



MEMBER RELEASE

June 14, 2011

TO: Local Government Mayors, Chairs and Administrators
First Nations Chiefs, Councils and Administrators

FROM: Local Government Program Services, UBCM

RE: **2011 Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative**

The Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative is a suite of funding programs managed through the Provincial Fuels Management Working Group – including the First Nations Emergency Services Society, Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations and the Union of BC Municipalities. The initiative supports communities to mitigate risk from wildfire in the wildland urban interface.

On April 7, 2011, the Honourable Steve Thomson, Minister of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations, announced that the Province is investing \$25 million into the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative to further protect B.C. families and communities from the threat of wildfires.

Applications are now being accepted for the new programs. A number of program changes have been made and the following grants are available for 2011:

- Community Wildfire Protection Plans – the 2011 program can contribute a maximum of 50% of the cost of eligible activities - to a maximum of \$15,000.
- Fuel Management Prescription – the 2011 program can contribute a maximum of 75% of the cost of eligible activities.
- Fuel Management Demonstration Project (formerly, the pilot project program) – the 2011 program can contribute a maximum of 75% of the cost of eligible activities - to a maximum of \$25,000.
- Community Operational Fuel Treatment – the 2011 program can contribute a maximum of 90% of the cost of eligible activities up to \$100,000 in funding per applicant per calendar year AND 75% of the cost of eligible activities from \$100,001 to \$400,000 in funding per applicant per calendar year.

New program and application materials are available on UBCM's website. Two application deadlines have been set for 2011: July 22 and October 14. In order to be considered for funding in the summer or fall, complete applications must be submitted on or before the deadline.

Please note, the Fuel Management Information System will not be available for this round of funding and all applications should be submitted directly to UBCM.

For more information about the funding program, please contact:

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