







December 2, 2024

Dear Gambier Islanders,

Re: Gambier Island Community Association (GICA)'s Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program (REDIP) Project: IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE.

Thank you for your continued interest and engagement in the REDIP project. We were thrilled to announce in August the funding of 14 community-led projects across the island. We would like to provide an update on the progress of these projects.

- 1. Operation SAFER:** Strategic Action for Fostering Emergency Readiness on Gambier Island - Safeguarding Gambier's future and building resilient community through organized emergency preparedness
Project Status: Operation SAFER Gambier is well underway with extensive research being compiled on areas such as fire hazards, home emergency preparedness, power outage preparedness, neighbourhood emergency preparedness, emergency communications. More to come!
- 2. Remote Health Connect**
Project Status: Remote Health Connect is a community-driven initiative to bridge the healthcare gap in our remote community. Research is underway!
- 3. Waste & Recycling Removal**
Project Status: This project will include a free service to the southwest community of one truck-load of materials taken off island with focus on the removal of hazardous household waste such as shingles, paints, small motorized equipment etc. Stay tuned for the announcement of the date for this trip and list of accepted items!
- 4. Gambier Re-Use & Re-Cycle**
Project Status: This project will include a free service to the southwest community of one truck-load of materials taken off-island to be donated to Big Brothers Big Sisters, and one truck-load of materials taken to Gibson's Recycling. Stay tuned for announcements of the dates of these trips and list of accepted items!
- 5. Gambier Grocery Group Hub**
Project Status: This project is well underway with the relocation and installation of the old "ice cream shed" in progress.
- 6. Operation Fire Shield:** SW Peninsula Neighbourhood Fire Hydrant Tank Project - Phase 1 (High Density Neighbourhoods)
Project Status: Operation Fire Shield is well underway with 3 new fire hydrant tanks (tank, hoses etc., pump, small building) in progress across the southwest peninsula.

<p>THE THREE NEW HYDRANT TANK SITES ARE LOCATED ON WEST BAY ROAD, SHAWANABE ROAD, AND GAMBIER ROAD</p> 	<p>DEVELOPMENT SITE 2 IS LOCATED AT 462 SHAWANABE ROAD</p> <p>A CULVERT HAS BEEN INSTALLED AND BACKFILLED TO ALLOW FOR THE PLACEMENT OF A KIOSK STRUCTURE TO HOUSE THE FIRE EQUIPMENT. CONNECTING PIPING BETWEEN THE WATER TANK AND KIOSK IS NEXT</p> 	<p>EQUIPMENT STORAGE KIOSKS</p> <p>TWO OF THE THREE METAL STORAGE KIOSKS HAVE BEEN PURCHASED AND DELIVERED TO GIBSONS. THE DELIVERY TO GAMBIER ISLAND IS IN PROGRESS. THEY WILL NEED TO BE ASSEMBLED AND INSTALLED ON SITE. A NEW PAINTING SCHEME MAY NEED TO BE DEVELOPED.</p> <p><small>Outsunny 5' x 3' Outdoor Storage Shed, Metal Garden Tool Shed with Front Road, Lockable Door for Tools, Equipment, Green</small></p> 
<p>DEVELOPMENT SITE 1 IS LOCATED AT 920 WEST BAY ROAD</p> <p>FILL MATERIAL HAS BEEN INSTALLED TO RAISE THE TANK UP TO ROAD LEVEL. OVER THE LAST MONTH, RAIN HAS CONTINUED TO COMPACT THE FILL. THE SITE HAS BEEN SURVEYED TO ASSESS THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL MATERIAL.</p> 	<p>DEVELOPMENT SITE 3 IS LOCATED AT 2320 GAMBIER ROAD</p> <p>GFEG TANK NO. 4 IS FULLY INSTALLED AND THE SITE IS READY TO RECEIVE THE EQUIPMENT STORAGE KIOSK.</p> 	<p>EQUIPMENT STORAGE TOATS</p> <p>TWO OF THE THREE STORAGE TOATS HAVE BEEN PURCHASED AND DELIVERED TO GAMBIER ISLAND. EACH ONE CONTAINS 500' OF FIRE HOSE, NOZZLES, AND SHUT OFF VALVES.</p> 

7. Andy's Bay Rd Fire Protection Tank

Project Status: This project is complete! REDIP funding covered expenses incurred in the building of the fire protection tank located at the 700 block of Andy's Bay Road past the Community Centre.



8. Forest Fuel Conversion

Project Status: This project is underway with a pilot project in progress that focuses on the conversion of fallen trees, branches and invasive species that pose high fire risk into valuable locally made mulch.



9. Gambier Future Forests

Project Status: This project is underway with research on invasive species in terms of fire safety being a top priority.

10. Stand-by equipment for our community water tanks

Project Status: This project is well underway in the Fircom area with REDIP funding supporting the purchasing of further fire suppression equipment.

11. Fire risk reduction: the push to be Firesmart

Project Status: This project is underway at the Sea Ranch with REDIP funding supporting the purchasing of further fire suppression equipment.

12. West Bay Landing Fire Suppressant Equipment

Project Status: This project is underway in West Bay Landing with REDIP funding supporting the purchasing of further fire suppression equipment.

13. Douglas Bay Community Fire Suppression Project

Project Status: This project is nearing completion with REDIP funding supporting the installation of two fire sheds in Douglas Bay.

14. Brigade Bay Chipping event

Project Status: This project is complete! During the atmospheric river in October, a chipper and crew came to Brigade Bay, with help from REDIP funding, for four days and processed pre-organized woody materials in support of fire protection. These materials were recycled into chips for community members to use in trails and pathways etc.



For questions, more information about the projects or if you would like to get involved in a project, please contact gambierredip@gmail.com.

Best regards,

The Gambier Island Community Association Board,

The GICA REDIP Oversight Committee (Carmela Allevato, Elizabeth Carriere, Elaine Davies, Todd Elyzen, Zeno Farinelli, Torsten Kehler, Sophia Khan, Jeanne Mikita, Carol Petroski, Emily Pickett, Rod Robertson and Deb Wainwright) and Samantha Wing, Project Coordinator