



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	January 19, 2023
SUBJECT:	Hamilton Paramedic Service Awarded Grant from Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Michael Sanderson Chief, Hamilton Paramedic Service Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	

BACKGROUND

The Hamilton Paramedic Service (HPS) has once again been successful in being awarded a grant from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada. The mission of the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada is to provide funding for lifesaving equipment, and educational opportunities to first-responders and public safety organizations.

In 2020, HPS received over \$20,000 to establish Hamilton's first ever Paramedic Bike Unit to be able to access people in medical distress in hard-to-reach places such as mass gathering events. Hamilton is home to many large-scale events such as Super Crawl and the Around the Bay Road Race. Paramedics on bikes are equipped with medical supplies and can navigate through crowds more rapidly and safely than a full-sized ambulance.

This year, HPS has received a grant of \$55,170 from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada to contribute to the purchase of an emergency medical response ATV. While paramedics on bikes can rapidly access the patient to provide basic medical care, an ATV is required to extricate the patient from the crowd. An emergency medical response ATV can manoeuvre quickly both through crowds and across all terrains and has the capacity to carry a patient, two paramedics, medical equipment, and a modified stretcher.

Paramedics will provide medical care as the patient is removed from an area that is difficult to reach by ambulance and taken to an awaiting ambulance that will transport them to the hospital. Thus, the patient receives continuous medical care from the time paramedics reach them, throughout extrication with the ATV and while being

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transported to the hospital. This equipment enables paramedics to take a response approach that has the potential to save lives when every minute matters.

This grant is one of 22 Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada has awarded to public safety organizations during the most recent grant cycle. The 22 grants will provide critical lifesaving equipment valued at more than \$518,000 across Ontario. The Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada has awarded 306 grants to public safety organizations since 2015.

On January 31, 2023, Hamilton Firehouse Subs restaurant owners, will present the Hamilton Paramedic Chief with a cheque to acquire an ATV that will be outfitted for emergency medical response. The cheque dedication will take place at the HPS administration building between 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

HPS is grateful to be awarded this grant that will be used to enhance the lifesaving capabilities of our paramedics as they work tirelessly to keep the Hamilton community healthy and safe.

Should you require further information, please contact Chief Michael Sanderson at (905) 546-2424 ext. 7741 or at Michael.Sanderson@hamilton.ca.

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