

CCBAC Board Update - January 2017



The Cariboo Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition (CCBAC) Board of Directors met on January 16, 2017 in Williams Lake at the Pioneer Complex from 10:00 am -1:30 pm.

CCBAC Dissolution

With their commitment toward dissolution by the end of December 2017, the CCBAC Board will be working to allocate their remaining funds to: 1) initiatives, 2) granting, and 3) administration.

A portion of initiatives funding will continue to be directed to key strategic areas including, but not limited to, 1) trails, 2) community wildfire and interface planning, and 3) fibre utilisation. Further, a set amount of initiatives funding will also be directed towards the Cariboo Regional District's *Cariboo Strong* initiative.

Cariboo Strong

Through the *Cariboo Strong* process, each of the 3 sub-regions (north, central, and south) will be allocated \$133,333.00 to enable the regional strategy to be fostered from the sub-regional level.

Each CCBAC Board member will work in their specific sub-region with the *Cariboo Strong* team to ensure the appropriate: elected leaders, economic development representatives, and First Nation representatives are part of the steering committees that govern this initiative. The funds allocated to *Cariboo Strong* from CCBAC will be subject to CCBAC funding policies.

Grant Updates

CCBAC received the following project updates:

- 1) Project # 213: Central Economic Development Corporation – Economic Development Plan for the City of Williams Lake, *final report received and holdback released.*
- 2) Project # 212: Tsilhqot'in National Government – Economic Development Plan, *extension requested and accepted with the condition that the project must be finalised by March 31, 2017.*

Funding Proposal Update

1) CCBAC received a grant application for the Toosey Tiny Home Project. The Board declined the full request for funding at this time. The CCBAC Board has requested that the proponent submit a funding proposal for the business development planning process and investigate all sources of funding (both provincially and federally). CCBAC is in favour of the project, but wants to ensure it fits the Coalition's funding criteria and strategic direction.

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NDIT

The CCBAC Board has made the following recommendations to NDIT regarding the Pine Beetle Recovery Account.

- 1) Rather than the Pine Beetle Recovery Account being used as an endowment over the long-term, the remaining funds would be better off distributed over the next 5 years to the communities most affected by the Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB). The way the fund is set up currently (i.e. a cap on the funds at 10% of the fund) restricts access to needed funding for Economic Development projects in the affected communities.
- 2) The communities most affected by the MPB should be able to apply directly for Pine Beetle Recovery Account funding without having to apply for, or max out, the RAC funding. By allowing these communities to apply directly for the funding, without having to max the RAC funding, will allow a more equitable distribution of RAC funding to all communities. By fostering a more equitable distribution of the Pine Beetle Recovery Account funding it will result in reduced pressure on the RAC funds that have to be shared by all.

CCBAC Wildfire Interface Subcommittee, Update

Early in 2017, the Cariboo Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition (CCBAC), in collaboration with Provincial and First Nation representatives, conducted a survey of the existing CWPP in the Region. Through the survey, CCBAC discovered that most of the CWPP in the Region are out of date.

The CCBAC Board has decided to assist communities with funding to cover costs that are over and above the funds through The Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative (SWPI). Since this is the last year of operation for CCBAC, this funding will only be available for 2017.

Communications

A media release regarding the dissolution of the coalition will be published in February 2017. Further, letters will be written to the appropriate levels of government to keep them informed about the “sun-setting” of CCBAC.

Future Meeting Dates

March 13, 2017 (Location to be determined)

May 15, 2017 (Location to be determined)