

Alberta Community Partnership – 2015/2016 Grant Application - Incident Management Team Development**Report Purpose**

To seek Council approval of an application to the Alberta Community Partnership Fund Program.

Recommendation

THAT a joint application with neighbouring communities for grant funds from the Alberta Community Partnership Fund Program for regional Incident Command System training be approved; and that any agreement respecting the grant be in form and content acceptable to the Chief Commissioner.

Strategic Plan Priority Areas

Economy: The project contributes to effective and sustainable municipal infrastructure by increasing efficiencies in the mitigation and response to disaster events.

Governance: The application will be made in partnership with neighbouring communities and is aligned with Alberta Emergency Management Agency's (AEMA) initiative to further define and develop Incident Management Teams (IMTs) within the province to increase capacity for disaster response.

Social: The program will not only increase the safety of our residents and their property, but also provide enhanced response capabilities throughout the region.

Culture: Increased response efficiency will not only protect life and property, it could also help preserve and mitigate the impacts of disaster on cultural attractions and resources.

Environment: Better qualified emergency management personnel will improve the efficiency of the response, which in turn ensures efficiency of resource usage and preservation of a healthy ecosystem.

Other Impacts

Policy: *Emergency Management Bylaw 42-2013*

Legislative/Legal: *Alberta Emergency Management Act, RSA 2000 Chapter E-6.8*

Interdepartmental: All Strathcona County departments

Summary

The risk and costs to Albertans from disaster or emergency are rising, not only from climate change, but also from the increased scope of industrial development, transportation of dangerous cargoes by rail and road and urban encroachment into wild land interface zones. The IMT concept being developed by AEMA rests on qualified personnel, adequate equipment, facilities, training and exercises. Grant funding would be used to deliver Incident Command System (ICS) role-specific training to emergency management personnel in the region, to create a larger pool of qualified emergency management leaders for more efficient response to disaster. To date, the Cities of Edmonton, Leduc, Fort Saskatchewan and Spruce Grove are in the process of obtaining Council approval to participate in the project. There will also be capacity for other municipalities within the region to enter into the program after the grant deadline. Management of these late-joining municipalities will be handled through the Capital Region Emergency Preparedness Partnership (CREPP) under existing mutual aid partnerships. An application to the Alberta Community Partnership Fund Program requires Council approval.