



COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

Date: November 28, 2023

From: Trevor Seibel, Deputy CAO

Subject: **Hometown Heroes Gear Dryer Award**

Report Prepared by: Jason Brolund, Fire Chief

RECOMMENDATION to Consider and Resolve:

THAT Council receives for information the report titled “Hometown Heroes Gear Dryer Award” from the Fire Chief, dated November 28, 2023.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Invest in Infrastructure – We will invest in building, improving and maintaining infrastructure to meet the needs of, and to provide a high quality of life for, current and future generations.

Foster Safety and Well-Being – We will pursue through direct action, advocacy, and collaboration with local and regional service providers, investments in community health, needs-based housing, emergency preparedness, policing, and other services that foster safety and well-being in West Kelowna.

BACKGROUND

West Kelowna Fire Rescue has been selected as the 2023 recipient of the RAM Air Dryer “Hometown Heroes” award. This award provides \$8,000 towards the purchase price (the full cost) of a RAM Air Firefighter Gear Dryer.

Gear dryers are designed to dry firefighters PPE quickly, safely and efficiently. This allows for more frequent wash cycles to rid gear of carcinogens and chemical components. Ram Air’s patented design uses powerful fans that push air through turnout gear from the inside out—effectively drying the hard to reach areas and vapor barriers in gear that are prone to mold and mildew if not dried properly.

Currently, PPE is air-dried at stations #32, #33 and #34. The addition of this dryer at Station #34 will speed the process of cleaning gear, getting it back into service quickly, efficiently, and safely for our ongoing recruit classes and firefighters assigned to that station.

The equipment is expected to be installed in early December, 2023.



RAM Air is a firefighter owned, Canadian company, based out of Winnipeg, Manitoba.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is not anticipated to be any additional costs associated with this equipment. It will connect to a standard electrical outlet.

REVIEWED BY

Warren Everton, Director of Finance / CFO

Corinne Boback, Legislative Services Manager / Corporate Officer

APPROVED FOR THE AGENDA BY

Trevor Seibel, Deputy CAO

Powerpoint: Yes ☐ No ☒

Attachments:
RAM Air Website