

The Regional Municipality of York

Committee of the Whole
Community and Health Services
April 16, 2020

Report of the Commissioner of Community and Health Services

Donation of Decommissioned Paramedic Services Ambulances for 2020

1. Recommendations

1. Council approve donation of a decommissioned ambulance to the following organizations:
 - a) St. John Ambulance
 - b) Wounded Warriors Canada

2. Summary

This report seeks Council approval to donate two decommissioned ambulances in 2020.

Key Points:

- Council has approved the donation of 8 decommissioned ambulances since 2014
- In [April 2018](#), Council adopted revised guidelines for donating decommissioned ambulances which included collecting all requests made in a year, and making one report to Council for approval
- From March 1, 2019 to February 28, 2020, York Region Paramedic Services received and evaluated two applications for decommissioned ambulances in accordance with the revised Council-approved guidelines and processes
- Both applicants meet the criteria as registered charitable organizations

3. Background

Council has approved the donation of 8 decommissioned ambulances since 2014

Previous donations have been used by charitable and humanitarian aid organizations to provide hurricane relief efforts in the Caribbean, paramedic driver training and police officer simulation training at Ontario colleges and first aid services at local community events.

Attachment 1 lists the Council-approved donations of ambulances since 2014.

Donation requests for decommissioned ambulances are evaluated using Council approved guidelines

In [April 2018](#), Council approved revised ambulance donation guidelines and processes to include:

- Applications for donated ambulances to be reviewed and presented to Council annually
- A maximum of two decommissioned ambulances may be donated per year
- Decommissioned ambulances may only be donated to registered not-for-profit, community or international humanitarian organizations of sound repute that generally align with services supported by York Region
- Preference, in order of priority, will be as follows:
 1. Regional or local uses
 2. Provincial/Federal/International Relief or other organizations
- Eligible organizations must:
 1. Follow general guidelines outlined in York Region's [Community Investment Fund](#) that relate to not being affiliated with any political organization and not requiring that service is conditional upon participation in the religious activities of the organization
 2. Adhere to and support Ontario's Human Rights Code
- Prior to accepting the donated ambulance, the receiving organization must acknowledge, in writing, that The Regional Municipality of York makes no representations or warranties regarding the vehicle, and that they are assuming ownership on an "as is" basis
- Any expense for shipping, permits, and related costs will be covered by the recipient

4. Analysis

York Region Paramedic Services received two requests for decommissioned ambulances for 2020

Eligible organizations are required to submit a Request for Consideration of Ambulance Donation Form to York Region Paramedic Services by February of any calendar year. Requests submitted after that time will be considered the following year. From March 1, 2019 to February 28, 2020, York Region Paramedic Services received and evaluated two applications for decommissioned ambulances in accordance with the revised Council-approved guidelines and processes.

St. John Ambulance requests a donated ambulance to meet increased demand to provide training and community support services

In July 2019, St. John Ambulance submitted a request for a donated ambulance. St. John Ambulance has been an integral part of the York Region community since 1991 and is celebrating its 28th anniversary this year. Its staff and volunteers provide training and community support such as first aid training, volunteer medical first response teams, disaster planning and support, car seat safety, therapy dog programs and youth leadership.

Council has approved the donation of five decommissioned ambulances to St. John Ambulance since 2004. These ambulances have proven invaluable at community events where St. John Ambulance provides service, helping to meet growing demand for their programs and services. They currently have two remaining ambulances in operation. To continue its work in the community, St. John's Ambulance is requesting a donated ambulance to replace one of their ambulances.

Wounded Warriors Canada requests a donated ambulance to provide mobile mental health education in the community

In February 2020, Wounded Warriors Canada submitted a request for a donated ambulance. Wounded Warriors Canada is a national mental health service provider for Canada's veterans, first responders and their families. This organization uses clinical best practices to provide evidence-based care and create an environment of compassion, resiliency and hope for more than 2,000 people in communities, such as York Region, across Canada. Wounded Warriors Canada is requesting a donated ambulance to provide mobile mental health education to both the uniformed service and community members across Ontario.

5. Financial

In 2017, a trade-in program was initiated with the Region's current ambulance vendor. The average trade-in value through this program in 2019 was \$14,150 per ambulance. The foregone revenue from the donation of two decommissioned ambulances is estimated at \$28,300.

The Region also incurs approximately \$3,000 to \$5,000 to inspect and prepare each ambulance for donation in accordance with local regulation. All other expenses are the responsibility of the receiving organization (e.g. shipping, permits.)

The disposal of other ambulances will be addressed in future report to Regional Council on the Disposal of Surplus Property 2019.

6. Local Impact

Supporting charitable organizations such as St. John Ambulance and Wounded Warrior demonstrates York Region's commitment to work with and support local agencies and municipal partners that provide community supports to meet local needs. Donating

decommissioned ambulances to these two organizations will enhance their capacity to provide services to residents from local municipalities.

7. Conclusion

It is recommended that Council authorize the donation of two decommissioned ambulances requested by St. John Ambulance and Wounded Warriors Canada to provide local community support services including first aid training, volunteer medical first response teams and mobile mental health education, respectively.

For more information on this report, please contact Lisa Gonsalves, General Manager at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 72090. Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.

Recommended by: **Katherine Chislett**
Commissioner of Community and Health Services

Approved for Submission: **Bruce Macgregor**
Chief Administrative Officer

March 19, 2020
Attachment (1)
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