1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(Added Items, if applicable, will be noted with *)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 January 22, 2018

4. DELEGATION REQUESTS

5. CONSENT ITEMS

5.1 Development Charge Rebate Program Expression of Interest
       (CES18011) (City Wide)

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS / DELEGATIONS

7. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

7.1 Hamilton Veteran's Committee - 2017 Annual Presentation
       (Tabled at the December 7, 2017 E&CS meeting)

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 Macassa Lodge - Long Term Care Quality Inspection (CES18002) (Ward 6)
9. MOTIONS

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

11. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 Outstanding Business List

11.1.a Items to be Removed

Item "BB" - Residential Care Facilities Subsidy Program (Addressed as Item 5.5 on the January 22, 2018 agenda)

11.1.b Items Requiring New Due Dates

Item "CC" - Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) Insurance Grading Review
Current Due Date: June 11, 2018
Proposed New Due Date: August 15, 2018

Item "UU" - Hamilton Youth Engagement Collaboration
Current Due Date: Q2 2018
Proposed New Due Date: June 11, 2018

Item "VV" - Home for Good
Current Due Date: TBD
Proposed New Due Date: May 7, 2018

Item "XX" - ACPD respecting Housing Issues
Current Due Date: TBD
Proposed New Due Date: June 11, 2018

12. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

13. ADJOURNMENT
Present: Councillors A. Johnson (Chair), J. Farr, M. Green, S. Merulla (Vice Chair), T. Jackson, D. Skelly, T. Whitehead and J. Partridge

Absent with Regrets: Councillor J. Partridge – City Business

Also in Attendance: Councillors D. Conley and M. Pearson

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. **Home for Good Local Funding Allocations (CES17042(b)) (City Wide) (Item 5.3)**

   (Green/Farr)
   That Report CES17042(b) respecting Home for Good Local Funding Allocations, be received.

   **CARRIED**

2. **Amendments to Housing Services Act, 2011 – Portable Housing Benefit Framework (CES18001) (City Wide) (Item 5.4)**

   (Whitehead/Jackson)
   That Report CES18001 respecting Amendments to Housing Services Act, 2011 – Portable Housing Benefit Framework, be received.

   **CARRIED**
3. Residential Care Facility Subsidy Program Waitlist (CES18003) (City Wide) (Item 5.5)

(Farr/Skelly)
That the current waitlist for the Residential Care Facility (RCF) Subsidy Program continue to be maintained.

CARRIED

4. Notre Dame Community Resource Centre (CES18005) (Ward 2) (Item 5.6)

(Jackson/Farr)
(a) That the Notre Dame House Community Resource Centre (CRC) provided through Good Shepherd Centre Hamilton receive annualized funding in the amount of $200,000 through the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI), effective April 1, 2018 until March 31, 2019; and,

(b) That, for the purposes of CHPI contractual funding, the Notre Dame House CRC be considered as part of the Notre Dame House Youth Emergency Shelter.

CARRIED

5. Resolution from the City of Welland re: Development of Provincial Legislation for Private Supportive Living Accommodations (CES18006) (City Wide) (Item 5.7)

(Jackson/Green)
That Report CES18006 respecting a Resolution from the City of Welland re: Development of Provincial Legislation for Private Supportive Living Accommodations, be received.

CARRIED

6. Co-ordinated Access System for Social Housing (CES14052(d)) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)

(Skelly/Jackson)
(a) That the Access-to-Housing system of coordinated social housing access be approved for direct service delivery effective April 1, 2018 through the Housing Services Division;

(b) That the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services be directed and authorized to notify Del Management Systems Inc., in writing, of the City’s decision not to renew the service agreement for the provision of the coordinated wait list service;

(c) That the Housing Services Division’s budgeted staff complement be increased by 4.5 permanent full-time equivalent positions, effective March 1, 2018, as follows:
(i) Three (3) Housing Administration Clerks (3 FTE) be approved and funded from the current net levy supported budget for wait list administration (Dept ID 624200) with no additional net levy impact to support the administrative and intake functions of the centralized wait list service;

(ii) One (1) Housing Support Worker (1 FTE) be approved and funded from the current net levy supported budget for the wait list administration (Dept ID 624200) with no additional net levy impact to support the enhancements and case management function to households accessing the wait list service or waiting for housing; and,

(iii) One (1) Supervisor, Housing Access & Supports (0.5 FTE) be approved and funded by converting an existing vacant 0.5 Housing Administration Officer position and by utilizing Social Infrastructure Fund administration dollars (6731640602) with no additional net levy impact to support the oversight of the administration of the centralized intake service and its integration with existing housing allowance and rent supplement programs;

(d) That the estimated capital costs of $1.1M that will be required for tenant fit-up renovations for any additional office space, as described in Report CES14052(d), be funded from the following 100% provincially funded programs with no additional levy impact;

(i) $700,000 from the Social Housing Reserve Fund (#112248);

(ii) $300,000 from the provincially funded Social Housing Improvement Program (SHIP) administration funding allocation;

(iii) $100,000 from the provincially funded 2018 Social Housing Apartment Improvement Program (SHARP) administration funding.

CARRIED

7. Urban Native Homes Incorporated – Management Plan Update (CES16024(a)) (Wards 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 9) (Item 8.2)

(Jackson/Green)

(a) That Council, in its capacity as Service Manager under the Housing Services Act, 2011, approve the request of Urban Native Homes Incorporated to transfer ownership and operation of its social housing assets to Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services, as set out in the Resolution of the Board of Directors of Urban Native Homes Incorporated, attached as Appendix A to Report CES16024(a);

(b) That the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services Department or his designate be authorized and directed to execute a new
operating agreement with Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, that reflects the change of ownership and operation of the former Urban Native Homes social housing portfolio and subsidy allocation, including participation in existing rent supplement programs, as summarized in Appendix B to Report CES16024(a);

(c) That the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services Department correspond with the Minister of Housing, and request that the transfer of social housing assets be exempt from land transfer taxes, in accordance with the provisions of the Housing Services Act, 2011 and forward a copy of Council’s resolution approving Recommendation (a) of Report CES16024(a) to the Ministry of Housing, as notification of:

(i) the transfer of ownership and operation of the social housing assets, as required under the Housing Services Act, 2011; and,

(ii) confirmation that, upon completion of the transfer of ownership and operations, Urban Native Homes’ “project in difficulty” designation is no longer in effect; and,

(d) That the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services Department or his designate be authorized and directed to provide any approvals or execute any documents, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, as may be necessary, to assist in the winding-down of Urban Native Homes Incorporated as an independent non-profit corporation.

CARRIED

8. McQuesten Urban Farm Farming and Community Engagement for the 2018 Season (CES17011(b)) (Ward 4) (Item 8.3)

(Green/Jackson)
That the scope of Contract C5-23-15 Farming Services for McQuesten Urban Farm with Plan B Organic Farms for the term February 7, 2018 to February 6, 2019 be expanded from $96,000 to $150,500 to be funded from the Maple Leaf Centre Action on Food Security grant in the amount of $125,500 and from the Neighbourhood Action Strategy Capital fund (#20551255204) in the amount of $25,000.

CARRIED

9. Social Housing Apartment Improvement Program (CES18004) (City Wide) (Item 8.4)

(Whitehead/Skelly)
(a) That the Social Housing Apartment Improvement Program (SHAIP) funds be deposited into Account # 000100-23194 "Prov Funding SHAIP" and applied accordingly;
(b) That the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services Department, or his designate, be authorized and directed to enter into a Transfer Payment Agreement with Her Majesty the Queen in right of the Province of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Housing, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;

(c) That capital project ID accounts be established for the program and administrative components respectively for the Social Housing Apartment Improvement Program; and,

(d) That the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services Department, or his delegate, be authorized and directed to approve and execute funding agreements with eligible housing providers, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, for funding allocated through the Social Housing Apartment Improvement Program.

CARRIED

10. Gateway Arena Purchase (CM18004/CES18008) (Ward 10) (Item 8.5)

(Jackson/Whitehead)
That staff be directed to decline the offer to purchase the Gateway Ice Centre.

CARRIED

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Committee Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda:

1. ADDED DELEGATION (Item 6)

   6.1 Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities respecting Housing Issues.

2. CORRECTION

   8.1 The Report should be CES14052(d) (but was listed on the agenda as CES14052(c)).

(Farr/Skelly)
That the Agenda for the January 22, 2018 meeting of the Emergency & Community Services Committee be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

None declared.
(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Item 3)

(i) December 7, 2017 (Item 3.1)

(Green/Jackson)
That the Minutes of the December 7, 2017 Emergency & Community Services Committee meeting be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 4)

(i) Calvin Cain and Sonia Brown respecting Negative Impact of the New Minimum Wage rate on Housing, Residential Care Facilities and Pending Growth (Item 4.1)

(Whitehead/Skelly)
That the Delegation Request from Calvin Cain and Sonia Brown respecting Negative Impact of the New Minimum Wage rate on Housing, Residential Care Facilities and Pending Growth, be approved for the January 22, 2018 meeting.

CARRIED

(ii) Tony Tollis, ADT Consulting, respecting the Possible Sale of the Gateway Arena, to be heard when the Committee considers Item 8.5 (Item 4.2)

(Jackson/Whitehead)
That the Delegation Request from Tony Tollis, ADT Consulting, respecting the Possible Sale of the Gateway Arena, be approved for the January 22, 2018 meeting.

CARRIED

Councillor Conley requested that Item 8.5, respecting the Gateway Arena Purchase, be moved up in the agenda.

(Whitehead/Farr)
That Item 8.5 be moved up in the agenda, to be heard after Item 5.6.

CARRIED

(iii) Alan Whittle, Good Shepherd Centre Hamilton, respecting the Notre Dame Community Resource Centre, to be heard when the Committee considers Item 5.6. (Item 4.3)

(Jackson/Green)
That the Delegation Request from Alan Whittle, Good Shepherd Centre Hamilton, respecting the Notre Dame Community Resource Centre, be heard when the Committee considers Item 5.6, be approved for the January 22, 2018 meeting.
(e) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 5)

(i) Hamilton Veterans Committee Minutes – October 24, 2017 (Item 5.1)

(Whitehead/Skelly)
That the Minutes of the Hamilton Veterans Committee dated October 24, 2017, be received.

CARRIED

(ii) Seniors Advisory Committee Minutes (Item 5.2(a) and (b))

(Jackson/Whitehead)
That the Seniors Advisory Committee Minutes dated November 3, 2017 (Item 5.2(a)) and December 1, 2017 (Item 5.2(b)), be received.

CARRIED

(f) PUBLIC HEARINGS / DELEGATIONS (Item 6)

(i) Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities respecting Housing Issues (Item 6.1)

Kim Nolan and Tom Manzuk, Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities (ACPD), addressed the Committee respecting Housing Issues.

(Merulla/Skelly)
That City Staff be directed to report back to the Emergency & Community Services (E&CS) Committee on the following points raised by the Delegation:

(a) That ACPD be allowed to review the staff report and provide comment to the E&CS Committee prior to any action being taken by Committee or Council;

(b) That the matter of persons who experience injury and hospitalization and have few or no accessible housing options upon discharge from a hospital or rehabilitation facility, should be addressed;

(c) That solutions for persons with disabilities coming to study in post-secondary schools in Hamilton, who have limited to no accessible housing options, are needed; and,

(d) That the City investigate the possibility of expanding accessible housing options for persons with disabilities in a way that makes economic growth and development the same for all persons regardless of ability.

CARRIED
(Jackson/Green)
That the Delegation from Kim Nolan and Tom Manzuk, Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities, respecting Housing Issues, be received.

CARRIED

(ii) Calvin Cain and Sonia Brown respecting Negative Impact of the New Minimum Wage rate on Housing, Residential Care Facilities and Pending Growth (Item 6.2)

Calvin Cain and Sonia Brown, addressed the Committee respecting the Negative Impact of the New Minimum Wage rate on Housing, Residential Care Facilities and Pending Growth.

(Farr/Skelly)
That the Delegation from Calvin Cain and Sonia Brown, respecting Negative Impact of the New Minimum Wage rate on Housing, Residential Care Facilities and Pending Growth, be received.

CARRIED

(iii) Tony Tollis, ADT Consulting, respecting the Possible Sale of the Gateway Arena (Item 6.3)

Tony Tollis, ADT Consulting, addressed the Committee respecting the Possible Sale of the Gateway Arena.

(Jackson/Whitehead)
That the Delegation from Tony Tollis, ADT Consulting, respecting the Possible Sale of the Gateway Arena, be received.

CARRIED

(Jackson/Whitehead)
That staff be directed to investigate the feasibility of Report CM18004/CES18008’s Alternative Option: Rent Ice from Gateway, and report back to the Emergency & Community Services Committee on the potential advantages, disadvantages and ramifications of proceeding with this option.

CARRIED

For further disposition of this matter, please refer to Item 10.

(iv) Brother Richard MacPhee, Good Shepherd Centre Hamilton, respecting the Notre Dame Community Resource Centre (Item 6.4)

Brother Richard MacPhee, Good Shepherd Centre Hamilton, addressed the Committee respecting the Notre Dame Community Resource Centre.
(Jackson/Whitehead)
That the Delegate be granted an extension to the five minute speaking rule, and be allowed to speak for ten minutes.

CARRIED

(Green/Whitehead)
That the Delegation from Brother Richard MacPhee, Good Shepherd Centre Hamilton, respecting the Notre Dame Community Resource Centre, be received.

CARRIED

(g) GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS (Item 11)

(i) Outstanding Business List – Items to be Removed (Item 11.1)

(a) Item “G” – Co-ordinated Access System for Social Housing
(Addressed as Item 8.1)

(b) Item “AA” – Resolution from the City of Welland re: the Development of Provincial Legislation requiring Registration, Licensing and Setting Provincial Standards for Private Supportive Living Accommodations
(Addressed as Item 5.7)

(c) Item “EE” – Gateway Arena Purchase
(Addressed as Item 8.5)

(h) ADJOURNMENT (Item 13)

(Farr/Green)
That, there being no further business, the Emergency & Community Services Committee be adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor S. Merulla
Chair, Emergency & Community Services Committee

Lisa Chamberlain
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk
TO: Chair and Members
   Emergency & Community Services Committee

COMMITTEE DATE: February 12, 2018

SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Development Charge Rebate Program Expression of Interest
   (CES18011) (City Wide)

WARD(S) AFFECTED: City Wide

PREPARED BY: Kirstin Maxwell 905-546-2424 ext. 3846
              Greg Witt 905-546-2424 ext. 4818

SUBMITTED BY: Vicki Woodcox
               Acting Director, Housing Services
               Community and Emergency Services Department

SIGNATURE:

RECOMMENDATION

That staff be directed to submit an expression of interest to the Minister of Housing
indicating the City of Hamilton’s interest in participating in the Ontario Development
Charges Rebate Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On January 9, 2018, the Ministry of Housing issued an Expression of Interest (EOI) to
invite municipalities to indicate their interest in participating in the Ontario Development
Charges Rebate Program. Responses to the EOI are due on March 2, 2018.

The Ontario Development Charges Rebate Program is one of the initiatives under the
provincial Fair Housing Plan to increase supply of purpose-built market rental housing in
Ontario. Under the program, eligible market rental housing developments would receive
a rebate of development charges collected by municipalities. The program would be
administered by municipalities and target priority projects in communities that are most
in need of new purpose-built rental housing. This program is not intended to be an
affordable housing program, but to incent the development of market rental housing.

The program will allocate up to a total of $125M over five years across the Province,
starting with $25M in 2018 to 2019. Municipalities submitting an EOI are not guaranteed
to receive funding through the program. Results of the EOI will be communicated in the
spring of 2018, and the funding will be committed for 2018-2019, 2019-2020, and 2020-
2021.
Staff are in the process of preparing an EOI to submit to the Ministry of Housing. The work is being led by the Housing Services Division in collaboration with the Planning and Economic Development Department and the Financial Planning, Administration & Policy Division. The elements to be addressed by the EOI are listed in Appendix A to Report CES18011.

The purpose of this report is to:

1. Inform Council of the Ontario Development Charges Rebate Program; and,
2. Obtain Council approval to submit an EOI for the program.

Alternatives for Consideration – Not Applicable

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: There are no financial implications associated with Report CES18011.

Staffing: If the EOI is successful, additional staff resources would be required to administer the Development Charges Rebate Program. Staff will seek Council approval for any new FTEs. These staff resources would be supported by the administration fees of up to 5% of the program costs provided by the Province.

Legal: There are no legal implications associated with Report CES18011.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

On January 9, 2018, the Ministry of Housing issued an Expression of Interest (EOI) to invite municipalities to indicate their interest in participating in the Ontario Development Charges Rebate Program. Responses to the EOI are due on March 2, 2018.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

The Urban Hamilton Official Plan

Based on targets in the City’s Urban Hamilton Official Plan and 10-year Housing & Homelessness Action Plan, 629 new purpose built rental units are needed annually to keep pace with projected growth. This target hasn’t been met since it was set.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

This report was prepared by the Housing Services Division in collaboration with the Planning and Economic Development Department and the Financial Planning, Administration & Policy Division.
Given the tight timeline for submitting a response to the EOI staff will be consulting with the following tables/organizations regarding the EOI submission and proposed program details:

- The Housing and Homelessness Planning Group (January 26, 2018)
- The Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee (by email due to meeting timing)
- Development Industry Liaison Group

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Ontario Development Charges Rebate Program is an initiative under the provincial Fair Housing Plan designed to increase supply of purpose-built market rental housing in Ontario. Under the program, eligible market rental housing developments would receive a rebate of development charges collected by municipalities. The program would be administered by municipalities and target priority projects in communities most in need of new purpose-built rental housing. This is not intended to be an affordable housing program, but to incent the development of market rental housing.

The program will allocate up to a total of $125M over five years across the Province, starting with $25M in 2018 to 2019. Municipalities submitting an EOI are not guaranteed to receive funding through the program. Results of the EOI will be communicated in the spring of 2018, and the funding will be committed for 2018-2019, 2019-2020, and 2020-2021.

Municipalities were invited to submit an EOI to the Development Charges Rebate Program based on three qualifying criteria:

- A vacancy rate of 3% or less (Hamilton’s latest reported vacancy rate is 2.6%), or
- High tenant population with 20% or more of all households being rental households. (27.4% of Hamilton’s households are renters)
- Municipalities with opportunities to approve rental housing developments within an approximate 500-800 metre radius of a major transit station area (MTSA). MTSA includes commuter rail (i.e. GO Transit), subway, light rail or bus rapid transit.

Hamilton qualifies for the program under all of these criteria.

The City currently provides exemptions of municipal and Go Transit development charges and parkland dedication/cash-in-lieu fees for eligible affordable housing projects participating in affordable housing programs as outlined in clause 21 (f) of By-law No. 14-153, clause 17 b) of By-law No. 11-174 and clause 11 (7) of By-law No. 09-
124. However, these exemptions apply only to affordable projects and there are other restrictions.

The Development Charges Rebate Program cannot be used to replace any existing municipal incentives with respect to rental housing supply so could not be used to offset the development charge exemptions for affordable housing noted above.

A Made in Hamilton Development Charges Rebate Program

There are a number of program parameters that have been set by the Ministry of Housing which include the following:

- Projects must be consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and conform to the Growth Plan
- Projects must align with other provincial priorities and lead to net new additional public good (i.e., rental housing, family-sized units, senior-friendly, close to transit, and transit hubs).

There are several elements of the Development Charges Rebate Program that are to be determined for the local context by municipalities, and will comprise the substance of Hamilton’s EOI submission. These include:

1. The maximum rent threshold for qualification under the program:
   The Ministry of Housing has set a maximum of 175% of average market rent as the upper limit for the program, but municipalities may choose to set a lower rent threshold. The maximum rent threshold is one of the elements staff will be consulting on.

   While greater housing affordability is always better as it can serve more vulnerable residents, the economics of rental housing development is such that development charges rebates are insufficient on their own to make the development of rental housing in Hamilton financially viable below a certain rent threshold. A pro forma analysis done for the City in 2016 shows that development charge rebates alone are insufficient to make the development of rental housing rented at 125% of average market rent financially viable. To achieve rents of 125% of average market rent, parkland dedication fee and property tax exemptions would be required in addition to development charge exemptions. For lower rents than 125% of average market rent, substantial capital contributions by the City would be required. Report CES17017 contains additional details on the pro forma analysis.

   As additional municipal capital incentives are not being proposed at this time, Hamilton must be cautious about lowering the provincial rent threshold of 175% of average market rent. Reducing the rent threshold too far would risk there...
being no rental housing built and no uptake of the Development Charges Rebate Program in Hamilton.

2. Geographical boundaries for the program:
The City can choose where the Development Charges Rebate Program would be available. Financial viability of projects must also be a key consideration for this program element, taking into account relative land costs and projected rents. This element will be a subject for consultation. Potential options include:

- The entire city
- Limiting the Development Charges Rebate Program to the nodes and corridors to support land use planning goals
- Limiting the program to major transit station areas

3. The amount of the development charge rebate under the program:
The Development Charges Rebate Program allows municipalities to determine whether the full amount of development charges are to be rebated or just a portion. Given the financial realities of rental housing development in Hamilton as noted above, the maximum incentive is required to make rental projects financially viable, so staff propose that the full amount of development charges be rebated.

4. The timing of the rebate, though development charges must first be paid:
The timing of the development charge rebate will be a subject for the consultation.

5. The built form of eligible rental housing developments (i.e., high-rises, mid-rises, and/or townhouses):
Single-detached, semi-detached, triplexes and retirement homes are not eligible. The built form of eligible rental housing developments will be a subject for the consultation.

6. The size of eligible rental units:
The size of eligible rental units will be a subject for the consultation.

7. The period the units must remain rental, though the minimum period for the program is 20 years:
The period the units must remain rental will be a subject for the consultation.

The Province encourages municipalities to provide additional municipal incentives to the Development Charges Rebate Program; however, staff are not proposing that Hamilton provide incentives as part of this EOI submission. Thus, there will be no financial impact on the City of participating in the Ontario Development Charges Rebate Program.
Staff will report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee on the results of the EOI.

**ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION**

Not Applicable

**ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN**

**Community Engagement & Participation**

*Hamilton has* an open, transparent and accessible approach to City government that engages with and empowers all citizens to be involved in their community.

**Healthy and Safe Communities**

*Hamilton is* a safe and supportive city where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

**Built Environment and Infrastructure**

*Hamilton is* supported by state of the art infrastructure, transportation options, buildings and public spaces that create a dynamic City.

**APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

Appendix A to Report CES18011: Expression of Interest Submission Outline
Expression of Interest Submissions

Municipalities must include the following in their Expression of Interest submissions:

- Need and vision for market rental housing in their communities, and any alignment with municipality’s land use planning and housing policies;

- How the Development Charges Rebate Program will help increase rental housing in their communities and/or what public good will be created;

- Capacity to administer the program, along with ongoing monitoring and reporting, and whether there is an intention to designate program administration to a housing Service Manager, to submit an EOI and administer the program on the municipality’s behalf;

- Any current incentives the municipality provides to encourage construction of market rental housing in their communities;

- Incentives the municipality is willing to apply to market rental developments and units receiving provincial rebates under the program;

- Examples of potential purpose-built market rental developments or units expected to qualify for funding over the five years, if possible;

- Indicate if the municipality would be setting a lower AMR threshold for non-luxury market rental units different from provincial threshold of 175% AMR;

- Whether the municipality plans to use the funding to provide rebates covering the full amount of the development charges they collect or partial rebates, as well if these would vary on a on a site-by-site basis;

- Current and proposed mechanisms (e.g., bylaws restricting conversions) that the municipality would use to ensure that a development receiving rebate funding under the program remains rental; and

- How much funding municipalities anticipate would be needed for this program on an annual basis for each of the five fiscal years, starting in 2018-19 (municipalities can choose to identify funding requirements only for certain years).
For the 2015-2018 term of Council, citizens applied and were appointed through the City of Hamilton Citizen Volunteer Committee selection process.

This is the first time citizens could apply as a member-at-large.

- David Steckham, Chair
- Ed Sculthorpe, Vice-Chair
- Marko Babic, Geordie Elms, Dan Muir, Rod Paddon, Art Tompkins, Kevin Ellis
- Councillor Brenda Johnson, Councillor Robert Pasuta
- Resource members: Robert Fyfe, Fern Viola
Hamilton Veterans Committee

Mandate (approved June 14, 2017)

- Reporting to Council, the Hamilton Veterans Committee oversees the planning and delivery of military remembrance and commemoration activities on behalf of the City of Hamilton. When directed by Council, the Committee will provide input on projects and issues that are of concern to Hamilton Veterans. e.g. Veteran parking, Monuments and Cenotaphs and Veterans’ Field of Honour.

- Assist in the coordination of significant Veteran’s commemorative events for the City of Hamilton.

- Maximize the Engagement of Youth
Hamilton Veterans Committee

Remembrance Day & Memorial Services

- Provide direction and coordination for the Hamilton Remembrance Day Parade and Service, and Decoration Day Memorial Services.
- Communicate with all Hamilton Veterans groups: the Order of Service, Parade Orders, volunteer dignitaries, i.e. Saluting Officer, Clergy, etc.
- Work with community citizens and local organizations as they assist in the coordination of Remembrance Day.
- Provide assistance (logistical, etc.) to specific events, (e.g. Dieppe Memorial Service)
Previous and Ongoing Projects

- Provide approval for any use of Hamilton Cenotaph and Veteran’s Place at Gore Park
- Advocated for free parking for all Hamilton Veterans
- Completed the Commemorative naming of James Street North and South as “Veterans Way of Remembrance”
- Continuing support of “Art Crawl Remembers”
Hamilton Veterans Committee

Future Goals

To continue to work with all Veterans organizations from across the City, in an effort to stand together as one collective voice representing all the Veterans of the City of Hamilton.

To further engage and educate the youth of our city on the sacrifices made by Veterans to secure their future.

To Succeed Together

Strong representation from Hamilton Veterans Committee members.
Hamilton Veterans Committee

Would Like to Thank

The Hamilton City Council.

- For its approval this year, of the changes this committee requested to the issue of parking for Veterans.
- For its HSR waiver for buses chartered for HVC hosted events.
- For its continuous support of Veterans related issues.
Mr. Robert Fyfe, a former member of the Royal Canadian Navy and a retired firefighter of thirty-one years with the Hamilton Fire Department. Mr. Fyfe stayed very involved with the community in retirement. He has been a member of numerous groups, including the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry Veterans Association Band, the Toronto Signals Trumpet Band. He has personally performed the Last Post at numerous ceremonies in Hamilton, and on two occasions, on the beaches of Dieppe, France in 1992 and 1997. Mr. Fyfe has also been active in Veterans’ organizations in Hamilton. He is a long-standing member and past president of the United Council of Veterans in Hamilton. He recently stepped down as the chairperson of the City of Hamilton’s Veterans Committee.
EISAN, William (Bill) Peacefully passed away on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at the Hamilton General Hospital in his 99th year. Predeceased by his wife Helen and son Robert. Loving father of Penny and Fred Lord, William Jr. and Helen, Linda and Larry Angeline. Proud grandfather and great-grandfather of many children. He will be fondly remembered by his many other family members and friends. Bill was a Veteran of WW II and the Korean War. He was a longtime member of Br. 58 Legion where he served as Capt. of the Drill Team. He was very active in Legion responsibilities and Veterans Affairs. He was a longtime member of the City of Hamilton’s Veterans Committee.
Hamilton Veterans Committee

Thank You
INFORMATION REPORT

TO: Chair and Members
Emergency and Community Services Committee

COMMITTEE DATE: February 12, 2018

SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Macassa Lodge - Long Term Care Quality Inspection (CES18002) (Ward 6)

WARD(S) AFFECTED: Ward 6

PREPARED BY: Shawn Gadsby 905-546-2800 ext. 1900

SUBMITTED BY: Paul Johnson
General Manager
Healthy and Safe Communities Department

SIGNATURE: Council Direction:
Not Applicable

Information:
The Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) is responsible for legislating, regulating, evaluating and funding care and service provided within the 629 Long Term Care (LTC) Homes across the province of Ontario.

On July 1, 2010, the new Long Term Care Homes Act (LTCH Act) was enacted. This Act, and its associated Ontario Regulations 79/10, included a requirement that all LTC Homes have an annual inspection. Annual inspections had been a requirement under the previous iteration of legislation but the new system was intended to herald a more transparent, comprehensive and resident focused approach. These new inspections, known as Resident Quality Inspections, or RQIs, are based on an American survey system with modifications to reflect the unique needs of Ontario and to align with the LTCH Act.

On November 10, 14, 15 and 16, 2017, Macassa Lodge participated in its fourth unannounced RQI under the LTCH Act and its Ontario Regulation 79/10. The RQI was completed over four days by three Compliance Inspectors. In addition inspectors reviewed selected Reports from the Critical Incident System submitted by the Lodge in 2016 and 2017 to the Ministry of Health Long Term Care.
Subject: Macassa Lodge - Long Term Care Quality Inspection (CES18002)  
(Ward 6) - Page 2 of 3

Summary of 2017 RQI Results at Macassa Lodge:

On November 29, 2017, staff received a Licensee copy of the Macassa Lodge Annual RQI (Resident Quality Inspection). The information provided was for internal use only and a public copy has been provided to Macassa Lodge. The public report was shared with Resident and Family Councils and has been posted in the Home for public viewing as per the Ministry’s directive. It was also uploaded by the Ministry to their website for full public access.

These unannounced yearly visits are intended to evaluate our compliance with the LTC Homes Act and its associated Regulations with the overarching goal of ensuring quality resident care. In essence, the Ministry determines our report card through a decision matrix based on a graduated scale. The Inspectors in their matrix will consider the Severity of the issue, the Scope of the issue and the Compliance History of the area of concern. Written Notifications are observations and suggest the issue is not significant in Severity, Scope or History. If an issue has some significance in one of the three areas then it is probable that staff will be asked to develop a Voluntary Plan of Correction. A Compliance Order indicates a higher level of concern and allows for the Ministry to establish a completion date for the Home to become fully compliant.

Macassa Lodge was provided with an inspection report which includes one Compliance Order (CO) and identified a total of 8 Written Notifications (WN) including 6 Voluntary Plan of Correction (VPC), which is consistent with the provincial average for findings related to the RQI.

The Compliance Order (includes 1 WN) is related to our skin and wound care protocol and our application of our policy. A number of action items have been undertaken to address any immediate outstanding items as well as a longer term plan to ensure sustained compliance. Our target date for full compliance is February 2, 2018.

Other areas identified in the inspection include Safe and Secure Home, Plan of Care, Compliance with Internal Policies, Safe Storage of Drugs, Medication Incidents, and Powers of Resident Council. The Safe and Secure Home relates to a dining area servery being unsecure. The Plan of Care, Medication Incidents and Powers of Resident Council identifies areas in the clarity of documentation in our processes or direction to staff. Compliance with Internal Policies identified that annual heights were not completed for all Residents. The Safe Storage of Drugs found treatment creams were not fully secure in two circumstances. Appendix A to Report CES18002 provides more information regarding the findings and our corrective plan of action.

In summary, staff are pleased with the outcomes of the MOHLTC Resident Quality Inspection. Inspectors indicated that Macassa Lodge was an excellent home with very helpful and caring staff. Quality improvement has long been a focus for the Lodges and

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staff has annually gathered resident and family satisfaction data to direct and evaluate their efforts with very excellent results. In our 2017 survey at Macassa Lodge our overall resident satisfaction was 96.5%. Staff continues to be very committed to providing a high standard of quality care to the residents and their families at Macassa Lodge.

Appendices and Schedules Attached

Appendix A to Report CES18002: Ministry of Health and Long Term Care 2017 Resident Quality Inspection – Macassa Lodge
### MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LONG TERM CARE 2014 RESIDENT QUALITY INSPECTION – 2017 Macassa Lodge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RQI Finding</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| CO#001, WN# 1 2017_689586_0010 | Skin and Wound Program must include policies and practices to ensure altered skin integrity is identified, treated and evaluated using an interdisciplinary approach  
  a. Two residents did not have initial wound assessments documented as per policy  
  b. Two residents with altered skin integrity were not referred to the Registered Dietitian as per policy  
  c. Two residents with altered skin integrity did not have a weekly wound reassessment documented | 1. Quality Improvement project initiated in December 2017 with assistance from Manager of Quality, Nursing Leadership, Nurse Practitioner, Director of Food Services and Skin & Wound Committee  
  2. Review of Compliance Report with all levels of Nursing Team via Newsletter  
  3. Compliance Report reviewed in staff meetings  
  4. Reallocation of RPN resources in Feb 2018 to provide more focus on documentation  
  5. Enrolled in LTC Clinical Supports Program in partnership with AdvantAge and MOHLTC; focus area for Lodge will be Skin & Wound Program  
  6. New Audit program to begin in January 2018 |
| WN#2 VPC#1 – Safe and Secure Home | Policies are implemented to ensure that the Home is a safe and secure environment for its residents  
  a. One neighbourhood servery was not | 1. Review with Department Leads to increase monitoring and audit efforts  
  2. Review with staff in team |
secured appropriately; within this non-secure area there was an unlocked cupboard with cleaning products stored. Additionally there is a hot water machine which could pose a risk to residents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WN#3 VPC#2 - Plan of Care</th>
<th>A written plan of care for each resident is developed and documented to set out the planned care for the resident</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a. Resident with dementia had an identified risk for fall; plan of care did not include documented direction to remind resident not to self-transfer. Intervention was occurring in practice but the intervention was not included in the care plan. The intervention has little risk reduction benefit to resident given her dementia but it is part of our routine standard of care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b. One resident was found to be sitting on the toilet without staff supervision. Resident plan of care outlined supervision for toileting. Potential risk to resident.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c. One resident was seated in a tilt wheelchair; plan of care had not been sufficiently updated to include this intervention. No risk to resident</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| WN#4 VPC#3 - Compliance with Internal Policies | A weight monitoring system to measure and record each resident’s body mass index and height are to be completed on admission and annually thereafter. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>meetings and Annual Mandatory Training</th>
<th>1. Review with all staff during Annual Mandatory Training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Consider and explore streamlining documentation tasks within context of LTCH Act. Care plan continues to be an antiquated process despite electronic options.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Ongoing audits continue but should anticipate given volume and complexity of documentation that this issue will continue to be identified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. This Written Notification is the most often cited during RQIs across the province in LTC Homes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 1. Consultation between Director of Nursing and Director of Food Services to review policy | 1. Consultation between Director of Nursing and Director of Food Services to review policy |
| WN#5 VPC#4 – Plan of Care | a. Annual resident heights had not been measured and documented as per internal policy | 2. Modified workers have completed the heights in December 2017  
3. Food Services Leadership in consultation with Registered Dietitian will review expectations and policy  
4. Monitor and audit compliance in 2018 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| WN#6 VPC#5 - Safe Storage of Drugs | A plan of care must be based on, at a minimum, interdisciplinary assessment of the following with respect to the resident: Skin condition, including altered skin integrity and foot conditions  
   a. Two residents with skin conditions did not have a written plan of care | 1. Action plan is outlined in WN #1 and #4  
2. Compliance Inspectors have an obligation to outline any deficiency in all applicable regulations and standards. This leads to duplication of findings in Compliance Report |
| WN#7 VPC#6 – Medication Incidents and Adverse Drug Reactions | Drugs are stored in a secure and locked area or medication cart  
   a. An unlocked treatment cart with medicated creams was found in an open room used by nursing staff but potentially accessible to residents  
   b. An open linen cart used by PSWs had a non-secure basket containing medicated creams | 1. Review current practice for storage and use of medicated creams  
2. Ongoing audits  
3. Review policy with all direct care staff at Annual Mandatory Training  
4. Consultation with Rexall Pharmacy to redevelop Medication Incident Report form  
5. Review revised form with other stakeholders |
as needed, Director of Nursing, Medical Director, prescribing Physician and Pharmacy provider.

a. Three medication incident reports were completed and lacked sufficient documentation that all requirements were met

| WN#8 VPC#7 – Powers of Residents’ Council | When Residents’ Council advises the Home of concerns or recommendations the Home will respond in writing within 10 days of receipt of the concerns | Registered Staff in January 2018 and at Annual Mandatory Training
3. Audit program to be revised in February 2018 |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| a. Concerns identified in two Residents’ Council meetings were not responded to in writing within the expected timelines. | 1. Review process for gathering and responding to Residents’ Council concerns or recommendations
2. Audit compliance related to written responses to Council | |
TO: Chairs and Members  
Emergency & Community Services Committee

COMMITTEE DATE: February 12, 2018

SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Hamilton Fire Department – Ice Rescue (CES18010) (City Wide)

WARD(S) AFFECTED: City Wide

PREPARED BY: John Verbeek 905-546-2424 Ext. 7120

SUBMITTED BY: Dave Cunliffe  
Chief, Hamilton Fire Department  
Community and Emergency Services Department

SIGNATURE: 

RECOMMENDATION

(a) That a tri-service ice rescue response unit consisting of resources from the Hamilton Fire Department, Hamilton Police Service and the Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit be developed to facilitate the most effective, timely and safe ice rescue response in and around the City of Hamilton;

(b) That the development, training and equipping of the tri-service unit be completed prior to December 31, 2019;

(c) That the applicable start-up costs in the amount of approximately $200,000 for the Hamilton Fire Department to participate in the ice rescue response unit be submitted by the Hamilton Fire Department for consideration of Council as part of the 2019 Capital Budget process; and,

(d) That the Fire Chief work with the applicable City staff to develop the necessary changes to the Fire Department Establishing and Regulating By-law 68-34, to authorize the Fire Department to perform shore based/on ice rescue services, for approval by Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the meeting on February 10, 2016 Council approved the following motion regarding Ice Rescue Services:

That the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services be directed to report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee with respect to
the feasibility of the Hamilton Fire Service assuming from the Hamilton Police Service, the Ice Rescue service.

The City of Hamilton has a unique combination of bodies of water within and in close proximity to its borders that are used for commercial, recreational, agricultural and environmental protection purposes. These bodies of water include but are not limited to; Lake Ontario, Hamilton Harbour, Cootes Paradise, various Conservation Areas in Stoney Creek, Glenbrook and Flamborough, small lakes and ponds and the many creeks and various water retention ponds across the City. With the use of these waterfront areas and Conservation properties during the winter months there is a greater probability of incidents to occur due to the increased level of popularity of outdoor activities and with the current and future increase in the use of the bay front areas. Ice water rescue responses are a low frequency call however the consequences/risks associated with these calls is extremely high as time is critical when dealing with victims that may be suffering from hypothermia. Information from the Hamilton Police Marine Unit identified that they responded to and conducted two ice water rescues in 2017.

Currently there are two organizations within the City that provide ice rescue response services. Those organizations are the Hamilton Police Service and the Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit. Prior to amalgamation, no Fire Departments in the former Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth provided ice water rescue services and currently, the Hamilton Fire Department does not provide this service.

The Hamilton Police Service Marine Unit is comprised of four full-time members who operate in two teams of two Officers. During the winter months, the Marine Unit Officers work 7am – 7pm, Monday through Saturday and 8am – 4pm on Sunday. If an incident occurs, the two Marine Officers will respond, however no additional trained personnel are paged or called in. If an incident occurs outside of the hours in which Marine Officers are working, these Officers are not on call or on standby, thus identifying a gap in resources to respond to an incident should one occur. A May 2013 Hamilton Police Service report identified some key concerns with respect to training and a concern regarding the limited staff resources available to provide ice water rescue services in a consistent, timely and safe manner throughout the City. This report identified estimated response times to various Conservation Areas across the City ranging from 25 minutes to 60 minutes. Background information on the Hamilton Police Service is included in Appendix A to Report CES18010.

The Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit provides limited year round rescue capabilities to Lake Ontario as an auxiliary Coast Guard unit. These volunteers are paged and then respond to their station and/or dock locations located on Hamilton’s Beach Strip, where they mobilize the necessary resources for the incident they are being dispatched to. The
Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit estimates that it would take between 30 minutes and one hour for their team to be ready for deployment to a scene.

To mitigate the current and potential risk, the optimization and utilization of the three services (Hamilton Fire Department, Hamilton Police Service and Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit) resources is being recommended for implementation. This joint tri-service ice rescue response unit would be able to provide a more consistent, timely and safe response. The Hamilton Police Service and Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit would maintain their existing resources and level of deployment for ice rescue and Hamilton Fire Department resources would be trained to be able to provide shore based/on ice rescue. Shore based/on ice rescue involves the use of an inflatable rapid deployment craft that is tethered to the shore during deployment. Personnel outfitted in special thermal insulated wet suits and specialized equipment (also tethered by a rope secured on shore) then walk/slide/float out on the ice to the individual(s) in distress.

The addition of Hamilton Fire Department resources trained to provide shore based/on ice rescue services would:

- Allow Fire Department personnel to be strategically deployed from five current Fire Station locations (both Full Time and Volunteer) within the City, to fill the response gaps (based on the Police Marine Unit’s deployment from their Harbour Front location) currently identified and improve response times.
- Ensure that the minimum staffing levels required to safely execute a shore based/on ice rescue would be available when needed.

The recommendation of a tri-service ice rescue response unit will involve no changes to the staffing of all three services or to the financial obligations of either the Hamilton Police Service or the Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit. Initial start-up costs for the Hamilton Fire Department to be able to participate in ice rescue response, including both training and equipment would be approximately $200,000. This capital cost would be submitted by the Hamilton Fire Department for consideration by Council as part of the 2019 Capital Budget process.

Ice rescue and specifically in water ice water rescue is extremely dangerous. Recent fatalities during ice water rescue training led to a Coroner’s Inquest being held in 2017. On May 25, 2017, the Coroner’s Jury released its verdict which included 15 recommendations that included placing in abeyance all training exercises for ice/cold water rescue. The Coroner’s Jury Recommendations is included as Appendix B to Report CES18010.

The Province of Ontario has adopted these recommendations and as a result all training programs of ice/cold water rescue have been put in abeyance until such time as new curriculum and training standards can be created and agreed upon by stakeholders.
Based on recent information received from the Ontario Fire Marshal’s Office, there has been progress in developing new curriculum and there could be an end to the moratorium sometime in 2018. Until the moratorium is lifted, training of Hamilton Fire Department staff cannot be planned or implemented. It would therefore be expected that with the necessary funding approvals and the availability of the applicable training courses, this joint tri-service ice rescue response unit would not be operational until December 31, 2019.

Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 10

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial:
The initial start up costs to train and equip Fire Department personnel is approximately $200,000. These costs would be submitted as part of the 2019 Capital Budget process for consideration by Council. Ongoing equipment replacement costs would be built into future capital equipment replacement budgets. Ongoing training costs would be built into the overall Departmental training program and would be absorbed within the annual operating budget.

Initial Training Costs
These costs are based on the training of personnel from five fire stations (two career stations – 40 fire fighters and three volunteer stations – 75 fire fighters) to ensure 24/7 coverage and timely response to all areas of the City.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAINING COURSE</th>
<th>COST PER PERSON</th>
<th>TOTAL COST (115 FIREFIGHTERS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Awareness Level Course</td>
<td>$35</td>
<td>$4,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations Level Course</td>
<td>$395</td>
<td>$45,425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technician Level Course</td>
<td>$395</td>
<td>$45,425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$94,875</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructors Level Course</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 day course for 6 firefighters only</td>
<td>$750</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$99,375</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Initial Equipment Costs
These costs are based equipment needs for five fire stations (two career stations and three volunteer stations) with sufficient equipment for five personnel from each station.
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### EQUIPMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EQUIPMENT</th>
<th>COST (each)</th>
<th>TOTAL COST (5 STATIONS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ice Water Rescue Personal Protective Suits</strong></td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$37,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mustang Ice Commander Pro Suits (25 suits)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rescue Sling Kit</strong></td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Includes Tether Haul Kit, Ice Picks x 2, Sling Collar and a Rescue Board (5 Kits))</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fortuna Rapid Deployment Sled</strong></td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5 Sleds)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rescue Tethers and Carabiners</strong></td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$3,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(25 of each)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Floating Rescue Rope – 300’</strong></td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 ropes per station (10 in total)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rescue Knives, Helmets and Cleats</strong></td>
<td>$180</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(25 needed)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$94,750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Approximate Overall cost: $99,375 (training) + $94,750 (equipment) = $194,125.

Any annual costs associated with ongoing training and equipment replacement would be covered within annual operating budgets. All pricing does not include HST. With taxes rounded up the cost will be approximately $200,000.

**Staffing:**

No additional staffing requirements are necessary for the Hamilton Fire Department, Hamilton Police Department and the Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit relative to the delivery of ice rescue response.

**Legal:**

There will need to be an amendment to By-law 68-34 (Hamilton Fire Department Establishing and Regulating By-law) to enable and authorize the Hamilton Fire Department to perform additional duties related to shore based/on ice rescue.

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

The Hamilton Fire Department has provided specialized rescue services including shore based water rescue, confined space rescue, high angle rope rescue and hazardous material response for approximately 30 years. These are in addition to our standard emergency response, fire protection and prevention services. The Hamilton Fire Department does not provide any in water rescue services or any ice rescue services. Current equipment utilized for shore based water rescue includes a throw bag (small bag with a length of floating rope inside), other floats including ring buoys and jim buoys.
or an inflated fire hose. The use of these devices allows Hamilton Fire Department personnel to reach a person in the water no further than 100’ (30m) from shore.

Prior to amalgamation, in water rescue response was provided by the former Township of Glanbrook Fire Department (Binbrook Station). This was in place primarily for responses to the Binbrook Conservation Area. This response did not include ice rescue. At the time of amalgamation, it was found that the equipment utilized for the in water rescues was in need of replacement and significant additional staff training was required. A decision was made to remove this limited service from the mandate of the Hamilton Fire Department.

Ice and water rescue functions were traditionally performed by the former Hamilton Harbour Police specifically in the Harbour, Lake Ontario and abutting areas. With the disbanding of the Hamilton Harbour Police in 1986, these search and rescue functions along with all enforcement (including the Canada Shipping Act) and prevention functions became the responsibility of the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police and subsequently the Hamilton Police Service. As a result, the Hamilton Police Service has been the only emergency service available with personnel trained to respond to any off shore water and ice water incidents, not only in the Harbour but to all other bodies of water in the City of Hamilton.

The City of Hamilton is also fortunate to have a group of dedicated volunteers who are well trained in water and boat rescue techniques. The Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit is an auxiliary Canada Coast Guard unit located on the Lake Ontario side of the Hamilton Beach, who respond year round to water and boat emergencies, primarily on Lake Ontario. The Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit will respond to requests for assistance from both the Hamilton Police Service and the Hamilton Fire Department.

In December of 2006, the Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit were requested to assist with severe flooding in the Greenhill Avenue/National Drive neighbourhood. Utilizing various watercraft, the Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit were instrumental in assisting residents with evacuation of their homes across flooded streets and properties. Following this incident, the Hamilton Fire Department worked with the Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit and developed a procedure in which our communication staff could page out Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit personnel to an incident. In addition, radio channel interoperability was achieved so that we could communicate directly with each other at a scene. The Beach Rescue Unit have limited ice water rescue capabilities, focusing on responding to people in distress along the Lake Ontario shoreline where shelf ice forms. Their shore based ice water rescue involves the use of flexible ladders.

Within the Hamilton City limits there are a number of bodies of water where the potential for an ice water rescue could take place. These include but are not limited to: Lake Ontario, Hamilton Harbour, Cootes Paradise, various Conservation Areas, small lakes
and ponds including various water retention ponds. While these bodies of water have many positive impacts on the community they also have the potential to provide a number of unique operational risks to emergency services if the rescue of person(s) is needed when these bodies of water are frozen.

Information received from the Hamilton Police Marine Unit identified two ice water rescues performed by their Marine Unit Officers in 2017. A review of Hamilton Fire Department responses for open water rescues over the past five years revealed only one incident that involved a rescue of an individual who had fallen through ice. As previously indicated, the frequency of calls is low however the consequences/risk can be severe.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

There are no corporate policies or legislative requirements impacted by the recommendations listed in this report. Depending on the direction taken, there will be a need for internal Hamilton Police Service and/or Hamilton Fire Department policies that will require development and/or amending.

There is one other mitigating factor when considering timelines and the specialized training requirements for ice rescue, and that is the present suspension of Ontario Fire Marshal recognized training programs that meet NFPA standards. As previously identified in this report, these training programs were suspended due to a Coroner’s Jury recommendations. The recommendations were the result of an inquest into the deaths of a Volunteer firefighter with the Point Edward Fire Department who died January 2010 and a Pre-fire service student at Durham College who died February 2015, both during in water/ice rescue training exercises.

The Coroner’s Jury recommended that there was a need to put all training of ice/cold water rescue and swift water rescue in abeyance until such time new curriculum and training standards are created and agreed upon by stakeholders. The jury also recommended amendments to some existing legislation and regulations to ensure appropriate health and safety issues are addressed (i.e. Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act). There has been a recent update to the Ontario Coroner’s Office by the Ontario Fire Marshal that suggests there has been progress in developing new curriculum that will adhere to updated standards. This could then see an end to the moratorium sometime in 2018. If this is successful, it will still require training providers that we may procure, to adapt their programs in order to meet the new standards and to create a program calendar.
RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Several other Ontario Fire Departments, based on their geographical location, do provide a form of ice water rescue. Capabilities of those Departments are varied based upon needs. The Hamilton Police Marine Unit and the Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit were contacted for input to this report.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Mitigation of Risk
The existing response capabilities of both the Hamilton Police Service and the Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit’s to incidents throughout the City suggests that consideration must be given to increasing the resources and/or changing the way that the City delivers ice rescue response.

To mitigate the current and potential risk, the optimization and utilization of the three services (Hamilton Fire Department, Hamilton Police Service and Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit) resources is being recommended for implementation. This joint tri-service ice rescue response unit would be able to provide a more consistent, timely and safe response. While the Hamilton Police Service and Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit would maintain their existing resources and level of deployment, Hamilton Fire Department resources would be added to fill the current service delivery gaps. With the approval of Council and the updating of the Establishing and Regulating By-law for the Fire Department, the Hamilton Fire Department through the acquisition of specialized equipment and completion of training would implement shore based/on ice rescue capabilities into their service delivery. The addition of Hamilton Fire Department resources would provide similar on-ice rescue capabilities as the Hamilton Police Service and would complement those existing resources of the Hamilton Police Service. Having these additional resources at a scene would ensure that the minimum safety requirements in terms of the number of personnel on scene are met.

The combined tri-services response unit can provide a far superior model than the individual services can provide on their own. With the addition of Hamilton Fire Department resources that are already strategically located throughout the City near the highest hazard areas, there is a significant potential to reduce the current level of risk and to strengthen the current service delivery model. Response times to incidents can be improved upon and rescue capabilities would be enhanced. The creation of a joint tri-services (Hamilton Fire Department, Hamilton Police Service and Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit) ice rescue response unit would have the most probable opportunity for increased positive outcomes for people requiring ice rescue service across the City. There would be an increase in the number of specially trained personnel who would be readily available to respond in a timely manner to an ice rescue emergency.
Based upon the locations of the various bodies of water across the City of Hamilton, the Hamilton Fire Department shore based/on ice rescue teams would be deployed from a combination of both volunteer stations and career stations. Shore based/on ice rescue teams strategically deployed across the City would allow for the Hamilton Fire Department to effectively respond in a timely manner to incidents that may occur on inland waters and on both the harbour and Lake Ontario.

Shore based/on ice rescue involves the use of an inflatable rapid deployment craft that is tethered to the shore during deployment. Personnel outfitted in special thermal insulated wet suits and specialized equipment (also tethered by a rope secured on shore) then slide/float out on the ice to the individual(s) in distress. They are typically limited to a distance of 300 – 500 feet from shore, as that is the maximum rope length for these types of incidents.

For the purpose of this report and based upon the various locations of waterways to which a shore based/on ice response may be necessary, it is being recommended to have three volunteer stations and two career stations trained and equipped to respond to a shore based/on ice rescue call. The determination of which stations would be equipped will be determined at a later date after a more comprehensive analysis is completed.

Some waterways and areas of concern are as follows:

- **Hamilton Harbour** – During extremely cold winters, the harbour has been known to freeze over 90%. Increasingly, the harbour has become a recreational destination of choice. Development’s which include Pier 4, Waterfront park, the waterfront trail system, Williams Cafe, the outdoor skating rink have added to increasing popularity of the harbour. Activities such as ice fishing, skating and ice boat sailing occur within the harbour. These activities and venues tend to bring more citizens to the waterfront which in turn increases the probability of an incident occurring.

- **Cootes Paradise** - While generally shallow, there are many areas of deep water. Cootes Paradise is popular for skating, ice fishing and hiking as it borders many of the year round trails of the RBG.

- **Confederation Park** – The park borders Lake Ontario and contains a couple of large ponds on site and is in close proximity to the waterfront trail system.

- **Fifty Point Conservation Area** – This site contains a large fishing pond which is used for ice skating as well as a large marina with numerous boat slips which when frozen is used for ice skating and fishing.

- **Binbrook Conservation Area** – This site contains a 175 hectare man-made lake which also borders many private homes. Winter activities include ice fishing, skating and hiking.
- **Valens Conservation Area** – This site contains a 76 hectare lake and is a popular winter activity area with activities that include ice fishing, skating and hiking.

- **Christie Conservation Area** – This site contains a large man-made lake as well as large streams. Winter activities include ice skating, cross country skiing and hiking.

- **Mountsberg Conservation Area** – This conservation area is split on the boundary with Halton Region. Winter activities include ice skating, ice fishing, cross country skiing and hiking.

The Hamilton Fire Department currently has radio interoperability with the Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit and utilizes the same radio system as the Hamilton Police Service. Mobile and portable radios from both the Hamilton Police Service Marine Unit and the Hamilton Fire Department could be reprogrammed to include a common channel that would be utilized by both services for more effective communication at a scene. In addition, Hamilton Fire has the ability to “patch” the Beach Rescue radios onto this operational channel thus allowing all three agencies to operate on a single radio channel, enhancing the delivery of this rescue service.

**ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION**

**Option A**

Hamilton Police Service discontinue the provision of ice rescue services completely and the Hamilton Fire Department increases rescue capabilities to include shore based and in water ice rescue. The Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit would be utilized to augment where possible. This would require in addition to the equipment and training costs previously identified, additional costs for all fire department personnel in ice rescue stations to obtain rescue training in boating safety and boat operations proficiency. They would require Transport Canada recognized training for each fire fighter to include, a Safe Boating Card, Small Vessel Operator Proficiency (SVOP) certification, and Small Non-Pleasure Vessel Basic Safety (MED A3) certification. This would also require the purchase of an appropriate on ice/in water, powered response vessels with trailers, and the sundry support tools.

Financial:
The initial start up costs to train and equip Fire Department personnel is approximately $500,000. These costs would be submitted as part of the 2019 Capital Budget process for consideration by Council. Ongoing equipment replacement costs would be built into future capital equipment replacement budgets. Ongoing training costs would be built into the overall Departmental training program and would be absorbed within the annual operating budget.
Training Costs
These costs are based on the training of personnel from five fire stations (two career stations – 40 fire fighters and three volunteer stations – 75 fire fighters) to ensure 24/7 coverage and timely response to all areas of the City.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAINING COURSE</th>
<th>COST PER PERSON</th>
<th>TOTAL COST (115 FIREFIGHTERS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Awareness Level Course</td>
<td>$35</td>
<td>$4,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations Level Course</td>
<td>$395</td>
<td>$45,425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technician Level Course</td>
<td>$395</td>
<td>$45,425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>$94,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructors Level Course</td>
<td>$750</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safe Boating Card</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$5,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Vehicle Operator Proficiency (SVOP)</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$69,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Non-Pleasure Vessel Basic Safety (MED A3) – 2 day course</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$23,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>$197,125</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Equipment Costs
These costs are based equipment needs for five fire stations (two career stations and three volunteer stations) with sufficient equipment for five personnel from each station.
OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.
OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.
OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EQUIPMENT</th>
<th>COST (each)</th>
<th>TOTAL COST (5 STATIONS) (5 FIREFIGHTERS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ice Water Rescue Personal Protective Suits</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mustang Ice Commander Pro Suits (25 suits)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$37,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rescue Sling Kit</strong></td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Includes Tether Haul Kit, Ice Picks x 2, Sling Collar and a Rescue Board (5 Kits)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fortuna Rapid Deployment Sled</strong></td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5 Sleds)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rescue Tethers and Carabiners</strong></td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$3,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(25 of each)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Floating Rescue Rope – 300’</strong></td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 ropes per station (10 in total)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rescue Knives, Helmets and Cleats</strong></td>
<td>$180</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(25 needed)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ice Water Rescue Powered Watercraft and Trailer</strong></td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2 required)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$294,750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overall approximated cost for Option A: $197,125 (training) + $294,750 (equipment) = $491,875

Any annual costs associated with ongoing training and equipment replacement would be covered within annual operating budgets. All pricing does not include HST.

**Staffing:**
No additional staffing requirements for the Hamilton Fire Department, Hamilton Police Department and the Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit relative to the delivery of ice water rescue response.

**Legal:**
There will need to be an amendment to By-law 68-34 (Hamilton Fire Department Establishing and Regulating By-law) to enable and authorize the Hamilton Fire Department to perform additional duties related to shore base and in water ice water rescue.

**Option B**
Hamilton Police Service discontinue the provision of ice rescue services and the Hamilton Fire Department supplement its current service delivery in terms of rescue capabilities to include shore based/on ice rescue. The Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit would be utilized to augment where possible. The determination of Hamilton Fire
Department stations to be involved in ice rescue is based on those station locations relative to risk as it pertains to locations across the City where an ice rescue may occur.

**Financial:**
The initial start-up costs to train and equip Fire Department personnel is approximately $200,000. These costs would be submitted as part of the 2019 Capital Budget process for consideration by Council. Ongoing equipment replacement costs would be built into future capital equipment replacement budgets. Ongoing training costs would be built into the overall Departmental training program and would be absorbed within the annual operating budget.

**Training Costs**
These costs are based on the training of personnel from five fire stations (two career stations – 40 fire fighters and three volunteer stations – 75 fire fighters) to ensure 24/7 coverage and timely response to all areas of the City.

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<td>$45,425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$94,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructors Level Course</td>
<td>$750</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 day course for 6 firefighters only</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$99,375</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Equipment Costs**
These costs are based equipment needs for five fire stations (two career stations and three volunteer stations) with sufficient equipment for five personnel from each station.
OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

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EQUIPMENT                           | COST (each) | TOTAL COST (5 STATIONS) (5 FIREFIGHTERS) |
---                                  |            |                                         |
Ice Water Rescue Personal Protective Suits
Mustang Ice Commander Pro Suits (25 suits) | $1,500     | $37,500                                  |
Rescue Sling Kit
(Includes Tether Haul Kit, Ice Picks x 2, Sling Collar and a Rescue Board (5 Kits) | $3,000     | $15,000                                  |
Fortuna Rapid Deployment Sled
(5 Sleds)                             | $6,000     | $30,000                                  |
Rescue Tethers and Carabiners
(25 of each)                          | $150       | $3,750                                   |
Floating Rescue Rope – 300’
2 ropes per station (10 in total)     | $400       | $4,000                                   |
Rescue Knives, Helmets and Cleats
(25 needed)                           | $180       | $4,500                                   |
TOTAL                                 |            | $94,750                                  |

Approximate Overall cost for Option B: $99,375 (training) + $94,750 (equipment) = $194,125

Any annual costs associated with ongoing training and equipment replacement would be covered within annual operating budgets. All pricing does not include HST.

Staffing:
No additional staffing requirements for the Hamilton Fire Department, Hamilton Police Department and the Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit relative to the delivery of ice water rescue response.

Legal:
There will need to be an amendment to By-law 68-34 (Hamilton Fire Department Establishing and Regulating By-law) to enable and authorize the Hamilton Fire Department to perform additional duties related to shore based on ice water rescue.

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Healthy and Safe Communities
Hamilton is a safe and supportive city where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

Our People and Performance
Hamiltonians have a high level of trust and confidence in their City government.
APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES

Appendix A to Report CES18010: Hamilton Police Service background information

Appendix B to Report CES18010: Coroner’s Jury Recommendations
Hamilton Police Service

The Hamilton Police Service have the overall responsibility for all in water and ice water rescue responses in all bodies of water in the City. The Hamilton Police Service Marine Unit’s history dates back to the origins of the Hamilton Harbour Commission’s Harbour Police in 1921. For more than 60 years, the Harbour Police were responsible for policing Hamilton Harbour and its surrounding shores. In 1986, the Harbour Police were absorbed into the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Service. Many of the existing members of the Harbour Police transferred over as constables with Hamilton Police. Since that date, patrols and policing of Hamilton Harbour have been the responsibility and mandate of the Hamilton Police Service Marine Unit. The Hamilton Police Marine Unit also works closely with a number of partner agencies, including the RCMP, Toronto and Peel Police, Canadian Coast Guard, Canadian Air Force, Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit, Ministry of Natural Resources, Transport Canada, Canadian Safe Boating Council, and the Hamilton Port Authority.

Depending on the season, the Marine Unit is actively on the water from March/April through to November, but is operational year-round. The Marine Unit responds to ice rescue and swift water or urban flooding incidents. At present, the Marine Unit is comprised of four full-time members who operate in two teams of two Officers and work 7am – 7pm, Monday to Saturday and 8am – 6pm on Sundays, meaning that during these time frames, there are only two Marine Officers on duty. If an incident occurs, the two Marine Officers respond. No additional trained personnel are paged or called in. If an incident occurs outside of the hours in which Marine Officers are working, these Officers are not on call or on standby. The Hamilton Police Marine Unit are equipped with the necessary tools and equipment to conduct ice water rescues including but not limited to:

**Argo amphibious vehicle** – an amphibious vehicle utilized for search and rescue which can be deployed on land, ice or water

![Argo Amphibious Vehicle](image)

**Fortuna rapid deployment sled** – an inflatable water craft that can be deployed on the ice and allows for a patient to be extricated from the water and pulled on board. The rapid deployment sled has extremely upturned ends. They allow the rescuer to “drive”
the sleds open end over the victim while the victim’s head remains above water at all times. It also allows a rescuer to reach forward into a pour-over while still safely centered in the sled. The floor is open at each end, allowing 2 entry points. The freeboard height is only inches, enabling a rescuer to easily pull a victim into the sled.

MARSARS rescue sled – a sled that can propelled across the ice to a victim. As the sled nears a victim the empty sled becomes a self-rescue reaching device for victims that can assist in own rescue. The sled provides for a quicker extraction by minimizing risk of injury to both victim and rescuer.

Mustang Suits – a floatation suit that provides in-water insulation to delay the onset of hypothermia in the event of water immersion.

During the winter months, the on-duty Marine Unit staff may be utilized for other responsibilities (i.e.: RIDE Program) and if required for an ice water rescue call they would respond from that location. In some circumstances, they may be required to pick
up equipment from the station located at Hamilton Harbour before responding to a scene.

Initial training of Hamilton Police Marine Unit personnel is a one week ice rescue training course conducted in Toronto by the Toronto Police Service. Following that initial training, any additional training completed is initiated and completed by the Marine Unit Officer’s as deemed necessary. There is no adequacy standard for Police in relation to ice rescue. It should be noted that as previously identified by the Hamilton Police Service in a report dated May 2013, the Toronto Police Service recommend that a minimum of three (3) trained personnel be available and in optimal circumstances, five (5) trained personnel be available to safely complete an ice rescue.

Given the front line service pressures that the Hamilton Police Service are faced with, a May 2013 Hamilton Police Service report identified some key concerns including a concern that there is limited staff resources available to provide ice water rescue services in a consistent, timely and safe manner throughout the City. Two Marine Unit Officers is already below the Toronto Police recommendation of three to five trained personnel. Sickness, annual leave, training requirements and court time can have an impact on availability of trained personnel. In this same report, the Hamilton Police Service reported on estimated response times to various Conservation Areas across the City. Those estimated response times were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>RESPONSE TIME (estimated)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton Harbour</td>
<td>Minutes (if in station)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valens Conservation Area</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christie Conservation Area</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Binbrook Conservation Area</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifty Point Conservation Area</td>
<td>25 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountsberg Conservation Area</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These anticipated response times are critical when dealing with victims that may be suffering from hypothermia. Information from the Hamilton Police Marine Unit identified that the Hamilton Police Service responded to and conducted two ice water rescues in 2017. There is a potential for increased ice water incidents on many of the bodies of water in and around the City of Hamilton due to the increased level of popularity of outdoor/back to nature activities and with the current and future increase in popularity/use of the bay front areas. Ice water rescue responses are a low frequency call however the consequences/risks associated with these calls is extremely high.
Coroner’s Jury Recommendations

Ice rescue and specifically in water ice water rescue is extremely dangerous. In 2010, a volunteer firefighter from the Point Edward Fire Department died while involved in a training exercise in water with fast moving ice floes near Sarnia, Ontario. In 2015, a firefighting student died during a training exercise on the ice covered Saugeen River near Hanover, Ontario. As the result of these fatalities, a Coroner’s inquest was initiated to examine the circumstances surrounding these two fatalities.

On May 25, 2017, the Coroner’s Jury released its verdict which included 15 recommendations that included placing in abeyance all training exercises for ice/cold water rescue.

The Province of Ontario has adopted these recommendations and as a result all training programs of ice/cold water rescue have been put in abeyance until such time as new curriculum and training standards can be created and agreed upon by stakeholders. Based on recent information received from the Ontario Fire Marshal’s Office, there has been progress in developing new curriculum and there could be an end to the moratorium sometime in 2018. Until the moratorium is lifted, training of Hamilton Fire Department staff cannot be planned or implemented.

Recommendations

To the Province of Ontario, including the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services, the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development, the Ministry of Labour, and any other relevant Provincial Government Ministry or Agency:

1. We encourage the Province of Ontario to consider placing in abeyance all training exercises for ice / cold water rescue in locations where any current is deemed to be "swift" (above one knot or such other level as may be deemed to constitute "swift" water) and thereby presents an increased level of risk. This should apply to both regulated and unregulated trainers, instructors and service providers.

2. We encourage the Province of Ontario to consider keeping training for ice / cold water rescue training in "swift" water conditions in abeyance unless and until a committee of subject matter experts feels that the available equipment (personal protective equipment, as well as other equipment the committee deems necessary and appropriate), techniques, locations and standards are such that the training can be conducted in a manner that minimizes risk to a level deemed safe for training. We encourage the Province of Ontario to convene such a committee at intervals that are appropriate to review the issue and consider updates / changes to equipment, techniques, locations and standards.
3. If at some point in the future a committee of subject matter experts should feel that available equipment (personal protective equipment, as well as any other equipment deemed necessary and appropriate), techniques and standards are such that ice / cold "swift" water rescue training can be conducted in a manner that minimizes safety risks to levels deemed safe for training, we encourage the Province of Ontario to consider designating the locations in the province where such training may take place. The locations should involve ice / cold “swift” water that presents the lowest risk while still providing value in training. We encourage random safety inspections by appropriately qualified individuals at the designated locations to ensure training exercises abide by the training standards.

4. In the meantime, unless and until such time as a committee of subject matter experts determines that available equipment and techniques are such that ice / cold water rescue training can be conducted in "swift" water in a manner that minimizes safety risks, we encourage the Province of Ontario to create an approved training curriculum (including but not limited to content, design, delivery and evaluation), using National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) as the baseline standard, for separate courses relating to "swift" water rescue and ice / cold still water rescue. The program for each course should include skills that would be transferable to a real ice / cold "swift" water rescue situation. Appropriate people to develop such curricula might include (but not necessarily be limited to) staff from the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management (OFMEM), subject matter experts from the Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association, Fire Fighters Association of Ontario, the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs, and other experts on rescue techniques and safety, including Ontario Fire Service Section 21 advisory committee.

5. If the Province of Ontario creates both "swift" water rescue and ice / cold still water rescue curricula, we encourage the province to take all necessary steps, including changes to legislation or regulations as required, to ensure that all trainers, instructors and service providers abide by the approved curriculum for each course, and that the courses take place only in appropriate or approved locations.

6. In addition to Recommendations 4 and 5, we encourage the Province of Ontario to consider regulating the content, design, delivery and evaluation of the training provided, using NFPA as the baseline standards, for the various fire services roles within the scope of the definition of "fire protection services" in the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 to meet the minimum requirements set by the OFMEM. This would also include taking all necessary steps, including changes to legislation or regulations as required, to ensure that all trainers, instructors and service providers abide by the approved curriculum for each course.

7. We encourage the Province of Ontario to consider creating a system whereby all trainers, instructors or providers of courses in "fire protection services", including
ice / cold water rescue and "swift" water rescue (or any combination of those skills), are certified or otherwise deemed qualified to an appropriate standard. This includes instructors, trainers and providers in private services as well as government or regulated bodies.

8. We encourage the Province of Ontario to create / maintain a list or data base of "fire protection services" courses which include approved trainers, instructors and service providers. This should be provided to each municipality to ensure that municipalities retain individuals or companies that have been properly certified and that are properly regulated. Information should include, but not be limited to safety records and records of complaints.

9. We encourage the Province of Ontario to consider requiring a pre-training roles and responsibilities form that should include sign-off from each of the individual roles including, but not limited to, Lead Instructor, Incident Commander, Accountability Officer, Health and Safety Officer, and/or RIT Team, if necessary. This form should be completed prior to any training exercise related to "fire protection services".

To the Province of Ontario, including the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing:

10. We encourage the Province of Ontario to communicate with all municipal governments advising them to consider reviewing their "establishing and regulating by-laws" for firefighting services as they relate to ice / cold "swift" water rescue services (if they have such conditions within their jurisdiction), and to consult with their local Fire Chief about the training that may be made available or mandated in relations to those services. The review and consultation should take into account the Recommendations arising from the inquest into the deaths of Gary Kendall and Adam Brunt.

To the Province of Ontario, including the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management:

11. We encourage the OFMEM to communicate with all fire services in the Province of Ontario to suggest that they review their "establishing and regulating by-laws" regarding ice / cold "swift" water rescue (if they have such responsibilities), to consult with their municipality about the level of service to be provided and to review the training related to that service. The review and consultation should take into account the Recommendations of the inquest into the deaths of Gary Kendall and Adam Brunt.

12. We encourage the Province of Ontario to develop and maintain statistical records relating to circumstances of water and ice rescue / recovery attempts from across the province, including any injuries or deaths which occur during training. The Province of Ontario, through the OFMEM or another designated entity, should
collect this information from local fire departments on an annual basis, and make it available to the public free of charge.

To the Province of Ontario, including the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development and any other relevant provincial Government Ministry or Agency:

13. We encourage the Province of Ontario, with the OFMEM and the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD), engage with stakeholders to consider what Technical Rescuer Courses (NFPA 1006), if any, may be appropriate to be taught to pre-service students and firefighters at registered Private Career Colleges (PCC), Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology (CAAT) and other training entities reviewed and approved by the OFMEM.

14. We encourage the Province of Ontario to ensure that individuals who are not workers will be protected in a manner similar to that of workers when taking single or multi-skill courses, including ice / cold water rescue or “swift” water rescue training (or any combination of those skills). This may be achieved through the Ministry of Labour, the MAESD and any other relevant Government Ministry or Agency working collaboratively to ensure health and safety is integrated into the curriculum for ice / cold water rescue and “swift” water rescue training (or any combination of those skills) provided at registered PCC, CAAT, and other OFMEM endorsed training facilities. Amendments to legislation and / or regulations should be considered, if necessary, to achieve the desired health and safety protection, and to ensure the same level of health and safety protection is required from privately run providers.

To all recipients of these Recommendations:

15. We encourage all named recipients of the Recommendations arising from the inquest into the deaths of Gary Kendall and Adam Brunt to respond to the Office of the Chief Coroner to report on progress in considering and / or implementing these Recommendations over the next 3 years. Report dates requested would be no later than December 31 / 2017, June 30 / 2018, December 31 / 2018, June 30 / 2019, December 31 / 2019 and June 30 / 2020. Any recipient of a Recommendation that provides a final response to a particular Recommendation (final response meaning that it has been implemented, or will not be implemented, as opposed to it still being under consideration or review) need not send further reporting letters about that particular Recommendation to the Office of the Chief Coroner after the date of that final response, even if it is prior to June 30 / 2020.