

D09/173827

**Mr. Tony Thompson**  
**Marysville and Triangle Community Recovery Committee**  
**marytone1@bigpond.com**

**Dear Mr. Thompson**

## **VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE APPEAL FUND COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

We are writing to provide an update on funding for projects that the Marysville and Triangle Community Recovery Committee (CRC) identified as priorities in its Community Recovery Plan (CRP). The Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund (Appeal Fund) Advisory Panel met on 1 December and 16 December to give final approval to a number of community projects in fire-affected areas.

We are pleased to inform you that funding is now confirmed for the following projects from your CRP:

- **Narbethong Community Hall - \$600,000 (approved 1 December)**
- **Narbethong - streetscape - \$65,000 (approved 1 December)**
- **Community Arts Program - \$50,000 (approved 1 December)**
- **Community Gardens and vegetable growing - \$5,000 (approved 1 December)**
- **Community Events - \$50,000 (approved 1 December)**
- **Narbethong Community Events - \$26,500 (approved 1 December)**
- **Sustainability Expo - \$10,000 (approved 1 December)**
- **Marysville Multipurpose Community Facility and Recreation Centre - \$4,250,000 (approved 1 December)**
- **Taggerty Hall and Park - \$103,247 (approved 16 December)**
- **Buxton Reserve Upgrade - \$97,000 (approved 16 December)**

The Buxton Hall and Triangle Walking Trail were also announced as part of the *Rebuilding Together* plan. These projects are still being scoped and are expected to receive final approval in coming months. The Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority (the Authority) will continue to work with you to scope and identify funding for other priority projects in your CRP.

Now that funding amounts have been finalised for the above projects, the next step will be to negotiate funding agreements for each project. The Authority has engaged Regional

Development Victoria (RDV) to develop funding agreements, with a view to minimal administrative burden whilst meeting the accountability needs of VBAF.

The Appeal Fund needs to report to the community on the use of the donated funds in line with the charitable purposes of the bushfire appeal. Funding agreements developed by RDV will establish and formalise key deliverables, timelines, responsibilities, reporting and other relevant requirements and you should be aware of this when incurring any expenditure.

An officer from RDV will be in touch with the nominated 'owner' of each project, whether that is council or the CRC, as well as the Project Manager, if one has been appointed.

We are aware that you may have started work, or are ready to start work, on your projects. We would encourage you to keep progressing them, in conjunction with your council, while funding agreements are finalised. The funding agreement will cover any expenditure from the project's date of approval. We anticipate that all agreements will be finalised in coming months.

Where CRP projects have yet to receive funding support, the Authority will continue to work with the Appeal Fund, donors and other Government agencies to secure funding for them.

On 1 December, the Appeal Fund Advisory Panel also approved two new statewide grants for which funding is now available: the **Community Summer Events Grant** and the **Commemorative Events Grant**.

The Community Summer Events Grant provides funding for bushfire-affected communities to hold community events and activities throughout the summer months, similar to the Winter Events Grant program. We are pleased to let you know that the Marysville and Triangle CRC has been allocated \$15,000 for summer events. Further information on this grant can be found in the application form and guideline information sheet included with this letter.

The Commemorative Events Grant provides funding for the development and staging of community events to mark the one-year anniversary of the bushfires. The Marysville and Triangle CRC has been allocated \$30,000 from the Commemorative Events Grant. Further information on this grant can be found in the application form and guideline information sheet included with this letter.

Further information on both of these grants can be provided by your community engagement coordinator, or by contacting the Authority on (03) 9092 5875.

Thank you for all your dedication and hard work during 2009 and we hope the members of your CRC are able to have a well deserved break over the Christmas period. We look forward to continuing to work with you in 2010.

We wish you the best of luck with your community projects and hope you can make use of the two new grants on offer.

Yours sincerely



**Christine Nixon APM**  
**CHAIR**  
VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE  
RECONSTRUCTION AND RECOVERY  
AUTHORITY



**The Hon. Patrick McNamara**  
**CHAIR**  
VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE APPEAL FUND