

To: Administration & Finance Executive Committee
From: Tyler Moffitt, Fire Chief/CEMC
Date: June 28, 2018
Subject: Automatic Aid Agreement with Couchiching First Nation

Background

The Fort Frances Fire & Rescue Service is a member of the Rainy River District Mutual Aid Association. Mutual Aid is an agreement between participating municipalities in the Rainy River District that have established a fire department by-law.

This association is intended to provide voluntary reciprocal fire protection services to each other if the need arises. Presently, we can request Mutual Aid from Couchiching First Nation Fire Department for extra firefighters and pumper trucks, because we have firefighters and pumper trucks, and vice versa.

However, Couchiching First Nation Fire Department cannot request an aerial ladder truck, which Fort Frances Fire Rescue Service has, because Couchiching First Nation Fire Department does not have one.

Meanwhile, if the Couchiching First Nation Fire Department ever acquires a tanker truck that has the capacity of 1500 Imperial Gallons or greater (it may happen in the next year) ... the Fort Frances Fire Rescue Service could not request one, because we do not have one.

As well, both the Fort Frances Fire Rescue Service and the Couchiching Fire Department have Fire Protection Service Agreements with different facilities/groups situated on Couchiching First Nation and Agency One Land.

If either one of our Fire Services are called upon to respond to a fire at one of these facilities, and additional resources are needed ... Mutual Aid cannot be called because of the Fire Protection Agreements, which are in place with all of these individual facilities/groups.

Going forward, I would like to initiate the signing of an Automatic Aid Agreement with Couchiching First Nation, which will enable Couchiching First Nation Fire Department to request an Aerial Ladder Truck if the need arises and if at the time one can be provided. When the Couchiching First Nation Fire Department acquires a tanker truck that has the capacity of 1500 Imperial Gallons or greater ... it will enable us to request it ... if the need arises and if at the time one can be provided.

As well, it will enable either the Fort Frances Fire Rescue Service and Couchiching First Nation Fire Department the ability to request additional resources such as firefighters and fire apparatus if the need arises, and if at the time either fire service can provide them for fires/incidents at any of the facilities that are under a Fire Protection Agreement.

As well, the agreement will allow either fire service to return to their community at any time should the need arise.

Invoicing will be monthly and will be at the current MTO hourly rate per apparatus.

Attached is a Draft of the Automatic Aid Agreement, which needs to be reviewed, as well as necessary additions and/or changes made. The Fire Chief of Couchiching First Nation Fire Department will also be bringing forward the same recommendation to his respected chief and council.

Recommendation

That the Administration & Finance Executive Committee approves this report and directs Council to bring forward the resolution to proceed with initiating the future signing of an Automatic Aid Agreement with the Couchiching First Nation.

Respectfully submitted,



Tyler Moffitt Fire Chief/CEMC
Fort Frances Fire & Rescue Service