



COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

Date: March 14, 2023

From: Paul Gipps, CAO

Subject: **Regional Emergency Mutual Aid Agreement for Firefighting**

Report Prepared by: Jason Brolund, Fire Chief

RECOMMENDATION to consider and resolve:

THAT Council to authorize the Mayor and Corporate Officer to execute the Emergency Mutual Aid Agreement as attached to the report of the Fire Chief, dated March 14th, 2023.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Foster Safety and Well-Being – We will pursue through direct action, advocacy, and partnerships with Westbank First Nation and local 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

The Regional Mutual Aid agreement for firefighting is a key document in wildfire interface preparation, as well as providing assurances of support for other major fire events. The renewal of this document will allow continued support and cooperation among the fire departments in our region.

DISCUSSION

The previous five-year Mutual Aid agreement has expired as of February. This agreement includes all fire departments within the Central Okanagan. It allows for fire departments to share resources during major incidents. This support has been key in many of the local interface fires and provides for timely response.

The agreement is a simple renewal, with no changes proposed. It has taken the same form as 2 previous terms and functioned well during that time.

The agreement will be concurrently circulated to the City of Kelowna, Regional District of Central Okanagan, Peachland, and Lake Country for signature.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Generally, there is no cost associated with the Mutual Aid agreement, however, there is provision to recover costs if required.

REVIEWED BY

Brad Savoury, Director of Legal Services

Corinne Boback, Legislative Services Manager / Corporate Officer

Warren Everton, Director of Finance/CFO

APPROVED FOR THE AGENDA BY

Paul Gipps, CAO

PowerPoint: Yes No

Attachments:
2023 Regional Emergency Mutual Aid Agreement