

Clause No. 19 in Report No. 13 of the Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on September 11, 2014.

**19**  
**DONATION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**  
**DECOMMISSIONED AMBULANCES FOR 2014**

**Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the recommendation contained in the following report dated August 13, 2014 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services:**

**1. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that:

1. Council authorize the donation of one York Region Emergency Medical Services ambulance that was decommissioned from service in 2014 to the Chippewas of Georgina Island.

**2. PURPOSE**

This report seeks approval for the donation of one decommissioned Emergency Medical Services (EMS) ambulance to the volunteer First Response team of the Chippewas of Georgina Island.

**3. BACKGROUND**

**Council approved guidelines and procedures in evaluating decommissioned EMS vehicle donation requests**

On February 17, 2011, Council approved Clause No. 6 of Report No. 2 of the Community and Health Services Committee adopting guidelines and procedures for evaluating donation requests.

The guidelines and procedures are as follows:

**Guidelines**

- 1) A maximum of 25% of the decommissioned surplus vehicles may be donated in any given calendar year provided the value of those vehicles does not exceed \$15,000.
- 2) Donations will only occur to registered not-for-profit, community or international humanitarian organizations of sound repute and generally aligned with the services supported by York Region.
- 3) Preference, in order of priority, will be as follows:
  - a) Regional or local uses
  - b) Provincial/Federal/International Relief or other organizations
- 4) Organizations must also follow general guidelines, as outlined with the Community Investment Strategy that relate to not being affiliated with a political or religious organization and must adhere to and support the Human Rights Code.

**Procedures:**

- 1) A report will be forwarded for Council approval each time a request has been received that complies with the guidelines for donation.
- 2) Any expense for shipping, permits, and related costs will be covered by the organization receiving the donation.
- 3) Prior to accepting the donation, the organization will be required to 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.

Since the approval of the guidelines, Council has approved the donation of five decommissioned ambulances. Table 1 provides the detail of past donation approvals.

**Table 1**  
Donation of Decommissioned Ambulance Summary Since Guideline Approval

<b>Year of Request</b>	<b>Council Approval</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Number of Ambulances</b>
2011	June 23, 2011	High Adventure Gospel Communication Ministries for a medical centre project in Ongutoi, Uganda	1
2011	June 23, 2011	1 <sup>st</sup> York Region Medical Venturers and Rovers – Scouts Canada	1
2012	May 17, 2012	Guyana Burn and Health Care Foundation	2
2013	January 23, 2014	Friends of Ecuador	1

**The Chippewas of Georgina Island operate a volunteer Emergency First Response Team to respond to emergencies occurring on the island**

The Chippewas of Georgina Island have submitted a request for Council to consider donating a decommissioned ambulance to support their volunteer Emergency First Response Team. The requested vehicle will be used to replace the existing 15-year old vehicle used for their Emergency First Responder Team. The Emergency First Response Team is made up of residents on the island who respond to emergencies and provide care and transport of patients over to the mainland where the patients are transferred to the care of York Region Paramedics. The team is supported by the Emergency Health Services Branch of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Last year, the Emergency First Response Team responded to 24 requests for assistance. According to the 2011 Federal Census, the population of Georgina Island was 275.

The volunteer Emergency First Response Team of the Chippewas of Georgina Island have met all the above conditions as per the guidelines and their form has been signed by a person having authority to do so for the requesting organization, namely, Chief Donna Big Canoe.

#### **4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS**

##### **Two ambulances may be considered for donation in 2014 according to the donation guidelines**

Emergency Medical Services will have decommissioned 13 ambulances in 2014. Under the existing guidelines 25%, or in this case up to three ambulances, would be available for donation; however, the average value at auction over the last 3 years for an ambulance was \$6,990, therefore, two ambulances would be available to be considered for donation.

As of September 1, 2014, there has not been any information that would indicate that further requests for donations of decommissioned Emergency Medical Services ambulances will be forthcoming.

##### **Link to key Council-approved plans**

While there is no link to Council-approved plans, this report is consistent with the Council-approved policy for decommissioned Emergency Medical Services ambulances.

#### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

If it is not being donated, a decommissioned EMS ambulance is sold at auction. The average proceeds per vehicle at auction over the last three years was \$6,990. The net value of a decommissioned ambulance can be expected to be between \$6,000 to \$12,000 dependent upon the vehicle's condition, mileage and demand.

The maximum total foregone revenue for decommissioned ambulances under Council's guidelines is \$15,000 and has been factored into 2014 budget estimates for the EMS branch. Any expense for shipping, permits, and related costs will be covered by the organization receiving the donation. There is no added expense to the Region. It is the responsibility of the receiving organization to inspect and prepare the ambulances for use in accordance with local regulation.

#### **6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT**

A partnership with community agencies such as the Chippewas of Georgina Island enhances the rapport York Region builds with the diverse cultures that populate the Region.

## **7. CONCLUSION**

The donation of one decommissioned ambulance will support the efforts of the volunteer First Response Team of the Chippewas of Georgina Island to safely administer to patients of emergency calls on the island.

It is recommended that Council authorize the donation of one decommissioned ambulance to the First Response Team of the Chippewas of Georgina Island.

For more information on this report, please contact Norm Barrette, Chief and General Manager of Emergency Medical Services at Ext. 74709.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.