

COMMUNICATION 130177

Received From: Pascal Meunier, Director of Protective Services
Addressed To: Planning and Protection Committee
Date: September 24th, 2019
Topic: Agreement for County Medical Tiered Response Program

SUMMARY

The Tiered Response Agreement will define the Fire Department's emergency response relationship with the Lanark County Paramedic Services (LCPS). This recommendation is being provided to ensure that the level of service as determined by Council in the Carleton Place Establishing and Regulating By-law #70-2019 is maintained.

BACKGROUND

The LCPS have a Tiered Response Agreement with most of the Fire Departments in Lanark County to allow for the automatic dispatch of fire personnel to certain emergency calls to assist the Emergency Medical Service (EMS). The last agreement is dated December 6, 2008 and needs to be updated.

The Fire Chiefs of Lanark County have negotiated an agreement with LCPS and are now presenting the agreement to the respective Municipal Councils for review. Some of the Fire Departments in the County have either opted to have their own agreements or to not participate in the program.

DISCUSSION

The proposed agreement that has been negotiated between the Fire Chiefs of Lanark County and LCPS is in response to their desire to have one (1) agreement to maintain consistency across Fire Departments for emergency response. Six (6) municipalities out of eight (8) have agreed. The Fire Chiefs have researched other agreements from across the Province and believe that the agreement as presented realistically reflects what Fire Departments can and should be doing.

The proposed agreement is based on both statistical information and on the realities of how Fire Departments operate. The criteria that is being proposed by LCPS is very similar to the criteria that is currently in use with some minor adjustments. One adjustment is that Fire Departments will now be notified to respond to life-threatening emergency calls (as detailed in the agreement) when an ambulance response to the scene is greater than 20 minutes and when there is a clear response time advantage.

Although there are minor changes to the criteria, there will be no need to adjust our Level of Service in our Establishing and Regulating Bylaw at this time.

Attached you will find the proposed agreement in its entirety.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be no financial implications tied to the approval of this agreement.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council pass the necessary by-law to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute a Tiered Response Agreement with the County of Lanark which permits the Ocean Wave Fire Company to provide emergency response to certain specific emergency calls for assistance to Lanark County Paramedic Services (LCPS).