



The Corporation of the District of Saanich

Report

To: Mayor and Council

From: Harley Machielse, Director of Engineering

Date: March 31, 2025

Subject: Community Excellence Awards Application - Asset Management

File: 4100.4117

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council endorse an application to the UBCM Community Excellence Awards 2025 for the *Asset Management Strategy and Implementation Plan* project under the Excellence in Asset Management category.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of an application for the District of Saanich's *Asset Management (AM) Strategy and Implementation Plan* project to be considered for a Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Community Excellence Award 2025 under the Excellence in Asset Management category.

BACKGROUND

The UBCM Community Excellence Awards recognize and celebrate projects or programs that demonstrate excellence in meeting the purposes of local government in BC, and encourage local governments to learn from the success of other members in order to implement changes in their own communities. UBCM members may submit one application in each of the following categories:

- Excellence in Governance
- Excellence in Service Delivery
- Excellence in Asset Management
- Excellence in Sustainability

Asset management (AM) is an integrated business approach that involves planning, finance, engineering and operations to effectively manage existing and new infrastructure in order to maximize benefits, reduce risk and provide satisfactory levels of service to community users in a sustainable manner. The Excellence in Asset Management category recognizes UBCM members that have developed and implemented a comprehensive system of asset management policies and practices, meeting and/or exceeding accepted best practices such as the *International Infrastructure Management Manual*, *ISO 55000* or *Asset Management for Sustainable Service Delivery: A BC Framework*.

DISCUSSION

Asset Management Strategy

The District of Saanich's *AM Strategy and Implementation Plan* was approved by Council on July 10, 2023, and serves as a road map for the continuous improvement of Saanich's asset management system, policies and practices.

Saanich's first-generation *AM Strategy and Implementation Plan* was developed internally by a cross-developmental group of Saanich Staff, and informed by the experience and guidance of municipalities and industry leading organizations. Since adoption of the strategy, Saanich has shown leadership by updating the *Infrastructure Replacement Funding Strategy*, developing an enhanced *Natural Assets Inventory*, and providing Council with an annual *Asset Management Program Update* and *State of Assets Report (SOAR)*. Saanich contributes to asset management practice through active participation and presentations at local, provincial and national communities of practice.

Information about Saanich's AM Program is available on the public website at saanich.ca/assetmanagement.

Application Criteria

All applications will be scored against the following overall program criteria:

- Leadership
- Financial management and planning
- Partnerships and collaboration
- Innovation and promising practices
- Engagement and communications
- Transferability
- Performance measurement

Council Resolution

The application package must include a Council resolution indicating support for the project to be considered for a 2025 Community Excellence Award.

Application Timing

The application deadline is May 30, 2025, and awards will be presented during UBCM's 2025 Convention.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

1. **Recommended:** That Council endorse an application to the UBCM Community Excellence Awards 2025 for the *Asset Management Strategy and Implementation Plan* project under the Excellence in Asset Management category.
2. That Council provide alternate direction to Staff.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications to this report.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

The work outlined in this report supports Council's 2023-2027 Strategic Plan, which includes the following under the theme of Organizational Excellence, Objective 6.5: "We practice asset management to support the sustainability of our services".

CONCLUSION

Staff recommend submitting an application to the UBCM Community Excellence Awards 2025 for the *Asset Management Strategy and Implementation Plan* project under the Excellence in Asset Management category. A successful application would increase awareness in the community of the comprehensive system of asset management policies and practices that Saanich is implementing towards the goal of sustainable service delivery, and help other municipalities on their own AM journeys.

Prepared by: Jacqueline Weston, Asset Mgmt Program Manager

Approved by: Harley Machielse, Director of Engineering

ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS:

I endorse the recommendation from the Director of Engineering.

Brent Reems, Chief Administrative Officer