

The Regional Municipality of York

Committee of the Whole
Community and Health Services
April 4, 2019

Report of the Commissioner of Community and Health Services

Donation of Decommissioned Paramedic Services Ambulances for 2019

1. Recommendations

1. Council approve the request for the donation of a decommissioned ambulance received from the Access Centre, on behalf of the David Fagarlee Medical Centre in Agago County, Uganda.
2. Council approve the request for the donation of a decommissioned ambulance received from the Friends of Ecuador for the Hospital Vozandes des Oriente in Quito, Ecuador.

2. Summary

This report seeks Council approval to donate two decommissioned ambulances in 2019.

Key points:

- Council has approved the donation of 10 decommissioned ambulances since 2011
- In 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, 2018 to February 28, 2019, 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 international humanitarian organizations

3. Background

Council has approved the donation of 10 decommissioned ambulances since 2011

In [February 2011](#), Council adopted Decommissioned Ambulance Donation Guidelines for evaluating requests for decommissioned ambulances. Attachment 1 lists the Council-approved donations of ambulances since 2011.

Revised ambulance donation guidelines established an annual process and cap on the number of ambulances to be donated

Council approved revised ambulance donation guidelines and processes in [April 2018](#). The revised guidelines and procedures outline the following:

- Applications for donated ambulances will be reviewed and presented to Council annually, rather than on an “as received” basis
- A maximum of two decommissioned ambulances may be donated per year

Continued requirements from the previously established guidelines include the following:

- 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 Strategy](#) 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

The Access Centre requests a donated ambulance for Uganda

In April 2018, the Access Centre submitted a request for a donated ambulance on behalf of the David Fagarlee Medical Centre in Agago County, Uganda.

The Access Centre is a community based not for profit organization founded to assist the rural community of Agago district in Northern Uganda to access information and services in health, education and agriculture for livelihoods.

The David Fagarlee Medical Centre was opened in 2017 to provide high quality medical care and to reduce health related challenges in the Agago district. Due to long distances to the district's two health facilities, poor road networks and lack of personal funds for health care, many vulnerable individuals require assistance with transportation when seeking medical services. The Centre is requesting a donated ambulance to transport ill individuals and people in medical emergencies from the community to a health care facility.

The Friends of Ecuador organization requests a donated ambulance for Quito, Ecuador

In January 2019, the Friends of Ecuador submitted a request for a donated ambulance for the Hospital Vozandes des Oriente in Quito, Ecuador. The Friends of Ecuador was incorporated in Ontario in 2004 to supply Ecuador with medical and school supplies and furniture, and continues to provide humanitarian aid to the region. The requested ambulance will provide the people of Quito and the surrounding area with a means of emergency transport to the hospital in Quito to access life-saving services.

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 2018 was \$13,300 per ambulance. The foregone revenue from the donation of two decommissioned ambulances is estimated at \$26,600. This amount has been factored into the Paramedic Services 2019 budget.

There are no additional expenses for the Region. The receiving organizations are responsible for any expenses related to shipping, permits, and related costs to inspect and prepare the ambulances for use in accordance with local regulation.

6. Local Impact

There is no direct local municipal impact associated with this report.

7. Conclusion

It is recommended that Council authorize the donation of two decommissioned ambulances requested by the Access Centre and the Friends of Ecuador to enable the safe transport of patients, including high risk and vulnerable individuals, to their local health facility to access medical treatment and services.

For more information on this report, please contact Chris Spearen, Chief and General Manager (A), Paramedic and Seniors Services at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74709. 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 21, 2019
Attachment (1)
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