

COMOX VALLEY SEARCH AND RESCUE  
SERVING THE COMOX VALLEY FOR 50 YEARS



**City of Courtenay Meeting**

# Our Ask

We are seeking the continued long term support of the City of Courtenay in two ways:

1. Recognition of CVSAR as first Responders in our own right.
2. A without cost land allocation to support the building of a permanent home for CVSAR future operations such as the parcel of land on Grant Road/Harmston Avenue adjacent to the CVRD office.



The 2022 Comox Valley Vacation guide  
Describes the Comox Valley in this way...

**“The Comox Valley Is an  
Outdoor Recreation Utopia”**

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## Our Budget...

- Currently CVSAR is the only SAR team on Vancouver Island paying annual rent for its base of operations...
- With the relocation of the Comox Valley Emergency Program from this site and an extension to our current rental agreement at the Moray Ave site annual rent will reach \$ 80,000 in 2023
- All costs have increased... insurance... equipment replacement... fuel... travel... training...
- 2022 was the 1<sup>st</sup> year that SAR teams were allocated annual funding as a line item on the provincial budget.
- Funding allocations represent 1/2 the required funding to support annual operations.

# Land and Financial Support for a Permanent Home: Island and Provincial Context



- All Island teams with the exception of CVSAR have land/facilities allocated to them by their Regional Districts or Municipalities at no or minimal costs... most \$ 1.00 annually
- Campbell River SAR- owned facility/donated land/\$ 400,000 reno underway
- Nanaimo SAR- \$ 2.5 million facility- opened 2022
- Arrowsmith SAR- \$ 2.5 million- facility opened 2022
- Kent Harrison SAR \$ 1.8 million- facility opened 2000
- Regional District North Okanagan- Vernon SAR \$3.4 million funded through Alternate Approval Process Opening- Spring 2023
- Jan 31 2023 RD Central Okanagan announced \$8.4 million allocation for new SAR facility in capital plan.





**Nanaimo SAR Opened 2022**



**Arrowsmith SAR Qualicum Airport Opened 2022**

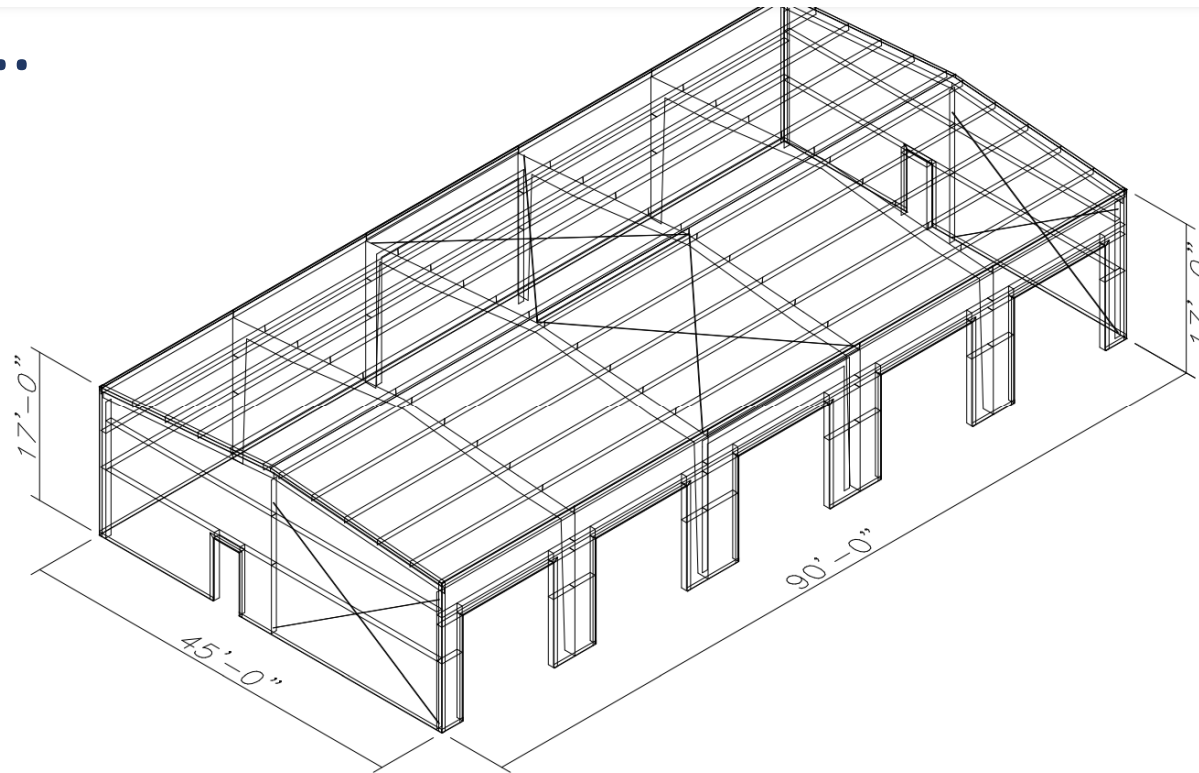


Vernon SAR –Opening Spring 2023



Kent Harrison SAR

# Our Vision...



## Comox Valley SAR Operations Facility

45' x 90' Steel-Post Disaster Building  
Quoted price \$1.5 million to lock-up



# Current Realities...



- We are a very frugal team...
- Our response vehicles are purchased 2<sup>nd</sup> hand.
- \$ 500,000 in GICs saved donations and allocated towards building project.
- CVSAR ineligible for one time \$ 250,000 Capital Gaming Grant (total project cost in excess of \$ 1.25 million).
- Fund Raising is negatively impacting training, replacement equipment and modernization and ultimately team morale
- CVSAR has always been a SAR leader in BC... We are falling behind other teams due to the significant financial constraints we are facing



We are the only  
Comox Valley  
First responders  
sorting cans and  
bottles at the  
land fill to make  
ends meet.

# To restate...Our Ask

We are seeking continued long term support of the City Courtenay in two ways:



1. Recognition as first Responders in our own right.
2. A without cost land allocation to support the building of a permanent home for CVSAR future operations such as the parcel of land on Grant Road/Harmston Avenue adjacent to the CVRD office. We are open to considering other specific sites.

Questions...



Bronwen Beedle Treasurer Comox Valley SAR  
Darren Boss Director Comox Valley SAR