

NEWS RELEASE



For immediate release.

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Anmore Receives \$30,000 for New Emergency Operations Centre

Village benefits from \$5,941,000 in recent grants

ANMORE, B.C. – The Village of Anmore has been approved for \$30,000 for a new Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) that will be located in the Anmore Community Hub. Anmore now has received grant funding approvals of \$2,605,000 in since January 2023, and a total of \$5,941,000 since early 2022, when the \$2.5 million grant for the Anmore Community Hub was announced.

The \$30,000 for the new EOC was awarded through the provincial Community Emergency Preparedness Fund, which is administered by the Union of B.C. Municipalities. The grant is for the purchase of the necessary equipment and furnishings required to make the Village's EOC space functional as well as increase the Anmore's current capacity for emergency preparedness and response.

“With wildfires already sweeping through our province and Alberta well in advance of the usual fire risk season, it reinforces the importance of having a properly equipped EOC to support our community in an emergency. This grant will allow us to not only meet our goals but exceed them as we will have a dedicated and functioning space for an EOC in the Anmore Community Hub,” says Mayor John McEwen. “As a small community, grant funding has a huge impact on what we can implement for our residents, and we have focussed on applying for grants and taking steps to ensure we meet the criteria to leverage these opportunities whenever possible.”

The updates to the EOC are an example of a critical service that will be supported by grant funding. The Village currently operates all administrative and emergency operations from a temporary trailer. This funding reaffirms the Village's commitment to enhance its capacity for EOC activities by creating a space that not only functions during an emergency, including operating as a Reception Centre for supporting displaced residents if needed. It can also be used for future emergency preparedness planning, community meetings and training exercises.

Council is also discussing how to apply the \$1.73 million grant the Village received from the Province of BC Growing Communities Fund for investing in infrastructure and amenities to provide maximum benefit to the community. At the Committee of the Whole meeting on May 30, 2023, Council identified several potential projects to be considered at a future meeting, including:

- public works yard improvements for equipment and vehicles;
- enhancements to the Anmore Community HUB and surrounding area;
- Ravenswood Drive realignment and tree management in the area;
- wildfire protection initiatives, including FireSmart principles,
- potential bylaw updates, and vegetation management, including trail improvements; and
- water system service planning.

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