Fraser Valley Regional District

CORPORATE REPORT

To: Electoral Area Services Committee
Date: 2018-04-10

From: Reg Dyck, Manager of Electoral Area Emergency Services
File No: 7200-01

Subject: Electoral Area Emergency Services Quarterly Report – March 2018

INTENT

This report is intended to advise the Fraser Valley Regional District Board of information pertaining to activity within the Emergency Services Department. Staff is not looking for a recommendation and has forwarded this information should members want more clarification to discuss the items further.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Provide Responsive & Effective Public Services

DISCUSSION

The following is a brief overview of the 1st quarter of 2018 for the Electoral Area Emergency Services Department:

Volunteer Fire Departments:

Training:

The implementation of a Record Management System "Firehall.net" has been completed with all halls now being able to track training. Extra courses offered and attended this quarter were; Hybrid Vehicle Response Train the Trainer, Hazmat Operations, Fire Service Instructor 1 and First Responder. Rick Huseby, a retired Calgary Firefighter now with Columbia Valley VFD, is now on a voluntary basis assisting with course development for FVRD Fire Departments. He brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience.

Individual Firehall Activities

Boston Bar / North Bend:

- Responded to 4 calls for service

- Recruitment continues to be a significant challenge, the department is actively seeking more members

Chilliwack River Valley

- Responded to 22 calls for service
- Will be hosting a Critical Incident Stress Management Awareness session for families on March 28th

Columbia Valley

- Responded to 16 calls for service

Hemlock Valley

- Responded to 1 calls for service
- Acquired 1 new recruit
- Chief McKinney received his 25 year service pin

North Fraser

- Responded to 76 calls for service
- Acquired 6 new recruits
- Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held on March 3rd
- Deputy Chief Stevens Received his 30 year Medal

Popkum

- Responded to 25 calls for service including assisting at a large incident on the Coquihalla Highway
- Received 5 new MSA self-contained breathing apparatus

Yale and District

- Responded to 6 calls for service
- Acquired 8 new recruits

Emergency Social Services:

During the 1st quarter our ESS Volunteers were called out to standby for 3 incidents including the Coquihalla bus crash.

There have been 3 Area Coordinators appointed to ensure speedy response to local events involving evacuees as well they will use their local knowledge to establish resources such as Reception Centres and Supplier agreements within their areas.

We were successful in our application of an ESS Grant in the amount of $25,000 for the purchases new equipment for our ESS program and training opportunities for our ESS Volunteers.

Emergency Program:

In preparation of the coming spring, 6000 sandbags have been ordered and will be stored in strategic locations.

There has been a good response from the First Nation Bands which have Fire Protection Agreements with us. We presently have 4 out of 7 agreements in place and are looking to have the remaining 3 completed soon.

Continued progress has been made in Area 'H' concerning the Sleepy Hollow Evacuation Protocol. The committee continues working hard on this project.

Work on our Business Continuity Plan is progressing with regular committee meetings and staff input.

COST

There are no costs associated with this report

COMMENT BY:

Tareq Islam, Director of Engineering & Community Services

Reviewed and supported.

COMMENT BY:

Mike Veenbaas, Director of Financial Services

No further financial comments.

COMMENT BY:

Paul Gipps, Chief Administrative Officer

Reviewed and supported