SURREY
CITY OF PARKS

Corporate Report

NO: R209

COUNCIL DATE: October 16, 2006

REGULAR

TO:	**Mayor & Council**	DATE:	**October 16, 2006**
FROM:	**Acting City Manager**	FILE:	**7130-50/0530-00**
SUBJECT:	**Emergency Program Co-ordinator**		

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Chief Len Garis be appointed as Surrey's Emergency Program Co-ordinator as required under the Emergency Program Act.

BACKGROUND

Deputy Chief Tom Lewis of the Fire Department has been Surrey's Emergency Co-ordinator since June 2003. Effective November 30, 2006 Tom will be retiring from the Surrey Fire Service.

DISCUSSION

The Emergency Co-ordinator is responsible to maintain Surrey's Emergency Plan and liaise with regional, provincial and local response organizations. Under Bylaw #12559 Council has the responsibility to appoint an employee to perform the functions of Emergency Co-ordinator.

The Surrey Fire Service has historically served a significant role in the context of the City's Emergency Program and will likely be the first responder to any disaster or major incident. The appointment of Chief Garis to administer this Program will ensure co-ordination of all emergency preparedness initiatives in the City. The Fire Department is currently in the process of recruiting a replacement for the Deputy Chief's position. The individual filling this role will take on the operational roles and duties of the emergency planner, however, they will report directly to the Fire Chief.

Murray Dinwoodie
Acting City Manager