



# COLUMBIA SHUSWAP REGIONAL DISTRICT Committee of the Whole Meeting AGENDA

Date: Thursday, April 3, 2025  
Time: 9:30 AM  
Location: CSR Boardroom  
555 Harbourfront Drive NE, Salmon Arm

[Zoom Registration Link](#)

Pages

1. Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are meeting in service to the Columbia Shuswap Regional District which is on the traditional and unceded territories of the Secwepemc, Syilx Okanagan, Sinixt and Ktunaxa Nation. We are privileged and grateful to be able to live, work and play in this beautiful area.

Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act

Article 39

Indigenous peoples have the right to have access to financial and technical assistance from States and through international cooperation, for the enjoyment of the rights contained in this Declaration.

2. Call to Order

3. Adoption of Agenda

**Motion**

THAT: the Committee of the Whole meeting agenda be adopted.

4. Meeting Minutes

4.1 **Adoption of Minutes**

**Motion**

THAT: the minutes attached to the Committee of the Whole meeting agenda be adopted.

**4.2 Business Arising from Minutes**

None.

**5. Delegations & Guest Speakers**

**5.1 Search and Rescue / Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue**

7

Presentations by:

- Revelstoke SAR - Giles Shearing, Manager
- RCMSAR Station 106-Shuswap & Shuswap Lifeboat Society - Doug Wasylenki, Deputy Station Leader, Tamara Lansing, Station Leader, Craig Massey, Deputy Station Leader, and Bruce Weicker, Shuswap Lifeboat Society President
- Shuswap Volunteer SAR - Gordon Bose, SAR Manager/Training Officer and team

Overview of 2024 RCMSAR Station 106 - Shuswap Activities

**5.2 Okanagan Film Commission**

Late agenda - Presentation by Jon Summerland to be added.

**6. Business General**

None.

**7. Rise and Report**

**Motion**

THAT: the Committee of the Whole meeting Rise and Report.



## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

**Note: The following minutes are subject to correction when endorsed by the Committee at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.**

Date: February 27, 2025  
 Time: 9:30 AM  
 Location: CSRD Boardroom  
 555 Harbourfront Drive NE, Salmon Arm

Directors Present	K. Cathcart^ D. Brooks-Hill^ M. McCormick D. Trumbley^ R. Martin J. Simpson N. Melnychuk (Chair) R. Oszust^ G. Sulz^ Alternate Director Lindgren T. Lavery^ C. Anderson	Electoral Area A Director Electoral Area B Director Alternate Electoral Area C Director Electoral Area D Director Electoral Area E Director Electoral Area F Director Electoral Area G Director Town of Golden Director City of Revelstoke Director City of Salmon Arm Alternate Director  City of Salmon Arm Director 2 District of Sicamous Director
Directors Absent	M. Gibbons K. Flynn (Vice Chair)	Electoral Area C Director City of Salmon Arm Director
Staff In Attendance	J. MacLean J. Sham  J. Freund J. Pierce  G. Christie B. Van Nostrand*  D. Sutherland*	Chief Administrative Officer General Manager, Corporate Services (Corporate Officer) Legislative Clerk General Manager, Financial Services (Chief Financial Officer) General Manager, Development Services General Manager, Environmental and Utility Services General Manager, Community and Protective Services

^attended electronically

\*attended a portion of the meeting

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Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act  
Article 33

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine their own identity or membership in accordance with their customs and traditions. This does not impair the right of indigenous individuals to obtain citizenship of the States in which they live.

2. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine the structures and to select the membership of their institutions in accordance with their own procedures.

**2. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:31 AM.

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

**Moved By** Director Anderson

**Seconded By** Director Sulz

THAT: the Committee of the Whole meeting agenda be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**4. Meeting Minutes**

**4.1 Adoption of Minutes**

**Moved By** Director Martin

**Seconded By** Director Lavery

THAT: the minutes attached to the Committee of the Whole meeting agenda be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**4.2 Business Arising from Minutes**

None.

**5. Correspondence**

**5.1 For Information**

**Moved By** Director Anderson

**Seconded By** Director Cathcart

THAT: the Committee receive the correspondence attached to the agenda for information.

**CARRIED**

### **5.1.1 Canada Community-Building Fund**

It was noted that Municipal Directors have not had any conversations about the Canada Community-Building Fund.

General Manager, Financial Services noted that municipalities use the majority of funds for infrastructure and roads.

### **5.2 Action Requested**

None.

## **6. Business General**

### **6.1 Overview of the Draft II, 2025 Financial Plan**

J. Pierce, General Manager, Financial Services to present Draft II of the 2025 Financial Plan.

- Questions arising from Draft I
- Key changes from Draft I to Draft II
- Tax summaries
- Questions
- Public Consultation

A copy of the Draft II, 2025 Financial Plan is available on the [CSR D website](#) and a view only copy is available at the CSR D office.

Late Agenda - Presentation slides added.

#### **Key Changes from Draft 1**

The General Manager, Financial Services explained the goals of the presentation were to understand the changes from Draft 1, tax implications, answer questions, and provide input for final budget.

Draft 1 changes occurred from finalized surpluses and deficits, contributions to and from reserves, one-on-one meetings with Electoral Area Directors, and changes suggested from the Draft 1 budget meeting

#### **Surpluses and Deficits Finalized:**

The 2025 net surplus was \$1,155,322 and the year prior was \$817,000.

Deficits must be paid for in accordance with the Local Government Act. There was a total of seven functions ending the year in deficit, down from nine functions with deficits in 2024.

### **Reserve contributions finalized:**

Capital reserves at Draft 2 are approximately \$21.5M, a total net change increase of \$1.3M. Interest earned on reserve funds was \$1.5M.

Operating reserves totaled approximately \$11.8M which was an increase of \$1.2M from 2024. In 2025 almost \$275,000 in operating reserve will be used to mitigate/stabilize taxes.

### **Overview of Specific Budget Changes from Draft 1:**

The General Manager, Financial Services presented the specific budget changes from Draft 1 to Draft 2 by department and identified the changes to both taxation and overall budget. Significant changes included:

- Increased constituency funds to \$3,500 per Electoral Area Director
- No taxes for suspension of activities in Shuswap Tourism and Film Commission
- Area A Economic Development was increased by \$40,000 and Core Facilities contribution increased by \$15,000.
- Area F Subregional Fire increased contribution to reserves by \$50,000, Grant in Aids increased tax requisition by \$50,000 and Tourism Promotion increased tax requisition by \$5,100.
- Area C/G reinstated \$30,600 of funding for South Shuswap Tourism Promotion and eliminated Parcel Tax for LWMP and any expenses to be paid from operating reserves. There is also a \$1223 tax reduction to Dog Control.
- Area C Strata Streetlights has a \$149 contract decrease.
- Area E Mosquito Control proposed a \$167 tax decrease, a \$231 tax decrease in Parks and Playgrounds and a tax increase of \$7,454 to Fire Protection, and a \$400 decrease to tax requisition for Streetlighting.
- Admin and IT - \$7,305 tax decrease.
- Shuswap Airport - \$143 tax decrease.
- Subregional Building Inspection - \$30,000 tax decrease.
- General Administration - \$15,000 increase to budget but no tax requisition change.
- Electoral Area Governance - \$6,500 decrease.
- Recycling - \$30,000 increase to budget but no tax requisition change.
- Solid Waste - \$81,000 increase to budget but no tax requisition change.
- Sterile Insect release – reduced taxation by \$837 in accordance with new information.
- Golden Cemetery – reduced taxation by \$3,000 by eliminating transfer to operating reserve.
- Rail Trail - \$329,457 reduction to budget; tax requisition decrease of \$655.

- Master Park Plan changes – no changes to taxation
- Golden Arena – no changes to taxation
- Golden Curling Rink – \$20,000 increase to taxation.
- Rancho/Deep Creek Fire Protection – no change to tax requisition.
- South Shuswap Subregional Fire Protection – increased budget by \$50,000; no change to tax requisition.
- It is noted additional money was received through Structure Protection Unit deployments and Firefighter deployments. Some operating reserves will be used for tax rate stabilization and specific projects.

The overall budget with incorporated changes was \$63.7M. Overall taxes were down and all areas of the CSRD saw a reduction except Golden and Area A. Draft 2 had a decrease in taxation from Draft 1.

No budget information has been received from the Town of Golden so there may be changes to budget prior to adoption in March.

Approximately 85% of the mosquito control budget is paid by the City of Revelstoke and they supported a motion to increase mosquito control. General Manager, Environmental and Utility Services will monitor that area closely to get a sense of the true cost and tax implications on a service that has a discernible benefit to residents. There will be an in-depth study in 2025 and possible expansion in 2026. The Pest Management Plan will be updated in 2026, with possible amendments to include additional treatment areas.

### **Discussion:**

General Manager, Financial Services noted staff are finalizing Tourism projects and wrapping up outstanding Tourism grants.

Director Anderson confirmed the Rail Trail Corridor for the Sicamous portion receives \$117K. General Manager, Financial Services noted \$52,550 is going into operating reserves in 2025 and will follow up with the split for the District of Sicamous specifically.

General Manager, Planning and Development noted that while short term rentals are increasing staff workload, there is currently 1 vacant FTE position in the Bylaw function whose role will be focused on short term rentals and dog control. He will report back in the fall after the position has been filled and the workload and progress have been evaluated.

General Manager, Financial Services said when the Rail Trail is fully built and the base level of maintenance costs has been determined, the cost of living increases will be reviewed annually. There is a projected significant increase in 2026 based on the expected completion of a portion of the trail due to higher maintenance costs for entire length of trail. It was suggested

that the Governance Advisory Committee should ask for “Friends of the Rail Trail” for support to mitigate costs through advertising or sponsorship.

General Manager, Community and Protective services confirmed Mt. Baldy Park is in the workplan for rehabilitation work with the Shuswap Trail Alliance in 2025 and they are working with the federal and provincial governments for disaster relief. Sicamous Lizard Trail does not have any scheduled work in 2025 but can review it in 2026 as it is similar to Mt. Baldy with Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) and Trail Alliance support. He will follow up on the commitment to support by DFA and report back.

General Manager, Environmental and Utility Services is committed to start taxing for building solid waste closure reserves, \$300k in 2024, \$600k in 2025, and \$900k in 2026. He will work with the consultants as if the commitment by the Board to tax has changed, then other options need to be found. His intention is to come to the June COW meeting with an updated financial plan and an overview of strategies from the Solid Waste Public and Technical Advisory Committee. Minimum user fees and increased tipping fees are among options to consider. There are four landfills that need to be closed in the next 30-40-50 years that will have associated costs, but opening new landfills also needs to be budgeted for.

CAO noted the Governance Advisory Committee (GAC) has been focused on Rail Trail construction and will next turn to promotion. Promotion of the trail will be discussed at the Technical Advisory Committee and GAC.

CAO explained Rail Trail completion is being held up due to a ruling from the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) that requires approval from landowners which has not come through yet. The GAC is working on this with Splatsin.

No public questions.

## 7. Rise and Report

**Moved By** Director Martin

**Seconded By** Director Anderson

THAT: the Committee of the Whole meeting Rise and Report.

**CARRIED**

10:40 AM

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CORPORATE OFFICER

CHAIR





# RCMSAR Station 106

CSRD Committee of the Whole Meeting (April 3, 2025)



## **Saving Lives on the Water**

**RCM-SAR is a key part of the marine rescue system on the West Coast and in the Interior.**

**We are an all-volunteer charity that saves lives on the water.**

**Our crews are ready to be called out at any time, day or night, in any kind of weather.**

**The dedicated volunteers at our more than 30 rescue stations respond to a total average of 800 marine emergencies every year.**

**We train hard! Our crews all have first aid and marine certifications, and we provide great rescue service to the public.**



## Our Vessels - Tolonen

**40 foot 2007 Titan Rigid Hull Inflatable (RHI) - Fast Response Craft (FRC)**  
**Twin Yanmar Diesels - 880 HP total powering twin Hamilton Jet Drives**  
**Crew four plus two paramedics**  
**Capacity for two critically injured plus 30 walk on casualties ( at reduced speed)**  
**Cruising speed 30 knots, max speed 37 knots**  
**All weather capable - 24/7 365 days/year**





## Our Vessels - Rescue 1

**29 foot 1976 Lifetimer converted crew boat - Fast Response Craft (FRC)**

**310 HP Volvo Penta Diesel**

**Crew four plus two paramedics**

**Capacity for one critically injured plus 13 walk on casualties ( at reduced speed)**

**Cruising speed 22 knots, max speed 25 knots**

**All weather capable - 24/7 265 days year**





## 2024 - Year in Review

- 28 dedicated volunteers
- 22 SAR Missions
- 7491 total person volunteer hours recorded!
- Total training hours by Volunteers - 610
- 12 people assisted, 6 people saved.
- Total stand down hours - Zero (0). Means station mission ready and capable 365 - 24/7



# Questions?





# Who we are and what we do

- ▣ 37 unpaid professionals, dedicated to assisting our requesting agencies to provide help to persons in need.
- ▣ Shuswap SAR is recognized by EMCR to respond to many different types of scenarios.
- ▣ We regularly train in all of our disciplines to ensure that we are ready and competent to deploy at your request.





# Rope Rescue







# Tracking and Ground Search



# Command and Control

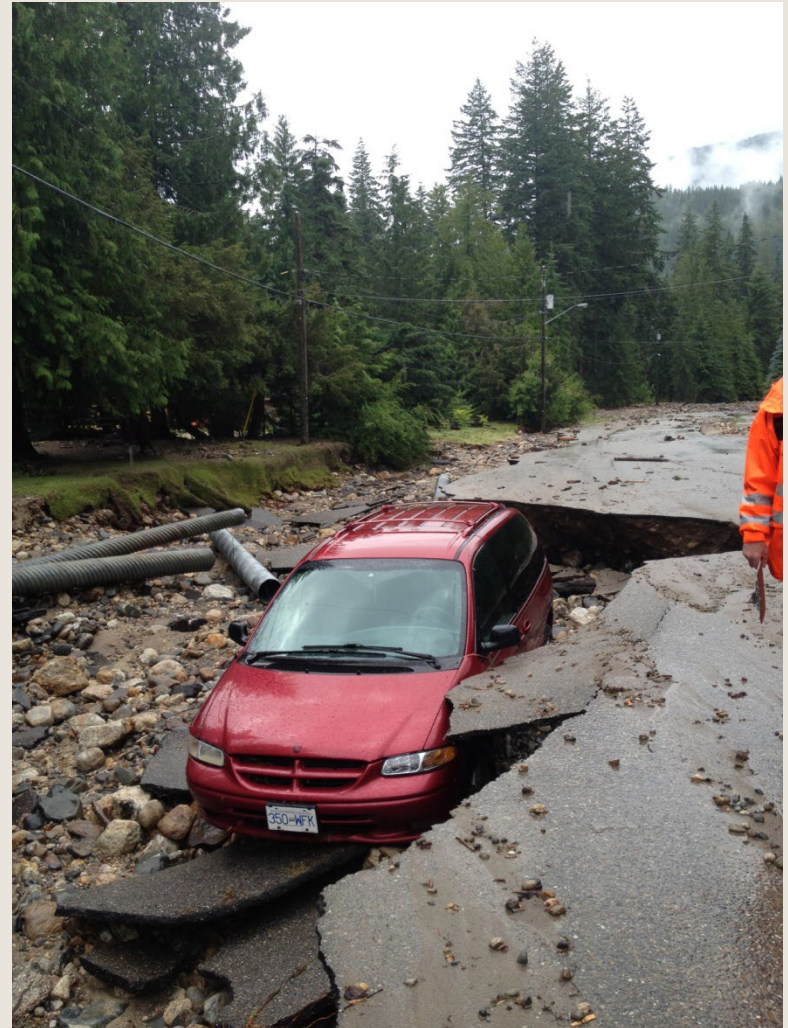
- Accurate and detailed documentation of the search effort. All shareable, in digital format, both ICS forms as well as all mapping data. You should expect this from us, it is your file.
- Up to date search theory and search tools
- Support from Level-2 Managers and other SAR teams from the Central Region and across the Province.



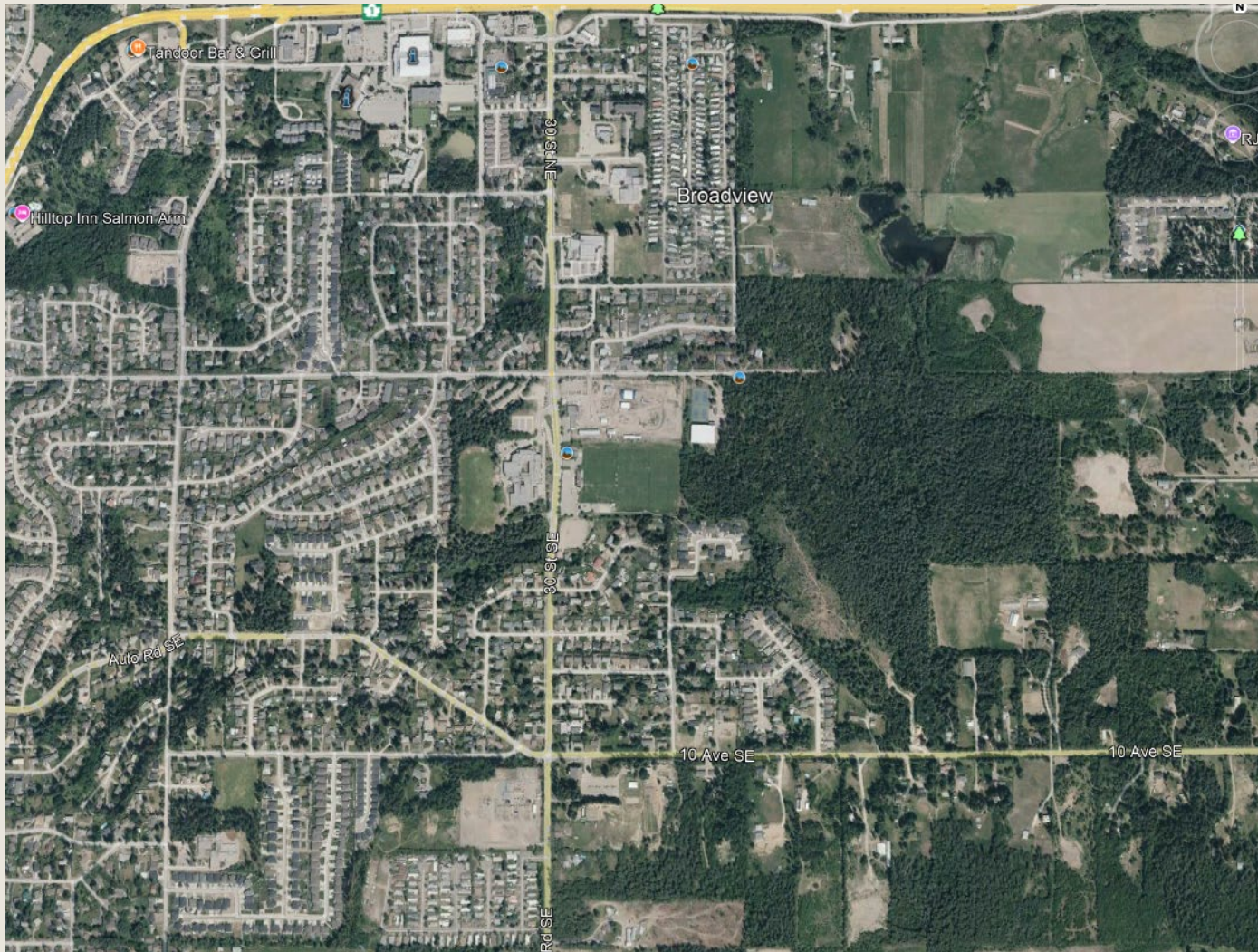


Flat Water Search and Rescue

# Evacuation orders for Civic Emergencies



# Urban Search



- Elders living with Alzheimer's
- Missing Children
- Persons with Cognitive dysfunction
- Despondent persons



# Evidence Search

- Human remains, Crime scene investigation
- Invoiced to the detachment, not EMCR
- We can bring in other resources such as HRD Dogs



## What do the Volunteers put in?

(in the previous 12 months)

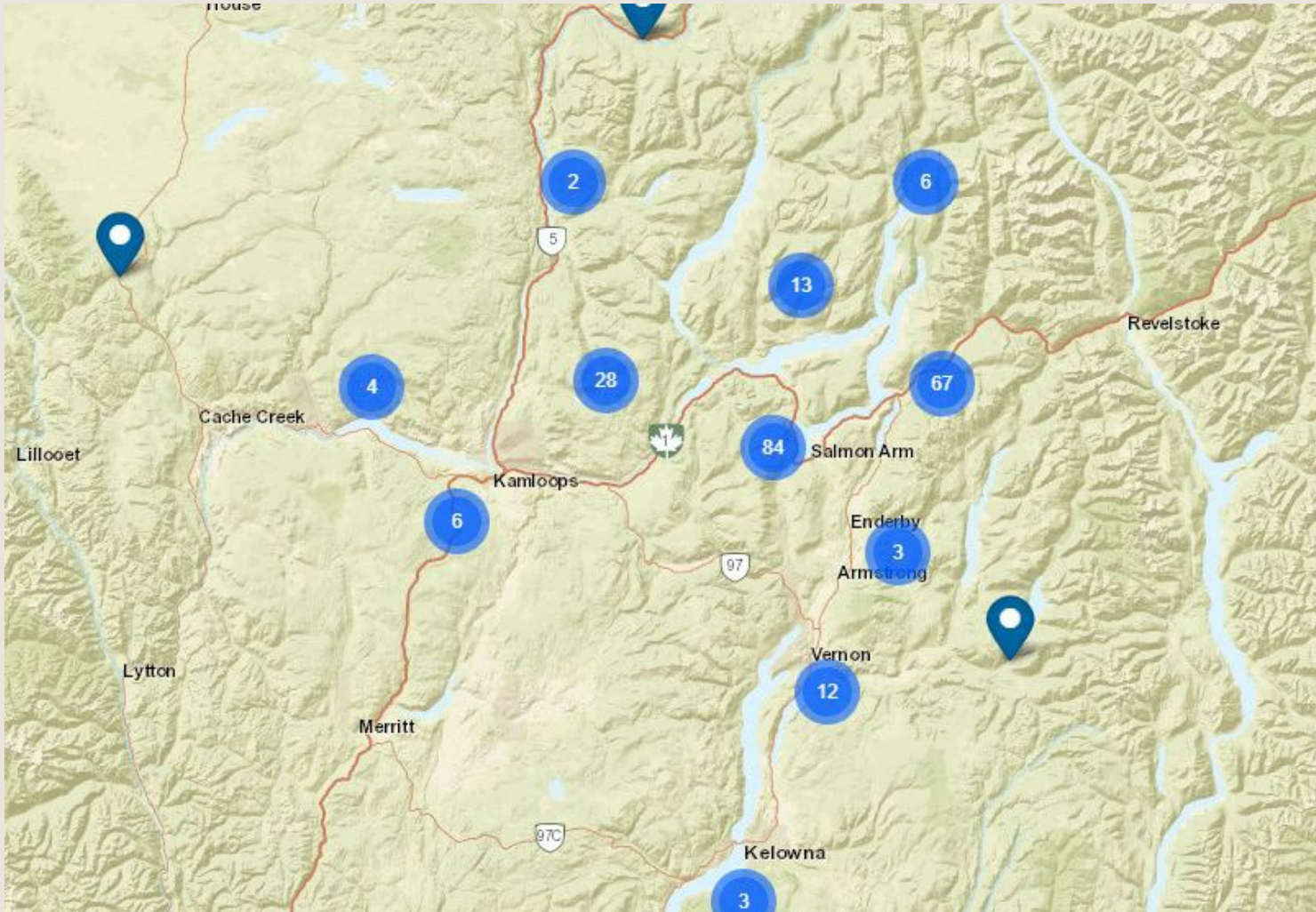
- Over 4,000 hours at 92 separate training events
- Almost 2,600 hours on 62 separate Operational Tasks
- Over 1,500 hours for meetings, public events and Administrative duties.

## What Qualifications do we have?

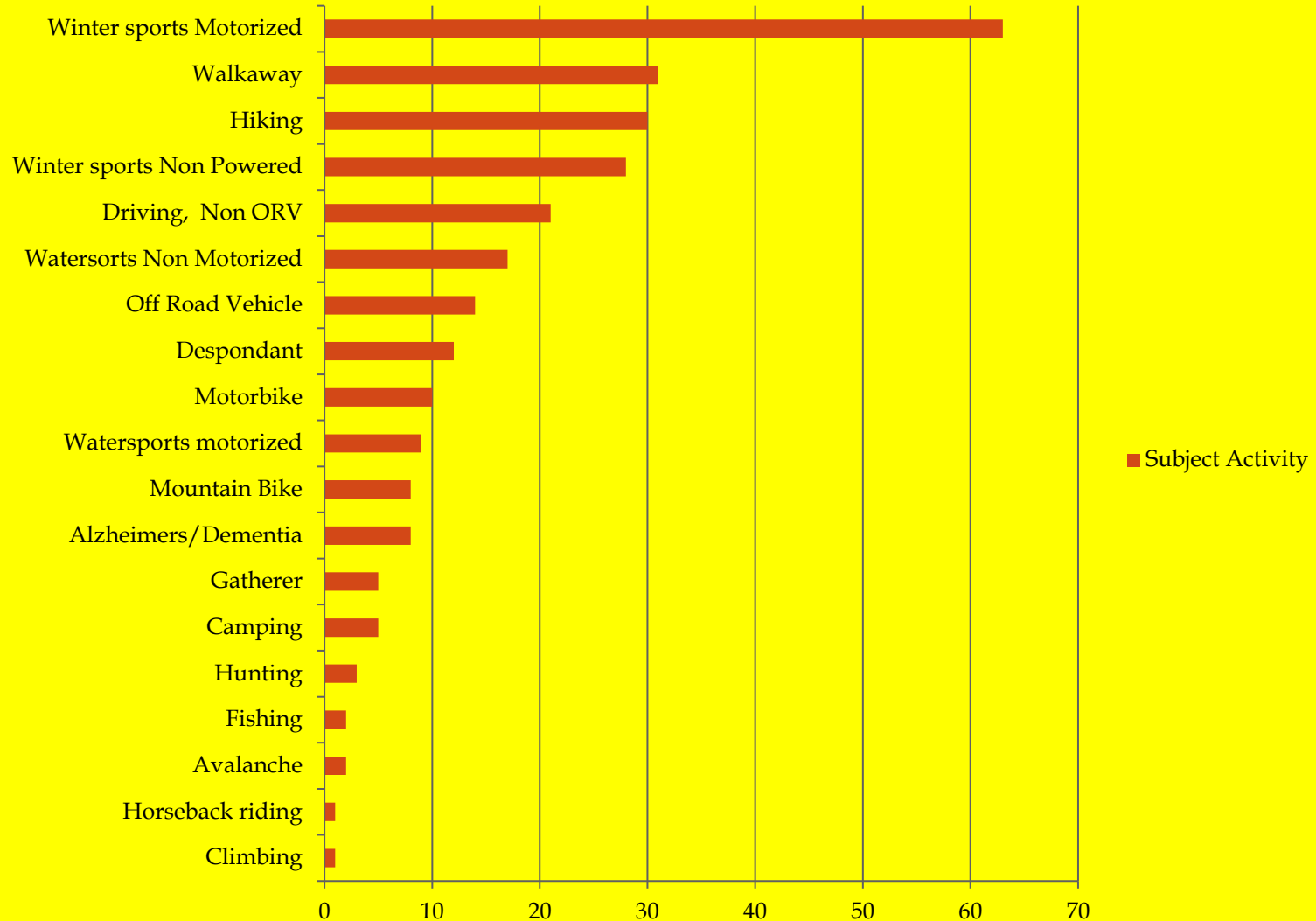
- 5 → SAR Managers (including one Provincial SARM instructor).
- 16 → Ground Search Team Leaders
- 12 → Avalanche response team members and leaders
- 8 → Rescue boat operators
- 14 → Swift-water Rescue Technicians
- 12 → Rope Rescue Technicians and Team Leaders
- 21 → Advanced Wilderness First aid and Wilderness First Responders
- 5 → Trackers

# Operational Tasks

Five Years. Does not include on task in hope and six OP deployments in Ft. Nelson



## Subject Activity



# What resources do we require?

- ▣ Trained GSAR Volunteers
- ▣ Snowmobiles
- ▣ Side By Sides
- ▣ Rescue Boat
- ▣ Response/Equipment vehicle
- ▣ Mobile Command Center
- ▣ Team Transport and Tow vehicle
- ▣ Quads and e-Bikes
- ▣ SAR Hall
- ▣ Many, Many other items Dry-suits, PFDs, IKs and other Swift-water rescue gear, Radios, GPS, Rope Rescue equipment, Admin and office equipment etc. Etc.

# How are we funded?

## Task Reimbursements

When we respond on Tasks, we are reimbursed a portion of our costs. This funding only covers 20% of our annual total expenses.

## Annual Funding

As you can see from above, task reimbursements fall way short of covering our full expenses. We rely very heavily on other annual funding in order to maintain operations.

Without this guaranteed annual support, we would not be able to provide Search and Rescue Services to our community.

- CSRD Grant           Thank you very much!
  - We currently receive \$80,000 each year from the CSRD. In the past, this amount covered the cost of maintaining our SAR Hall and also gave us ~\$20,000 to help cover some other training and operational expenses. But that was years ago. Currently, the cost of maintaining our SAR Hall is just over \$100,000 annually and as you all know, all other costs go up each year.
- BC Government Grant
  - Over the past few years, the Province has contributed funding to all 78 GSAR teams in the province this amount helps fill the shortfall in our budget

# Other sources of funding

All of the funding above just about covers our annual expenses other than purchase and replacement of equipment, and that can be a very significant item. As our Vehicles age, they need to be replaced, We try to look after all of our vehicles, but they do not last forever. Also, much of our safety equipment has expiry dates and in order to comply with Safety Guidelines, we need to replace this equipment as it ages out.

In order to allow us to maintain safe and serviceable vehicles and equipment, we rely very heavily on other sources of funding

## Other Funding

- Private donations
- B.C. Gaming Grants
- Rotary and other community groups
- Banff Film Festival
- Honorariums for providing first-aid service at public events such as local Mountain bike races.

Note; none of this funding is guaranteed and securing this funding takes up significant volunteer time that may be better utilized with training, maintaining equipment and other preparedness duties.

# Summary

Our 37 non-paid professionals put a tremendous amount of time and effort into providing Search and Rescue Services for our community. We greatly appreciate the support that we receive from the CSRD and we hope that we can continue this strong relationship into the future.

**Thank you for your time**



# Questions?

