

NO: R124

COUNCIL DATE: May 30, 2016

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **May 30, 2016**

FROM: **Fire Chief**

FILE: **2240-20**

SUBJECT: **Fire Dispatch Agreement – The Columbia Shuswap Regional District**

RECOMMENDATION

The Fire Department recommends that Council authorize and approve:

1. The City of Surrey amend the signed agreement with the Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSRD) for the provision by the Surrey Fire Department of fire service-related dispatch services to include any First Nations with whom the CSRD has contracted to provide 9-1-1 emergency service.
2. Authorize the appropriate officials of the City of Surrey to execute the agreement referred to in Recommendation 1 of this Report.

BACKGROUND

Surrey Fire Service maintains a dispatch centre which provides dispatch services to 14 local governments and regional districts across British Columbia. The agreements under which these services are provided were renewed at the end of 2014 and will expire at the end of 2019. The Columbia Shuswap Regional District's (CSRD) current agreement includes 18 fire departments and they have requested to amend the current agreement to include First Nations communities that they have contracted to provide 9-1-1 emergency service to.

In 2014, approximately 68,000 fire department incidents were dispatched through the Surrey Fire dispatch centre. Approximately 1,700 of these incidents were for the CSRD fire departments. The additional volume from this amendment would be inconsequential with less than 150 incidents annually.

DISCUSSION

The CSRD requested the City of Surrey Fire Service to amend the agreement to include the First Nations Communities that have contracted to provide 9-1-1 emergency services to. Currently, these communities can dial 9-1-1 for police and ambulance but must dial a 10-digit phone number to report a fire emergency.

Subject to Council approval, the proposed agreement with the CSRD would commence on July 1, 2016 and expire at the end of 2019 with the majority of the other dispatch contracts. Over the

term of this agreement total gross revenues will be increased by \$9,131.30, which will more than offset the costs that Surrey will incur in providing the necessary dispatch services.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, the Fire Department recommends that Council authorize and approve:

- The City of Surrey amend the signed agreement with the Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSRD) for the provision by the Surrey Fire Department of fire service-related dispatch services to include any First Nations with whom the CSRD has contracted to provide 9-1-1 emergency service.
- Authorize the appropriate officials of the City of Surrey to execute the agreement referred to in Recommendation 1 of this Report.

Len Garis
Fire Chief