



Governance and Priorities Committee Report

For the Meeting of July 10, 2014

To: Governance and Priorities Committee **Date:** June 27, 2014
From: Susanne Thompson, Acting Director of Finance
Subject: Gas Tax Fund: 2014 – 2024 Community Works Fund Agreement

Executive Summary

Federal Gas Tax Funding is provided up front, twice a year, to provinces and territories that in turn flow this funding to their municipalities to support local infrastructure priorities. The Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) administers the Gas Tax Fund (GTF) in BC, in collaboration with the Government of Canada and the Province of BC. The Community Works Fund (CWF) Agreement between UBCM and each local government delivers the funding to local governments for investments in capital and capacity building projects.

The GTF was originally designed to provide municipalities with predictable funding over five years. Significant changes have resulted in the GTF amount being increased and legislated as a permanent source of federal infrastructure funding for municipalities.

The City will receive \$3.2 million in 2014, which is \$1.1 million more than previously expected. This funding goes into the City Gas Tax Reserve that is used to fund projects that meet the criteria of the agreement (attached as Appendix A).

The CWF Agreement was renewed in May, 2014 to replace the current 2005-2015 CWF Agreement. In order to receive CWF funding, local governments must sign a new Community Works funding agreement with UBCM (attached as Appendix B).

Recommendation:

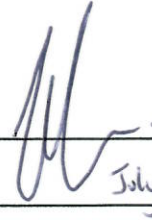
That Council authorize the Corporate Administrator and the Mayor to execute the 2014 - 2024 Community Works Fund Agreement between the City of Victoria and the Union of BC Municipalities.

Respectfully submitted


Susanne Thompson
Acting Director of Finance

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:

Date:


July 2, 2014

List of Attachments

Appendix A – Federal Gas Tax Fund eligible project criteria
Appendix B – 2014 – 2024 Community Works Fund Agreement

Appendix A

List of eligible project criteria – Schedule B of Administrative Agreement on the Federal Gas Tax Fund in BC between the Government of Canada, Province of BC, and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities

SCHEDULE B - Eligible Project Categories

Eligible Projects include investments in Infrastructure for its construction, renewal or material enhancement in each of the following categories:

1. Local roads, bridges – roads, bridges and active transportation infrastructure (active transportation refers to investments that support active methods of travel. This can include: cycling lanes and paths, sidewalks, hiking and walking trails).
2. Highways – highway infrastructure.
3. Short-sea shipping – infrastructure related to the movement of cargo and passengers around the coast and on inland waterways, without directly crossing an ocean.
4. Short-line rail – railway related infrastructure for carriage of passengers or freight.
5. Regional and local airports – airport-related infrastructure (excludes the National Airport System).
6. Broadband connectivity – infrastructure that provides internet access to residents, businesses, and/or institutions in Canadian communities.
7. Public transit – infrastructure that supports a shared passenger transport system which is available for public use.
8. Drinking water – infrastructure that supports drinking water conservation, collection, treatment and distribution systems.
9. Wastewater – infrastructure that supports wastewater and storm water collection, treatment and management systems.
10. Solid waste – infrastructure that supports solid waste management systems including the collection, diversion and disposal of recyclables, compostable materials and garbage.
11. Community energy systems – infrastructure that generates or increases the efficient usage of energy.
12. Brownfield Redevelopment – remediation or decontamination and redevelopment of a brownfield site within Local Governments boundaries, where the redevelopment includes:
 - the construction of public infrastructure as identified in the context of any other eligible project category under the GTF, and/or;
 - the construction of Local Government public parks and publicly-owned social housing.
13. Sport Infrastructure – amateur sport infrastructure (excludes facilities, including arenas, which would be used as the home of professional sports teams or major junior hockey teams (e.g. Western Hockey League)).

14. Recreational infrastructure – recreational facilities or networks.
15. Cultural infrastructure – infrastructure that supports arts, humanities, and heritage.
16. Tourism infrastructure – infrastructure that attract travelers for recreation, leisure, business or other purposes.
17. Disaster mitigation – infrastructure that reduces or eliminates long-term impacts and risks associated with natural disasters.

Eligible Projects also include:

18. Capacity building – includes investments related to strengthening the ability of Local Governments to develop long-term planning practices.

Note: Investments in health infrastructure (hospitals, convalescent and senior centres) are not eligible.

2014-2024 COMMUNITY WORKS FUND AGREEMENT
under the
ADMINISTRATIVE AGREEMENT
ON THE FEDERAL GAS TAX FUND IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

This Agreement made as of _____, 201__.

BETWEEN:

City of Victoria (the Local Government)

AND

The **UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MUNICIPALITIES** (UBCM) as continued by section 2 of the *Union of British Columbia Municipalities Act* RSBC 2006, c.1, as represented by the President

WHEREAS:

- A. Canada, British Columbia and UBCM wish to help communities build and revitalize their public infrastructure that supports national objectives of productivity and economic growth, a clean environment and strong cities and communities;
- B. Canada, British Columbia and UBCM have entered into the Agreement setting out the roles and responsibilities of the Parties for the administration of the Federal Gas Tax Fund (GTF) in British Columbia;
- C. The Agreement provides for delivery of funding that may be received by UBCM from Canada, including interest thereon, through three programs, one of which is Community Works Fund;
- D. The Agreement sets out the purpose, terms and conditions of the Community Works Fund, and requires that in order to receive Community Works Fund funding, a Local Government must sign a Funding Agreement with UBCM;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises herein, UBCM and the Local Government agree as follows:

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Community Works Fund Agreement is to set out the roles and responsibilities of the Local Government and UBCM related to any Community Works Fund funds that may be delivered to the Local Government by UBCM:

2. SCHEDULES

The following Schedules, originating in whole or part from the Agreement, are attached to and form part of this Community Works Fund Agreement:

- Schedule A - Definitions
- Schedule B - Eligible Project Categories
- Schedule C - Eligible and Ineligible Expenditures

Schedule D - Reporting and Audits
Schedule E - Communications Protocol

3. ROLE OF UBCM

3.1 UBCM has, pursuant to the Agreement, agreed with Canada and British Columbia to:

- A. receive GTF funding from Canada and allocate funds so received from Canada pursuant to the Agreement, including allocating Community Works Funds to the Local Government to be spent on Eligible Projects and Eligible Expenditures in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Community Works Fund Agreement;
- B. report to Canada and British Columbia, including Annual Reports and Outcome Reports, as required by the Agreement; and
- C. fulfill other roles and responsibilities as set out in the Agreement.

4. CONTRIBUTION PROVISIONS

- 4.1** Over the term of this Community Works Fund Agreement, UBCM will pay the Local Government its annual allocation within 30 days of receipt of such funds from Canada.
- 4.2** Payments under section 4.1 are subject to UBCM receiving sufficient GTF funds from Canada, and Local Government compliance with this Community Works Fund Agreement and any other Funding Agreement under the First Agreement.
- 4.3** Annual allocation is based on a formula set out in section 3.4 of Annex B of the Agreement. In the first year of this Community Works Fund Agreement, the Local Government will receive \$3,264,748.24, in two equal instalments which, subject to section 4.2, are expected to be delivered in the month following July 15 and November 15, 2014.
- 4.4** Annual allocation to the Local Government for all subsequent years under this Community Works Fund Agreement continue to be based on the funding formula set out in the Agreement, but are subject to change by UBCM from the amount set out in section 4.3 due to such circumstances as local government boundary changes and new Local Government incorporations, changes in Census populations and changes in amounts that may be received by UBCM from Canada.
- 4.5** Timing of payments in subsequent years under this Community Works Fund Agreement to the Local Government by UBCM are subject to change due to any changes in timing of payments to UBCM by Canada.

5. USE OF FUNDS BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- 5.1 Any GTF funding that may be received by the Local Government and any Unspent Funds, and any interest earned thereon held by the Local Government must be used by the Local Government in accordance with this Community Works Fund Agreement, including specifically Section 6. (Commitments of the Local Government).
- 5.2 Any GTF funding that may be received by the Local Government and any Unspent Funds, and any interest earned thereon held by the Local Government will be treated as federal funds with respect to other federal infrastructure programs.

6. COMMITMENTS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT**6.1 The Local Government shall:**

- A. Ensure that any Unspent Funds and any GTF funding received from UBCM, as well as any interest earned thereon are expended and used in accordance with Schedule B (Eligible Project Categories) and Schedule C (Eligible and Ineligible Expenditures).
- B. Treat any Unspent Funds and any GTF funding received from UBCM, as well as any interest earned thereon as federal funds with respect to other federal infrastructure programs.
- C. Over the term of this Community Works Fund Agreement, ensure that any Unspent Funds and any GTF funding received from UBCM, as well as any interest earned thereon result in incremental spending as measured by the methodology, which will include a Base Amount, approved by the Partnership Committee.
- D. Comply with all Ultimate Recipient requirements outlined in Schedule E (Communications Protocol).
- E. During the term of this Community Works Fund Agreement work to strengthen Asset Management, in accordance with the Asset Management framework developed by the Partnership Committee.
- F. Invest, in a distinct account, GTF funding received from UBCM in advance of paying Eligible Expenditures.
- G. With respect to Contracts, award and manage all Contracts in accordance with the Local Government's relevant policies and procedures and, if applicable, in accordance with the Agreement on Internal Trade and applicable international trade agreements, and all other applicable laws.
- H. Invest into Eligible Projects, any revenue that is generated from the sale, lease, encumbrance or other disposal of an asset resulting from an Eligible Project where such disposal takes place within five (5) years of the date of completion of the Eligible Project.
- I. Submit a report to UBCM, in a format acceptable to UBCM, by June 1 in each year, which includes:
 - GTF transactions of the Local Government for the previous calendar year, in sufficient detail to allow UBCM to produce the Annual Report required by Schedule D (Reporting and Audits);
 - a declaration from the Chief Financial Officer that the Local Government has complied with all Funding Agreements between it and UBCM; and

- any other information required by UBCM to fulfill its responsibilities under the Agreement, including, but not limited to project outcomes in relation to anticipated program benefits, expenditures made for tangible capital assets, and progress made towards Asset Management improvements.

J. Allow Canada and UBCM reasonable and timely access to all of its documentation, records and accounts and those of their respective agents or Third Parties related to the use of any Unspent Funds and any GTF funding, as well as any interest earned thereon, and all other relevant information and documentation requested by Canada or UBCM or its designated representatives for the purposes of audit, evaluation, and ensuring compliance with this Community Works Fund Agreement.

K. Ensure that no current or former public servant or public office holder to whom any post-employment, ethics and conflict of interest legislation, guidelines, codes or policies of Canada applies will derive direct benefit from GTF funding, Unspent Funds and interest earned thereon, unless the provision or receipt of such benefits is in compliance with such legislation, guidelines, policies or codes.

L. Keep proper and accurate accounts and records in respect of all Eligible Projects for at least six (6) years after completion of the Eligible Project and, upon reasonable notice, make them available to Canada or UBCM.

M. Ensure actions do not establish or be deemed to establish a partnership, joint venture, principal-agent relationship or employer-employee relationship in any way or for any purpose whatsoever between Canada, British Columbia, or UBCM and the Local Government, or between Canada, British Columbia, or UBCM and a Third Party.

N. Ensure the Local Government does not represent themselves, including in any agreement with a Third Party, as a partner, employee or agent of Canada, British Columbia or UBCM.

O. Ensure that the Local Government will not, at any time, hold the Government of Canada or British Columbia or any of their respective officers, servants, employees or agents responsible for any claims or losses of any kind that they, Third Parties or any other person or entity may suffer in relation to any matter related to GTF funding or an Eligible Project and that they will, at all times, compensate the Government of Canada or British Columbia and their respective officers, servants, employees and agents for any claims or losses of any kind that any of them may suffer in relation to any matter related to GTF funding or an Eligible Project, except to the extent to which such claims or losses relate to the negligence of an officer, employee, or agent of Canada in the performance of his or her duties.

P. Ensure that the Local Government will not, at any time, hold UBCM or any of its officers, servants, employees or agents responsible for any claims or losses of any kind that they, Third Parties or any other person or entity may suffer in relation to any matter related to GTF funding or an Eligible Project and that they will, at all times, compensate UBCM and its officers, servants, employees and agents for any claims or losses of any kind that any of them may suffer in relation to any matter related to GTF funding or an Eligible Project, except to the extent to which such claims or losses relate to the act of negligence of an officer, employee, or agent of UBCM in the performance of his or her duties.

Q. Agree that the above requirements which, by their nature, should extend beyond the expiration or termination of this Agreement will extend beyond such expiration or termination.

7. TRANSITION

- 7.1 As of the effective date of this Community Works Fund Agreement, the First Community Works Fund Agreement is terminated.
- 7.2 Notwithstanding section 7.1, the Parties agree that prior to its termination, the First Community Works Fund Agreement is amended to add to section 6.2 of that agreement: Schedule A (Eligible Project Categories and Project Examples); Schedule B (Eligible Costs for Eligible Recipients) and Schedule E (Reporting and Audit).
- 7.3 Notwithstanding section 7.1, the Parties agree that the survival rights and obligations in Section 6.2 of the First Community Works Fund Agreement (including those added to that section by virtue of Section 7.2), and any other section of the First Community Works Fund Agreement that is required to give effect to that survival section, will continue to apply beyond the termination of the First Community Works Fund Agreement subject to the following:
- A. Regardless of any wording in the First Community Works Fund Agreement with another effect, Unspent Funds, including interest earned thereon, will, as of the effective date of this Community Works Fund Agreement, be subject to this Community Works Fund Agreement;
 - B. Unspent Funds that fall within the reporting period of the 2013 Annual Expenditure Report (as defined in the First Community Works Fund Agreement) will be reported by the Local Government to UBCM in accordance with the First Community Works Fund Agreement;
 - C. Unspent Funds that fall within the reporting period that includes January 1, 2014 to the effective date of this Community Works Fund Agreement will be reported by the Local Government to UBCM in accordance with this Community Works Fund Agreement;
 - D. The survival of the reporting obligations under Section 3.2 and section 1.1 of Schedule E (Reporting and Audits) of the First Community Works Fund Agreement extends only until these obligations are fulfilled by the Local Government for the 2013 reporting year, after which, the reporting obligations under Section 6.1(i) and Schedule D of this Community Works Fund Agreement will apply; and
 - E. Any matters that Section 3.1 (iv) and Schedule G of the First Community Works Fund Agreement would have applied to will be dealt with under Section 6.1(d) and Schedule E (Communications Protocol) of this Community Works Fund Agreement.

8. TERM

This Community Works Fund Agreement will be effective as of April 1, 2014 and will be in effect until March 31, 2024 unless the Parties agree to renew it. In the event where this Community Works Fund Agreement is not renewed, any GTF funding and Unspent Funds, and any interest earned thereon held by the Local Government, that have not been expended on Eligible Projects or other expenditures authorized by this Community Works Fund Agreement as of March 31, 2024 will nevertheless continue to be subject to this Community Works Fund Agreement until such time as may be determined by the Parties.

9. SURVIVAL

The rights and obligations, set out in Sections 5.1, 5.2 and 6.1 will survive the expiry or early termination of this Community Works Fund Agreement and any other section which is required to give effect to the termination or to its consequences shall survive the termination or early termination of this Community Works Fund Agreement.

10. AMENDMENT

The Local Government acknowledges that the Agreement may from time to time be amended by agreement of Canada, British Columbia and UBCM and if and whenever such amendments to the Agreement are made, the Local Government agrees that UBCM may require this Community Works Fund Agreement to be amended to reflect, at the sole discretion of UBCM, the amendments made to the Agreement. Where UBCM requires this Community Works Fund Agreement to be so amended, it will provide to the Local Government notice in writing of the amendments it requires. Such amendments shall form part of this Community Works Fund Agreement and be binding on the Local Government and UBCM thirty (30) days after such notice, unless before then the Local Government elects in writing to give written notice of termination of this Community Works Fund Agreement to UBCM.

11. WAIVER

No provision of this Community Works Fund Agreement shall be deemed to be waived by UBCM, unless waived in writing with express reference to the waived provisions and no excusing, condoning or earlier waiver of any default by the Local Government shall be operative as a waiver, or in any way limit the rights and remedies of UBCM or Canada.

12. NO ASSIGNMENT

This Community Works Fund Agreement is not assignable by the Local Government and the Local Government shall not assign, pledge, or otherwise transfer any entitlement to allocation of funds under this Community Works Fund Agreement to any person and shall upon receipt of any allocation of funds hereunder pay and expend such funds thereafter only in accordance with the terms of this Community Works Fund Agreement.

13. NOTICE

Any notice, information or document provided for under this Community Works Fund Agreement must be in writing and will be effectively given if delivered or sent by mail, postage or other charges prepaid, or by facsimile or email. Any notice that is delivered will have been received on delivery; and any notice mailed will be deemed to have been received eight (8) calendar days after being mailed.

Any notice to UBCM will be addressed to:

Executive Director
525 Government Street
Victoria, British Columbia
V8V 0A8
Facsimile: 250 356-5119
Email: ubcm@ubcm.ca

Any notice to the Local Government will be addressed to:

The Corporate Officer at the place designated as the Local Government office.

SIGNATURES

This Community Works Fund Agreement has been executed on behalf of the Local Government by those officers indicated below and each person signing the agreement represents and warrants that they are duly authorized and have the legal capacity to execute the agreement.

City of Victoria

Original signed by:

Mayor_____
Corporate OfficerSigned by City of Victoria on the _____
day of _____, 201__.

UNION OF BC MUNICIPALITIES

Original signed by:

Corporate Officer_____
General Manager, Victoria OperationsThe Community Works Fund Agreement have
been executed by UBCM on the _____ day
of _____, 201__.

Schedule A – Definitions

“Agreement” means the Administrative Agreement on the Federal Gas Tax Fund in British Columbia.

“Annual Report” means the duly completed annual report to be prepared and delivered by UBCM to Canada and British Columbia, as described in Schedule D (Reporting and Audits).

“Asset Management” (AM) includes planning processes, approaches or plans that support integrated, lifecycle approaches to effective stewardship of infrastructure assets in order to maximize benefits and manage risk. AM is further described in Schedule F (Asset Management) of the Agreement, and can include:

- an inventory of assets;
- the condition of assets;
- level of service;
- risk assessment;
- a cost analysis;
- community priority setting;
- long-term financial planning.

“Base Amount” means an amount established over a time-period, reflecting non-federal investments in Infrastructure and against which GTF investments will be measured to ensure that GTF investments are incremental.

“Chief Financial Officer” means in the case of a municipality, the officer assigned financial administration responsibility under S. 149 of the *Community Charter*, and in the case of a Regional District, the officer assigned financial administration responsibility under S. 199 of the *Local Government Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c.323.

“Communications Protocol” means the protocol by which all communications activities related to GTF funding will be delivered as described in Schedule E (Communications Protocol).

“Community Works Fund” means the fund provided from the Federal gas tax revenues to be dispersed to local governments based on a percentage of the per capita allocation for local spending priorities in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the Agreement.

“Community Works Fund Agreement” means this Agreement made between UBCM and Local Government.

“Contract” means an agreement between an Ultimate Recipient and a Third Party whereby the latter agrees to supply a product or service to an Eligible Project in return for financial consideration.

“Eligible Expenditures” means those expenditures described as eligible in Schedule C (Eligible and Ineligible Expenditures).

“Eligible Projects” means projects as described in Schedule B (Eligible Project Categories).

“First Agreement” means the agreement for the transfer of federal gas tax revenues entered into on September 19, 2005 by the Government of Canada, British Columbia and UBCM, with an expiry date of March 31, 2019, as amended.

“First Community Works Fund Agreement” means the agreement entered between UBCM and Local Government in order to administer the Community Works Fund under the First Agreement.

“Funding Agreement” means an agreement between UBCM and an Ultimate Recipient setting out the terms and conditions of the GTF funding to be provided to the Ultimate Recipient as entered under the First Agreement or the Agreement.

“GTF” means the Gas Tax Fund, a program established by the Government of Canada setting out the terms and conditions for the administration of funding that may be provided by Canada to recipients under section 161 of the *Keeping Canada's Economy and Jobs Growing Act*, S.C. 2011, c. 24 as amended by section 233 of the *Economic Action Plan 2013 Act, No. 1*, S.C. 2013, c. 33, or any other source of funding as determined by Canada.

“Ineligible Expenditures” means those expenditures described as ineligible in Schedule C (Eligible and Ineligible Expenditures).

“Infrastructure” means municipal or regional, publicly or privately owned tangible capital assets in British Columbia primarily for public use or benefit.

“Local Government” means a municipality as defined in the *Community Charter* [SBC 2003] Chapter 26, a regional district as defined in the *Local Government Act* [RSBC 1996] Chapter 323, and the City of Vancouver as continued under the *Vancouver Charter* [SBC 1953] Chapter 55.

“Outcomes Report” means the report to be delivered by March 31, 2018 and again by March 31, 2023 by UBCM to Canada and British Columbia which reports on how GTF investments are supporting progress towards achieving the program benefits, more specifically described in Schedule D (Reporting and Audits).

“Partnership Committee” means the Committee required to be established by the Agreement to govern the implementation of the Agreement and further described in Annex C of the Agreement.

“Party” means Canada, British Columbia or UBCM when referred to individually and collectively referred to as “Parties”.

“Third Party” means any person or legal entity, other than Canada, British Columbia, UBCM or an Ultimate Recipient, who participates in the implementation of an Eligible Project by means of a Contract.

“Ultimate Recipient” means a Local Government.

“Unspent Funds” means Funds (as defined by the First Agreement) that have not been spent towards an Eligible Project (as defined under the First Agreement) prior to the effective date of the Agreement.

Schedule B – Eligible Project Categories

Eligible Projects include investments in Infrastructure for its construction, renewal or material enhancement in each of the following categories:

- A. Local roads, bridges – roads, bridges and active transportation infrastructure (active transportation refers to investments that support active methods of travel. This can include: cycling lanes and paths, sidewalks, hiking and walking trails).
- B. Highways – highway infrastructure.
- C. Short-sea shipping – infrastructure related to the movement of cargo and passengers around the coast and on inland waterways, without directly crossing an ocean.
- D. Short-line rail – railway related infrastructure for carriage of passengers or freight.
- E. Regional and local airports – airport-related infrastructure (excludes the National Airport System).
- F. Broadband connectivity – infrastructure that provides internet access to residents, businesses, and/or institutions in Canadian communities.
- G. Public transit – infrastructure that supports a shared passenger transport system which is available for public use.
- H. Drinking water – infrastructure that supports drinking water conservation, collection, treatment and distribution systems.
- I. Wastewater – infrastructure that supports wastewater and storm water collection, treatment and management systems.
- J. Solid waste – infrastructure that supports solid waste management systems including the collection, diversion and disposal of recyclables, compostable materials and garbage.
- K. Community energy systems – infrastructure that generates or increases the efficient usage of energy.
- L. Brownfield Redevelopment – remediation or decontamination and redevelopment of a brownfield site within Local Governments boundaries, where the redevelopment includes:
 - the construction of public infrastructure as identified in the context of any other eligible project category under the GTF, and/or;
 - the construction of Local Government public parks and publicly-owned social housing.
- M. Sport Infrastructure – amateur sport infrastructure (excludes facilities, including arenas, which would be used as the home of professional sports teams or major junior hockey teams (e.g. Western Hockey League)).
- N. Recreational infrastructure – recreational facilities or networks.

O. Cultural infrastructure – infrastructure that supports arts, humanities, and heritage.

P. Tourism infrastructure – infrastructure that attract travelers for recreation, leisure, business or other purposes.

Q. Disaster mitigation – infrastructure that reduces or eliminates long-term impacts and risks associated with natural disasters.

Eligible Projects also include:

R. Capacity building – includes investments related to strengthening the ability of Local Governments to develop long-term planning practices.

Note: Investments in health infrastructure (hospitals, convalescent and senior centres) are not eligible.

Schedule C – Eligible and Ineligible Expenditures

1. ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES

1.1 Eligible Expenditures of Ultimate Recipients will be limited to the following:

A. the expenditures associated with acquiring, planning, designing, constructing or renovating a tangible capital asset, as defined by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), and any related debt financing charges specifically identified with that asset;

B. for capacity building category only, the expenditures related to strengthening the ability of Local Governments to improve local and regional planning including capital investment plans, integrated community sustainability plans, life-cycle cost assessments, and Asset Management Plans. The expenditures could include developing and implementing:

- studies, strategies, or systems related to asset management, which may include software acquisition and implementation;
- training directly related to asset management planning; and,
- long-term infrastructure plans.

C. the expenditures directly associated with joint communication activities and with federal project signage for GTF-funded projects.

1.2 Employee and Equipment Costs: The incremental costs of the Ultimate Recipient's employees or leasing of equipment may be included as Eligible Expenditures under the following conditions:

- the Ultimate Recipient is able to demonstrate that it is not economically feasible to tender a contract;
- the employee or equipment is engaged directly in respect of the work that would have been the subject of the contract; and
- the arrangement is approved in advance and in writing by UBCM.

1.3 Administration expenses of UBCM related to program delivery and implementation of this Agreement, in accordance with Section 9 (Use and Recording of Funds by UBCM) of Annex B (Terms and Conditions).

2. INELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES

The following are deemed Ineligible Expenditures:

- A. project expenditures incurred before April 1, 2005;
- B. project expenditures incurred before April 1, 2014 for the following investment categories:
 - highways;
 - regional and local airports;
 - short-line rail;
 - short-sea shipping;
 - disaster mitigation;
 - broadband connectivity;
 - brownfield redevelopment;
 - cultural infrastructure;
 - tourism infrastructure;
 - sport infrastructure; and
 - recreational infrastructure.
- C. the cost of leasing of equipment by the Ultimate Recipient, any overhead costs, including salaries and other employment benefits of any employees of the Ultimate Recipient, its direct or indirect operating or administrative costs of Ultimate Recipients, and more specifically its costs related to planning, engineering, architecture, supervision, management and other activities normally carried out by its staff, except in accordance with Eligible Expenditures above;
- D. taxes for which the Ultimate Recipient is eligible for a tax rebate and all other costs eligible for rebates;
- E. purchase of land or any interest therein, and related costs;
- F. legal fees; and
- G. routine repair and maintenance costs.

Schedule D –Reporting and Audits

1. REPORTING

Reporting requirements under the GTF will consist of an Annual Report and an Outcomes Report that will be submitted to Canada and British Columbia for review and acceptance. The reporting year is January 1st to December 31st.

1.1 ANNUAL REPORT

By September 30th of each year, UBCM will provide to Canada and British Columbia an Annual Report in an electronic format deemed acceptable by Canada consisting of the following in relation to the previous reporting year:

Financial Report Table: The financial report table will be submitted in accordance with the following template.

Annual Report Financial Table	Annual	Cumulative
	20xx - 20xx	2014 - 20xx
UBCM		
Opening Balance ³⁵⁹	\$xxx	
Received from Canada	\$xxx	\$xxx
Interest Earned	\$xxx	\$xxx
Administrative Cost	(\$xxx)	(\$xxx)
Transferred to Ultimate Recipients	(\$xxx)	(\$xxx)
Closing Balance of unspent funds	\$xxx	
Ultimate Recipients in aggregate		
Opening Balance ³⁶⁰	\$xxx	
Received from UBCM	\$xxx	\$xxx
Interest Earned	\$xxx	\$xxx
Spent on Eligible Expenditures	(\$xxx)	(\$xxx)
Closing Balance of unspent funds	\$xxx	

³⁵⁹ For the 2014 Annual Report this means the amount reported as unspent by UBCM the 2013 Annual Expenditure Report (as defined under the First Agreement).

³⁶⁰ For the 2014 Annual Report this means the amount reported as unspent by Eligible Recipients (as defined under the First Agreement) in the 2013 Annual Expenditure Report (as defined under the First Agreement).

Independent Audit or Audit Based Attestation:

UBCM will provide an independent audit opinion, or an attestation based on an independent audit and signed by a senior official designated in writing by British Columbia and UBCM, as to:

- A. the accuracy of the information submitted in the Financial Report Table; and
- B. that Funds were expended for the purposes intended.

Project List

UBCM will maintain, and provide to Canada and British Columbia a project list submitted in accordance with the following template.

Annual Report - GTF Project List Template

Project ID	Ultimate Recipient	Project Title	Project Description	Investment category	Total Project Cost	Funds (GTF) Spent	Completed

1.2 OUTCOMES REPORT

By March 31, 2018 and March 31, 2023, UBCM will provide to Canada and British Columbia and make publicly available, an Outcomes Report that will report in aggregate on the degree to which investments are supporting the progress in British Columbia towards achieving the following program benefits:

- A. Beneficial impacts on communities of completed Eligible Projects;
- B. Enhanced impact of GTF as a predictable source of funding including incremental spending; and
- C. Progress made on improving Local Government Asset Management.

The Outcomes Report will present performance data and a narrative on program benefits. The partnership committee will develop and approve a methodology for reporting on performance in respect of each of the program benefits

2. AUDITS

Canada may, at its expense, carry out any audit in relation to the Agreement, and for this purpose, reasonable and timely access to all documentation, records and accounts that are related to the Agreement and the use of GTF funding, and any interest earned thereon, and to all other relevant information and documentation requested by Canada or its designated representatives, will be provided to Canada and its designated representatives by:

- British Columbia and UBCM, as applicable, where these are held by British Columbia, UBCM, or their respective agents or Third Parties; and
- Ultimate Recipients where these are held by the Ultimate Recipient or a Third Party or their respective agents.

Canada may, at its expense, complete a periodic evaluation of the GTF to review the relevance and performance (i.e. effectiveness, efficiency and economy) of the GTF. British Columbia and UBCM will provide Canada with information on program performance and may be asked to participate in the evaluation process. The results of the evaluation will be made publicly available.

Schedule E – Communications Protocol

1. PURPOSE

1.1 The provisions of this Communications Protocol apply to all communications activities related to any GTF funding which may be delivered by Canada, including allocations, and Eligible Projects funded under this Agreement. Communications activities may include, but are not limited to, public or media events, news releases, reports, web articles, blogs, project signs, digital signs, publications, success stories and vignettes, photo compilations, videos, advertising campaigns, awareness campaigns, editorials, awards programs, and multi-media products.

1.2 Through collaboration, the Parties agree to work to ensure clarity and consistency in the communications activities meant for the public.

2. JOINT COMMUNICATIONS APPROACH

2.1 The Parties agree to work in collaboration to develop a joint communications approach that identifies guiding principles, including those related to the provision of upfront project information, project signage, and planned communications activities throughout the year. This joint communications approach will have the objective of ensuring that communications activities undertaken each calendar year communicate a mix of Eligible Project types from both large and small communities, span the full calendar year and use a wide range of communications mediums.

2.2 The Parties agree that the initial annual joint communications approach will be finalized and approved by the partnership committee within 60 working days following the inaugural meeting of the partnership committee.

2.3 The Parties agree that achievements under the joint communications approach will be reported to the partnership committee once a year, or more frequently as requested by the partnership committee.

2.4 The Parties agree to assess the effectiveness of the joint communications approach on an annual basis and, as required, update and propose modifications to the joint communications approach. Any modifications will be brought to the partnership committee for approval.

3. INFORM CANADA ON ALLOCATION AND INTENDED USE OF GTF FUNDING FOR COMMUNICATIONS PLANNING PURPOSES

3.1 UBCM agrees to provide to Canada upfront information on planned Eligible Projects and Eligible Projects in progress on an annual basis, prior to the construction season. The Parties will agree, in the joint communications approach, on the date this information will be provided. The information will include, at a minimum:

Ultimate Recipient name; Eligible Project name; Eligible Project category, a brief but meaningful Eligible Project description; amount of Funds being used toward the Eligible Project; and anticipated start date.

3.2 The Parties agree that the above information will be delivered to Canada in an electronic format deemed acceptable by Canada. This information will only be used for communications planning purposes and not for program reporting purposes.

3.3 The Parties agree that the joint communications approach will define a mechanism to ensure the most up-to-date Eligible Project information is available to Canada to support media events and announcements for Eligible Projects.

4. PROJECT SIGNAGE

4.1 The Parties and Ultimate Recipients may each have a sign recognizing their contribution to Eligible Projects.

4.2 At Canada's request, Ultimate Recipients will install a federal sign to recognize federal funding at Eligible Project site(s). Federal sign design, content, and installation guidelines will be provided by Canada and included in the joint communications approach.

4.3 Where British Columbia, UBCM or an Ultimate Recipient decides to install a permanent plaque or other suitable marker with respect to an Eligible Project, it must recognize the federal contribution to the Eligible Project(s) and be approved by Canada.

4.4 The Ultimate Recipient is responsible for the production and installation of Eligible Project signage, or as otherwise agreed upon.

4.5 British Columbia or UBCM agree to inform Canada of signage installations on a basis mutually agreed upon in the joint communications approach.

5. MEDIA EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

5.1 The Parties agree to have regular announcements of Eligible Projects that are benefiting from GTF funding that may be provided by Canada. Key milestones may be marked by public events, news releases and/or other mechanisms.

5.2 Media events include, but are not limited to, news conferences, public announcements, official events or ceremonies, and news releases.

5.3 A Party or an Ultimate Recipient may request a media event.

5.4 Media events related to Eligible Projects will not occur without the prior knowledge and agreement of the Parties and the Ultimate Recipient.

5.5 The Party or Ultimate Recipient requesting a media event will provide at least 15 working days' notice to the other Parties or Ultimate Recipient of their intention to undertake such an event. The event will take place at a mutually agreed date and location. The Parties and the Ultimate Recipient will have the opportunity to participate in such events through a designated representative. The Parties will each designate their own representative.

5.6 The conduct of all joint media events and products will follow the *Table of Precedence for Canada* as outlined at <http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/ceem-cced/prtcl/precedence-eng.cfm>.

5.7 All joint communications material related to media events must be approved by Canada and recognize the funding of the Parties.

5.8 All joint communications material must reflect Canada's policy on official languages and the federal identity program.

6. PROGRAM COMMUNICATIONS

6.1 The Parties and Ultimate Recipients may include messaging in their own communications products and activities with regard to the GTF.

6.2 The Party or Ultimate Recipient undertaking these activities will provide the opportunity for the other Parties and Ultimate Recipient to participate, where appropriate, and will recognize the funding of all contributors.

6.3 The Parties agree that they will not unreasonably restrict the other Parties or Ultimate Recipient from using, for their own purposes, public communications products related to the GTF prepared by a Party or Ultimate Recipients, or, if web-based, from linking to it.

6.4 Notwithstanding Section 5 (Communications Protocol), Canada retains the right to meet its obligations to communicate information to Canadians about the GTF and the use of funding through communications products and activities.

7. OPERATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

7.1 The Ultimate Recipient is solely responsible for operational communications with respect to Eligible Projects, including but not limited to, calls for tender, construction, and public safety notices. Operational communications as described above are not subject to the federal official language policy.

7.2 Canada, British Columbia, UBCM or the Ultimate Recipient will share information promptly with the Parties should significant emerging media or stakeholder issues relating to an Eligible Project arise. The Parties will advise Ultimate Recipients, when appropriate, about media inquiries received concerning an Eligible Project.

8. COMMUNICATING SUCCESS STORIES

British Columbia and UBCM agree to facilitate communications between Canada and Ultimate Recipients for the purposes of collaborating on communications activities and products including but not limited to Eligible Project success stories, Eligible Project vignettes, and Eligible Project start-to-finish features.

9. ADVERTISING CAMPAIGNS

Recognizing that advertising can be an effective means of communicating with the public, a Party or an Ultimate Recipient may, at their own cost, organize an advertising or public information campaign related to the GTF or Eligible Projects. However, such a campaign must respect the provisions of this Agreement. In the event of such a campaign, the sponsoring Party or Ultimate Recipient agrees to inform the other Parties of its intention, and to inform them no less than 21 working days prior to the campaign launch.