

To: Electoral Area Services Committee  
From: Reg Dyck, Manager of EA Emergency Services

Date: 2020-03-10  
File No: 3920-20

**Subject: Draft Bylaw 1579, 2020 Electoral Area Volunteer Fire Department Establishment and Regulation.**

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## RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the Fraser Valley Regional District consider giving three readings and adoption to the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area Volunteer Fire Department Establishment and Regulation Amendment Bylaw No. 1579, 2020*

## STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Provide Responsive & Effective Public Services

## PRIORITIES

## BACKGROUND

There have been changes to some of the volunteer fire departments' remuneration over the past number of years that have not been captured in Schedule B of the bylaw. This is being brought forward to update Schedule B and to input the changes approved by the Electoral Area Services Committee and the Board for the 2020 financial plan. Schedule A will also need an update as the Hemlock Valley Volunteer Fire Department is now recognized as a First Responder Fire Department.

## DISCUSSION

EA Directors may recommend, from time to time, increasing remuneration rates and honorariums to EA fire departments as an appreciation of the fire department members' service provided to the community.

As the remuneration schedule is embedded within the bylaw, Schedule B must be amended to reflect any changes.

Electoral Area B Director Dennis Adamson has asked for an additional honorarium for the Yale Volunteer Fire Department's Fire Chief position of \$3,000.00 starting January 1<sup>st</sup> of 2020.

The North Fraser Fire Chief's remuneration is changed from an honorarium to a paid part-time position beginning in 2020.

A separate line showing a \$25.00 callout rate has been added for EA volunteer firefighters who assist with responding to and verifying an event on behalf of emergency services. Staff feels this will be a cost and time-effective way to gather initial information of a potential emergency.

Other changes have been made to update Schedule B to reflect the true honorariums paid out to department members who take on leadership and administration roles within the fire department.

Hemlock Valley Fire Department has been using a point system that is described in Schedule B.

Schedule A has been adjusted to reflect Hemlock Valley Fire Departments' recognition as a First Responder fire hall.

## **COST**

The cost of the honorariums, the \$25.00 callout rate for Emergency Services, and the North Fraser Fire Chief position are reflected in the 2020 financial plans.

## **COMMENTS BY:**

**Tareq Islam, Director of Engineering & Community Services**

Reviewed and supported.

**Mike Veenbaas, Director of Financial Services**

Reviewed and supported.

**Jennifer Kinneman, Acting Chief Administrative Officer**

Reviewed and supported.