



Date: 19/06/2020

To: Central Cariboo Rural Directors Caucus

And To: John MacLean, Chief Administrative Officer

From: Stuart Larson, Manager of Protective Services

Date of Meeting: Central Cariboo Rural Directors Caucus_Jun24_2020

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Short Summary:

Renewal of Williams Lake Fringe Fire Protection Agreement

Voting:

By Consensus

Memorandum:

The Cariboo Regional District receives fire protection coverage from the City of Williams Lake for several regions surrounding the City boundaries.

The Term of the latest signed Agreement expired on December 31, 2018, and a two-year Extension Agreement was entered to allow staff from both parties to meet and discuss the conditions and terms on which it may be renewed.

As such, CRD staff recently met with the Fire Chief of the Williams Lake Fire Department to review the proposed calculations and to discuss the services provided and what capital and operational costs the funds were allocated to. CRD staff asked for a more in-depth report of what services they provide, and what these funds are allocated to with respect to capital and operation needs.

Chief Erick Peterson submitted the following information as per our request.

"Services Provided"

- 3 Career and 43 Paid on Call Firefighters who have completed or are working towards meeting BC Firefighter Playbook for a Full-Service Fire Department
- The WLFD is the only Full-Service Fire Department within a 100 km radius
- 24 hour a day 7 day a week on Duty Response Officer
- Trained Interface Structural Protection Fire Department
- Hazardous Material and Low Angle rescue response certified Department
- Fire Smart Education to fringe area residents

- *Emergency Support to fringe area residents*
- *Emergency Planning and Emergency Operation Center Services if required*
- *Collaborative Emergency Operation Center and Emergency Planning training and education with CRD staff and rural fire departments*
- *Community Wildfire Protection Plan management and implementation for the region*

In 2019 the Total City of Williams Lake spent on Fire Department total Budget \$2,246,744 Of which the Cariboo Regional District “Williams Lake Rural Contracted Fire Protection” contributed \$589,581 to that amount. Funds from the Cariboo Regional District are not utilized to fund capital projects that only benefit the City of Williams Lake like the Ladder Truck.

Shared operating expenses

- *Salaries*
- *Communications*
- *Printing/Office Supplies*
- *Paid On-Call Firefighters Wages*
- *Insurance*
- *Health Testing*
- *Firefighting Computer Programming (FDM)*
- *Firefighting Supplies*
- *SCBA Supplies/Maintenance*
- *Uniforms/Station Wear*
- *Bunker Gear & Accessories*
- *Training*

In 2019 the Williams Lake Fringe Area accounted for 27% of all response hours

The 2020 Williams Lake area Fringe Fire Protection cost \$114.77 per \$100,000 of Residential Assessment Value. For comparison the 2020 Rates per \$100,000 of Residential Assessment Value to fund all of Cariboo Regional District 14 fire departments range from \$43.41 – \$156.00 for Fire Protection.”

Chief Peterson advised that the City agrees that the current calculation for the service fee rate is agreeable to provide these services to the CRD fringe areas. This calculation structure can remain the same with a 2% non-cumulative amount added each year.

CRD staff is satisfied with these figures, and recommends that the current rate structure being used for the WLFD to provide these services to the CRD fringe areas can remain the same with a 2% non-cumulative amount added each year, and that staff prepare an agreement drafting a three year term commencing January, 2021.

Attachments:

Williams Lake Fringe Fire Protection Extension Agreement

Financial Implications:

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Policy Implications:

N/A

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

- ☐ **Communication:** Facilitate communication strategies throughout the entire Cariboo Regional District that meet the needs of residents, community stakeholders, and other levels of government.
- ☒ **Planning:** Intentionally plan services and activities of the CRD to prepare for future needs of residents and community stakeholders.
- ☐ **Economic Sustainability:** Foster an environment to ensure the economic sustainability of CRD communities and the region.
- ☐ **Governance:** Ensure that CRD governance policy and practices are intentional, transparent, and respectful.

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CAO Comments:

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Options:

- 1) Endorse Recommendation
- 2) Receipt and other action
- 3) Receipt
- 4) Defer

Recommendation:

That the agenda item summary from Stuart Larson, Manager of Protective Services, dated June 19, 2020, regarding renewal of the Williams Lake Fringe Fire Protection agreement, be received. Further, that the current rate structure being used for the Williams Lake Fire Department to provide these services to the Williams Lake fringe areas within the Cariboo Regional District remain the same, with a 2% non-cumulative amount added each year, and that staff prepare an agreement drafting a three year term commencing January 2021.