



## FRIAA Community Fireguard Program (CFP) RFP – Phase 1: Planning and Phase 2: Construction September 10, 2025 Information Session

Time: **10:00 a.m.**, local Edmonton time

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### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83449577156?pwd=EblklBz2obwPpw7dh2NedMvW9U2g0g.1>

### Dial-in

[+1 780 666 0144](tel:+17806660144) or [+1 587 328 1099](tel:+15873281099)

**Meeting ID:** 834 4957 7156 **Passcode:** 299096

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### Agenda (subject to change)

#### 1. Introduction

- a. Community Fireguard Program Administrators: Sherry Norton (780-733-8620) and Bibin George Varghese (587-442-4968)
- b. FRIAA FireSmart Field Liaison – Andy Gesner (780-404-6944), Rick Arthur (403-489-2026) and Wes Nimco (780-689-9073)
- c. **Please send an email with your name, title and organization to [admin@friaa.ab.ca](mailto:admin@friaa.ab.ca)** within 24 hours after the teleconference to confirm your participation and details. This will allow us to contact you if we have additional information to share, or Applicants can monitor the FRIAA website for updates.

#### 2. Applications

- a. Request for Proposals (RFP) for Intake #3, **Phase 1: Planning**
  - i. Submissions Due: **September 26, 2025 4:00 p.m.**
- b. Request for Proposals (RFP) for Intake #4, **Phase 2: Construction**
  - i. Submissions Due: **September 26, 2025 4:00 p.m.**
- c. Carefully read and follow the RFP document and address all required information in the Application Template provided.

#### 3. CFP overview and purpose

##### **Phase 1: Planning**

- a. Focussed on developing an expedited **Operational Plan** which includes both mapping and a written document. The Operational Plan will describe all the relevant information to complete the construction project in Phase 2.
- b. **Deliverable:** is an operational plan that requires FRIAA approval to advance to an invitation to propose a Phase 2: Construction project.
- c. An operational plan **template** has been created and provided in the Phase 1: Planning RFP package.



- d. **Timing:** target to complete planning by late November / early December 2025

#### Phase 2: Construction

- e. The purpose is to **remove hazardous fuels near communities** by conducting operations.
- f. **Timing:** target to complete construction (clearing) by spring breakup (~March 2026).

#### 4. Project criteria

Specified criteria of eligible construction projects include:

- a. Large fireguards (several hundred meters wide), unless it can be demonstrated that a smaller fireguard complements an established wildfire mitigation strategy. This may include:
  - i. Integration with other fuel treatments (e.g. thinning, prescribed burning, FireSmart best practices);
  - ii. Strategic fireguard placement to protect critical infrastructure, residential zones, or evacuation routes;
  - iii. Alignment with community values and land-use priorities; and,
  - iv. Support from fire behavior modeling and risk assessments demonstrating the fireguard's effectiveness.
- b. **Projects are expected to be a minimum of 100m wide, if tied into existing grazing or other cleared rights-of-way (ROW). The target should be 300-500m, and as large as 1000m;**
- c. All flammable woody fuels and land-clearing debris must be cleared, with a long-term strategy in place to maintain the fireguard's fuel-free condition and ensure the **absence of hazardous fuels in the zone between the fireguard and the built environment**; and,
- d. The use of creative options to **reduce treatment and maintenance costs** should be identified, such as using merchantable timber revenues, supporting bioenergy (e.g., wood pellet facilities), and employing grazing to reduce both short-term and long-term costs.

#### 5. Proposal evaluation

- a. **cost effectiveness**, "value for money" - as an overall cost per hectare (\$/ha), and as a breakdown of overhead (planning, administration, project management) and operations;
- b. **technical effectiveness**, with Alberta Wildfire review and fireguard design approval;
- c. **state of readiness** / timeliness, to begin clearing and construction prior to the next wildfire season; and,
- d. **community exposure to wildfire risk.**

#### 6. Questions and discussion