}$ of canopy, whichever is less
10	Surface vegetation and combustible materials	• Reduce surface vegetation - long grass and flammable shrubs • Reduce accumulations of branches, logs and debris

Appendix 9: Funding Requirements for FireSmart Rebate Program and Mitigation Work for Seniors, Elders, People with Limited Mobility or Vulnerable Populations

Updated in 2026 - Approved applicants can use grant funding to offer local rebate programs and/or undertake eligible mitigation work for home and property owners, including farms and ranches, that complete eligible FireSmart activities on their properties in the FireSmart Home Ignition Zone (within 30 m of homes and structures).

Rebates and eligible mitigation work can include:

- Retrofitting existing homes, structures and properties.
- New construction, limited to items 1-4 in [Table 8](#), provided that:
 - Construction was completed within past 12 months from date of application.
 - Construction follows the [Wildfire-Resilience best-practice checklist for home construction, renovation and landscaping](#).
 - Only incremental FireSmart expenditures, limited to activities identified in [Table 8](#), are eligible.
- An eligible assessment is completed when construction is complete.

Rebate Program Requirements and Eligible Mitigation Work for Homes and Properties

Approved applicants are required to adhere to the following requirements:

- Updated September 2025 - Rebates are limited to 50% of the total cost of the eligible activities identified in [Table 8](#) and up to \$5,000 per property (note: higher funding requests will not be considered)².
- Updated September 2025 - Eligible mitigation work for homes and properties is limited to labour costs required to complete eligible activities outlined in [Table 8](#) and only available for:
 - Homes and properties owned by seniors (65 years of age or older), elders, people with limited mobility or vulnerable populations who cannot undertake mitigation activities themselves.
 - Band owned housing occupied by elders, people with limited mobility or vulnerable populations and who cannot undertake mitigation activities themselves.
- Areas of higher wildfire risk, such as **neighbourhoods** adjacent to the forested edge and/or areas that fall in an overall high to extreme category, should be prioritized for rebates and eligible mitigation work for homes and properties. Current plans should be used to decide where to prioritize FireSmart activities.
- The approved applicant must assess the FireSmart activities that are conducted by the home or property owner and review costs (e.g., receipts and/or proof of labour) before approving rebates.
- The home or property owner must have one of the following:
 - [FireSmart Home Ignition Zone Assessment](#) of their property conducted by a qualified Local FireSmart Representative (LFR).
 - Assessment of the property through the [Wildfire Mitigation Program](#) by a qualified Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (WMS).
 - [FireSmart Farm and Ranch Assessment](#) of their property conducted by a qualified FireSmart Farm and Ranch Assessor.
- The qualified LFR, WMS, or Farm and Ranch Assessor must use the [FireSmart Assessment Work Hours Estimate Form](#) to outline mitigation recommendations to the home or property owner.
- For rebates, home or property owners can complete the recommended mitigation activities themselves, or hire others to complete the work.

² For strata properties, rebates are available for the common property and properties owned by individual owners.

- Only activities that are recommended in the completed assessment and that are identified in [Table 8](#), are eligible for the rebate or eligible mitigation work for homes and properties.

Table 8: Eligible Activities for FireSmart Rebate Programs and Eligible Homes and Properties Mitigation Work		
Home or Structure		
1	Roof Materials Gutters Vents and Openings	- Install UL/ASTM fire-rated roofing (metal, clay, asphalt shingles) - Install non-combustible gutters and/or gutter covers - Remove roof surface tree needles, debris or overhanging branches - Install closed eaves and/or non-combustible fire-rated vents or vents with 3 mm screening, excluding dryer vents
2	Building Exterior or Siding	- Install ignition resistant (fibre cement board or log) or non-combustible (stucco, metal, brick/stone) exterior siding material - Repair gaps, cracks or holes where embers could lodge or penetrate - Provide 15 cm non-combustible vertical ground-to-siding clearance
3	Windows and Doors	- Install tempered glass in all doors and windows - Replace single pane window glass with multi pane/thermal window glass - Repair gaps in doors/garage doors where embers could accumulate or penetrate
4	Balcony, Deck, Porch	- Install non-combustible or fire-rated, solid (no gaps or cracks) deck surface and support construction - Close up open deck structures or remove all combustibles below deck
FireSmart Immediate Zone (0 to 1.5 metres from Home)		
5	1.5 metres from furthest extent of home	- Replace combustible surfaces with non-combustible surfaces - Remove combustible debris, materials, fences or plants
FireSmart Intermediate Zone (1.5 to 10 metres from Home)		
6	Adjacent Combustibles	Move woodpiles, building materials and all other combustibles into the Extended Zone or enclose in an approved outbuilding that meets FireSmart guidelines
7	Outbuildings not Meeting FireSmart Guidelines	- Upgrade outbuildings to meet FireSmart guidelines or relocate outbuildings more than 10 metres from home - Ensure any structures retained in this area are treated to the same standards as decks, and hardened against ember transfer - Examples of outbuildings include woodsheds, external heat sources, smoke houses, outdoor kitchens, etc.
8	Trees	- Remove coniferous trees from this zone or mitigate mature conifers (limb to 2 metres or 1/3 of canopy, whichever is less and ensure 3 metre crown spacing where ecologically appropriate) - Promote deciduous trees that are resistant to wildfires
9	Surface Vegetation and Combustible Materials	- Cut and maintain grass to less than 10 centimetres or shorter - Plant low-growing, well-spaced, fire-resistant plants and shrubs, avoid having any woody debris, including mulch - Ensure surface debris is kept to a minimum. Remove dead branches, excessive build-up of pine needles, and heavy accumulation of grass

FireSmart Extended Zone (10 to 30 metres from Home)		
10	Trees	• Thin coniferous trees or replace with deciduous tree species • Remove conifer tree branches within 2 metres of the ground or 1/3 of canopy, whichever is less and ensure 3 metre crown spacing where ecologically appropriate)
11	Surface Vegetation	• Reduce surface vegetation – long grass and flammable shrubs • Reduce accumulations of branches, logs and debris

Appendix 10: LGPS Online Application Tool

As outlined in [Section 7](#), applications are required to be submitted in two steps **prior to the application deadline**:

1. [LGPS Online Application Form](#): This online form must be completed for all applications to LGPS funding programs and includes questions that are common to all grant applications. When the LGPS Online Application Form is submitted, the applicant will receive an email confirmation including the file number that has been assigned to the application, and a copy of the Application Worksheet that must be completed as part of Step 2.
2. Application Worksheet: This worksheet contains questions that are specific to the funding stream and must be submitted by email to UBCM with all other required attachments.

STEP ONE: LGPS Online Application Form

The following questions are required to be answered on the LGPS Online Application Form:

1. Name of the intake of the funding program that you want to apply for (select from menu).
2. Name of the Primary Applicant (select from menu). Please note: if the name of your organization is not included in the menu, contact UBCM in order to determine eligibility and next steps.
3. Primary and secondary contact information: name, position, email, phone.
4. Primary Applicant mailing address.
5. For regional projects only: name of sub-applicant(s) and rationale for regional project.
6. Project title. Project titles should be brief but include key project activities, the area where the work will be undertaken, and the intended outcome/deliverable.
7. Proposed start and end date.
8. Estimated total project budget.
9. Estimated total grant request.
10. Other funding amount and sources.
11. Project summary (provide a brief summary, no more than 500 characters).
12. Progress to date. Provide an update on the status of previously approved projects if previously funded under same funding program/funding stream.
13. Certification that the information is complete and accurate.
14. Name and email of person submitting application.

When the LGPS Online Application Form is submitted, the applicant will receive an email confirmation including the file number that has been assigned to the application, and a copy of the Application Worksheet that must be completed as part of Step 2.

STEP TWO: Application Worksheet and Required Attachments

Application Worksheet

The following questions will be required to be answered on the Application Worksheet:

1. Name of Primary Applicant (First Nation or Local Government).
2. File Number (this can be found on the confirmation email you will receive after the LGPS Online Application Form is submitted).

3. For regional districts only (if applicable): list of all electoral areas included in the application.
4. Wildfire Risk and Additional Evidence:
 - WUI Wildfire Risk Class and Polygon Name
 - Additional Evidence
 - Risk Category
5. Progress to date – Current status of previously approved FireSmart Community Funding and Supports projects.
6. Required FireSmart components:
 - FireSmart position (title of position(s), length position has been in place, general duties)
 - CWRP or CWPP (type of plan and date)
 - Community FireSmart and Resiliency Collaborative (host or participant, participating agencies)
7. Engagement and Partnerships.
 - Engagement with First Nations and/or Indigenous Organizations:
 - Which First Nations and/or Indigenous organizations were engaged as part of the development of this application
 - Which First Nations and/or Indigenous organizations will participate in the proposed activities and what specific role will they play
 - Extent to which staff and/or elected officials have undertaken Indigenous Cultural Safety and Cultural Humility Training
8. Partnerships and Collaboration.
 - Describe how the proposed project will contribute to a comprehensive, cooperative, and regional approach to wildfire risk reduction
 - Where applicable, describe the extent to which Provincial Crown Land Manager(s) (BC Parks, Mountain Resorts, Natural Resource District Manager and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) and/or other land managers (e.g. Indigenous Services Canada) have been advised of the proposed activities
9. Additional Information - Other information you think may help support your submission.

Required Attachments

As outlined in [Table 2](#).

Appendix 11: Requirements for Maps and Spatial Data for Interim and Final Reporting

Spatial data submissions and large format georeferenced PDF maps that clearly represent (at a suitable scale) the mandatory content are required as part of the final report requirements for CWRPs.

A. Summary of Map and Spatial Data Requirements

Table 9: Maps and Spatial Data		
	Mapping requirement	Spatial Data Layers and KMZ
ALL projects	Mandatory requirements for all maps: refer to Part B	KMZ required for all project types
CWRPs	• Area of Interest (AOI) and VAR • Local Fire Risk • Proposed Fuel Treatment Units • Refer to Part C	• AOI • PROPOSED_TREATMENT • FCFS_WUI • Refer to Part D

B. Mandatory Requirements for All Maps

- Descriptive title
- Scale (as text or scale bar)
- North arrow
- Legend
- CRI/LGPS Project number and proponent name, consultant and GIS company name
- Date
- Reference data such as roads, railways, transmission lines, pipelines, water bodies and rivers/creeks
- Compress map files to reduce unnecessary large file sizes

C. Required Maps for CWRPs

MAP 1: Area of Interest (AOI) and VAR

- CWRP **Area of Interest (AOI)** Refer to [Appendix 1](#) for more information on the eligible AOI
- Land ownership and administrative boundaries (Municipal, Federal, **Private land**, Parks, **Provincial Crown Land**, etc.)
- Relevant tenures such as range, woodlots, community forest areas
- Fire Department Boundaries
- Proposed and completed fuel treatments
- FireSmart areas, Wildfire Hazard Development Permit Areas
- Values at risk (critical infrastructure)
- High environmental and cultural values
- Hazardous values at risk

MAP 2: Local Fire Risk

- CWRP **Area of Interest (AOI)** Refer to [Appendix 1](#) for more information on the eligible AOI
- PSTA Threat or Modified Local Level Polygons
- Hectares of each PSTA Threat Class or Modified Local Level Threat Class must be stated on the map in a table

MAP 3: Proposed Fuel Treatment Units

- CWRP **Area of Interest (AOI)** Refer to [Appendix 1](#) for more information on the eligible AOI
- CWRP FCFS **Eligible Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)** one-kilometre buffer Refer to [Appendix 1](#) for more information on the **Eligible WUI**
- Land Status and tenure overlaps e.g., range, woodlots, etc.
- Proposed fuel treatment units, labelled by PROPOSED_TREATMENT_ID
- Previously completed treatments, labelled by year
- Hectares of Proposed Fuel Treatments in a table on map (PROPOSED_TREATMENT_ID, AREAHA)
- WTA Plots (When Modified Local Level Polygons used)

D. Required Spatial Data for CWRPs:

Formats, conventions and standards: Spatial data must conform to the following general formats, naming conventions and standards.

1. Data Format and Naming Conventions:

Data for CWRPs must be submitted in a File Geodatabase (FGDB) and KMZ format and must conform to the conventions for feature dataset names, feature class names, attribute names, and attribute values as identified in the Specific Submission Requirements by Project Type section below. It is strongly recommended that you use the template FGDB to facilitate meeting this requirement.

FGDB and KMZ names must adhere to the following naming standard:

< Local Government/First Nation Band Number>_<ProjectTypeAndDescription>

For example: PrinceGeorge_CWRPNorthPG.gdb

PrinceGeorge_CWRPNorthPG.KMZ

FN699_CWRPNorthPG.gdb

FN699_CWRPNorthPG.KMZ

2. **FGDB Projection:** The projection standard is NAD_1983_BC_Environment_Albers (EPSG:3005), with parameters of:

Central meridian: -126.0° (126°00'00" West longitude)

Latitude of projection origin: 45.0 (45°00'00 North latitude)

First standard parallel: 50.0° (50°00'00" North latitude)

Second standard parallel: 58.5° (58°30'00" North latitude)

False easting: 1000000.0 (one million metres)

False northing: 0.0

Datum: NAD83, based on the GRS80 ellipsoid

3. **Updated September 2025 - Compatibility:** The Province of BC uses ArcGIS PRO and all CWRP spatial data submissions must be compatible with ArcGIS PRO. In addition, some feature layers as identified below, are also required in a KMZ format.
4. **Data Quality:** Submitted data must meet general data quality guidelines to ensure corporate data quality standards are met. Data with slivers, gaps between adjacent polygons, and geometry or topology errors shown as overlaps will not be accepted.
5. **Metadata for CWRPs:** Metadata must be provided for all spatial layers. The metadata standard is FGDC and is required to be submitted in .xml format. Metadata must document the following:
 - a. A description of what each dataset represents for all datasets provided in addition to what is outlined in the individual project sections;
 - b. A description of each attribute and the codes/values used to populate it for all attributes provided in addition to what is outlined in the individual project sections;
 - c. Data Source information including where the data came from, the currency of the information and source contact details for potential follow-up; and,
 - d. For resultant datasets, metadata must also include the methodology and source data used in the creation of the resultant, the date of creation, and contact details for the person who created it.
6. **CWRP Submission:**
 - File geodatabase (FGDB) compressed into a zip file
 - KMZ files saved with symbology (i.e. similar to what is displayed on the required maps)

Table 10: Spatial Layers for CWRPs					
Feature Layer Name	KMZ	Feature Layer Description	Mandatory Attributes	Attribute Description	Attribute Details (Data type, length)
AOI	YES	CWRP area of interest	DATA_COLLECTION_DATE	Date spatial data was collected	Date (DD/MM/YYYY)
			DATA_COLLECTION_METHOD	Method of spatial data collection (ex. GPS, digitized, etc.). See Table 11	Text, 45
			AREAHA	Area in hectares	Double
FCFS_WUI <u>Updated September 2025 -</u>	YES	Fire Smart Community Funding and Supports program 1km WUI	DATA_SOURCE	Origin of FCFS_WUI source. e.g., "WUI 2020" or for updated buffers suffixed with applicant's name e.g., CWRP - Cariboo RD	Text, 75
			DATA_COLLECTION_DATE	Date the spatial data was collected	Date (DD/MM/YYYY)
			DATA_COLLECTION_METHOD	Method of spatial data collection (ex. GPS, digitized, etc.). See Table 11	Text, 45
			AREAHA	Area in hectares	Double

Feature Layer Name	KMZ	Feature Layer Description	Mandatory Attributes	Attribute Description	Attribute Details (Data type, length)
PROPOSED_TREATMENT	YES	Proposed gross treatment area	PROPOSED_TREATMENT_ID	Unique proposed treatment identifier	Text, 7
			DATA_COLLECTION_DATE	Date spatial data was collected	Date (DD/MM/YYYY)
			DATA_COLLECTION_METHOD	Method of spatial data collection (ex. GPS, digitized, etc.). See Table 11	Text, 45
			AREAHA	Area in hectares	Double

Additional notes about CWRP submissions:

- All spatial layers in addition to those identified in this guide, that are a key component of the CWRP maps or plan, must be included as part of the spatial submission and must include metadata.
- If more than one data collection method was used, please choose the value that best represents how the information was captured.
- CWRP hectares on maps and documents must match those submitted spatially.
- The FCFS CWRP AOI and CWRP WUI must align with the definitions provided in [Appendix 1](#).

Please note: Spatial data submissions will be evaluated against these criteria. The final report and payment of grant funding will not be approved until all these criteria are met.

E. Attribute Value Reference Tables

Table 11: Data Collection Method	
DATA_COLLECTION_METHOD	DESCRIPTION
differentialGPS	The data was captured with a differential GPS unit, or was post-processed with information received from known reference stations, to improve data accuracy.
Digitizing	The data was converted from an analog map into a digital format using a digitizing tablet connected to a computer.
GISAnalysis	The data was created as a result of a GIS Analysis.
nondifferentialGPS	The data was captured with a GPS unit but was not post-processed or was captured with a GPS unit incapable of doing differential GPS.
orthoPhotography	The data was delineated from an orthophoto (aerial photography).
Photogrammetric	The data was delineated using photographs or images in stereo pairs.
satelliteImagery	The data was delineated from a satellite image.
sketchMap	The data was hand sketched, either on an analog map or on-screen.
tightChainTraverse	The data was surveyed with a hand compass and chain to create a closed traverse.