

EMO Receives Community Emergency Preparedness Grant

Emergency Management Oceanside (EMO) was recently awarded a grant of \$59,956.14 from the Emergency Operations Centres Equipment and Training stream of the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund. The grant is funded by the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, managed by the Union of BC Municipalities. EMO is a partnership between the City of Parksville and Town of Qualicum Beach.

The regional application submitted by Emergency Management Oceanside will increase the response capacity of the emergency program by adding resilience to important factors such as staff training, situational awareness, emergency communications, and multi-government integration in a joint emergency operations centre response, continuing the ongoing collaboration between the City of Parksville and the Town of Qualicum Beach. Grant activities will be completed by April 30, 2025.

Managed by the City of Parksville, the grant will fund the following:

- Development and delivery of three half day exercises specific to an emergency operations centre activation for a wildfire response in the Parksville - Qualicum Beach region.
- Facilitation of a two-day Incident Command System 200 course for staff from the City of Parksville and Town of Qualicum Beach. The course will train staff to be able to hold a supervisory role within the incident command system which is used in an emergency operations centre activation.
- Purchase of equipment required to establish an amateur radio emergency data network node in the City of Parksville emergency radio communications room.
- Purchase of a mobile digital whiteboard which will provide an interactive situational display in the designated regional emergency operations centre at the Qualicum Beach firehall.
- Purchase of colour coded emergency operations centre vests to ensure sufficient vests during a joint emergency operations centre activation.

Regional emergency management partners will participate in the emergency operations centre exercises which will enhance Emergency Management Oceanside's ability to achieve the new requirements outlined in the Emergency and Disaster Management Act.

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For more information:

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