

Backgrounder

Summary of Fundamental Terms: Centralized Fire Dispatch Service Agreement 2023-2027 (Regional District of Fraser-Fort George and City of Prince George)

This five year agreement, which will commence on January 1, 2023, will govern the provision of centralized fire dispatch services by the City of Prince George to the Regional District, and to fire/rescue agencies in the Cariboo Regional District, Kitimat-Stikine Regional District, Bulkley-Nechako Regional District, and the Regional District of East Kootenay that receive services under contract with the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George.

The following is a summary of the fundamental terms of the agreement.

Term: Five years commencing January 1, 2023, with an option to renew by mutual agreement.

Service Fee: An annual fee is payable by the Regional District during each year of the term as follows:

2023 -	\$1,930,000
2024 -	\$2,075,000
2025 -	\$2,200,000
2026 -	\$2,290,000
2027 -	\$2,365,000

Services: The City is to provide:

- Fire Dispatch Services for the Service Area (as defined) in accordance with the NFPA 1221 standard for the Installation, Maintenance, and use of Emergency Services Communications Systems;
- Trained fire dispatchers and supervisory personnel as required for the provision of Fire Dispatch Services and supervision of the FOCC.

The Agreement provides for the potential increase or decrease in the number of partnering regional districts who receive services, and the adjustment in the number of fire dispatch personnel and service fees in that event.

Facilities: The City is responsible to provide space for the accommodation of the Fire Operations Communications Centre (FOCC) at the City's Fire Hall No. 1.

The Regional District is responsible for equipping the FOCC with all necessary equipment (including communications equipment), furnishings, material and supplies as are necessary for the operation of the FOCC.

The Regional District is also responsible for the establishment of the FOCC Backup Dispatch Facility. Responsibility for other operational and maintenance costs for the FOCC are allocated in accordance with the Agreement.

Other: A Contract Administration Committee is established, with representatives from both parties, to meet regularly to discuss the Agreement and any matters of concern.

In addition, the Agreement:

- Addresses responsibility for the custody and control of Fire Dispatch Services records, for the purposes of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*;
- Provides mutual obligations to maintain property insurance and for each party to indemnify the other against claims arising from that party's negligence;
- Provides a mechanism for resolving disputes between the parties;
- Addresses the potential for early termination in the event either party defaults in performance of their obligations, and provides each party with the option to terminate the agreement at their discretion by providing a minimum of 6 months' notice.