

Date: 09/03/2022

To: Chair and Directors, Committee of the Whole

And To: John MacLean, Chief Administrative Officer

From: Stuart Larson, Manager of Protective Services

Date of Meeting: Committee of the Whole_Mar17_2022

File: 7200-01

Short Summary:

Fire Services Update

Background:

In 2020, The Cariboo Regional District (CRD) retained Response Specialties Consulting to undertake a review of the fire services that are under the direct administration of the CRD. This report was submitted to the Board in August of 2020 for information and contained ninety-three recommendations for improvement in order to advance the fire services in the correct direction to meet legislative obligations for safety, compliance, and training. These recommendations were further vetted by staff to organize them into short-, medium-, and long-term goals and resubmitted to the Board for comment and adoption.

Since that time, staff has been working in conjunction with the District Fire Chiefs and the membership at large to enact and complete the recommendations in a timely and organized manner. It is the opinion of staff that a great deal of progress has been made to move the organization forward in light of the many challenges faced by the CRD and Fire Departments since this program came into effect. There have been competing priorities and obstacles such as Provincial Covid restrictions, freshet, intense wildland fires, and staffing shortages/changeovers. While it is recognized that there will always be barriers to success, the Fire Departments continue to press forward with the assistance of staff to the completion of this project.

A listing of the recommendations and their associated status has been attached to this report to show exactly what has been completed, what is in progress, and what is considered to be longer term goals for the Protective Services Department. These also have been broken down to reflect the level of priority they hold in relation to others as a comparison. Of note, there is a final section showing several recommendations that are tabled as having been deemed a non-priority. While they are listed as such, they can still be reintroduced back into the completion matrix at any time.

Attachments:

Jolley Report Recommendations

Receipt Only:

That the memorandum from Stuart Larson, Manager of Protective Services, dated March 9, 2022, regarding the status of the Jolley Report, be received. *Further action at the discretion of the Committee.*