

**FINANCE AND CIVIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR  
AND COUNCILLORS*

**SUBJECT: EMERGENCY PROGRAM - 2010 TRAINING & EXERCISES**

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. THAT Council authorize an expenditure of up to \$45,000 from the Gaming Reserve Funds for specialized emergency management training that includes Incident Command System, Emergency Operations Centre, and Emergency Call Centre Operator training.
2. THAT Council authorize an expenditure of up to \$23,000 from the Gaming Reserve Funds for exercises to reinforce emergency management training, validate emergency plans and strengthen interdepartmental and interagency emergency functions.

**REPORT**

The Finance and Civic Development Committee, at its meeting held on 2010 February 25, received and adopted the *attached* report seeking Council's funding approval for specialized emergency management training and exercises. These specialized training and exercises will improve public safety by developing and/or expanding the knowledge, skills and confidence of emergency responders and non-emergency personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Johnston  
Chair

Councillor N. Volkow  
Vice Chair

Councillor C. Jordan  
Member

Copied to: City Manager Director Finance
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**TO:** CHAIR AND MEMBERS  
FINANCE AND CIVIC DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE

**DATE:** 2010 January 21

**FROM:** EMERGENCY PROGRAM COORDINATOR

**SUBJECT:** EMERGENCY PROGRAM – 2010 TRAINING & EXERCISES

**PURPOSE:** To improve public safety: by developing and/or expanding the knowledge, skills and confidence of emergency responders and non-emergency personnel through specialized training and exercises.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. **THAT** Council authorize an expenditure of up to \$45,000 from the Gaming Reserve Funds for specialized emergency management training that includes Incident Command System, Emergency Operations Centre, and Emergency Call Centre Operator training.
2. **THAT** Council authorize an expenditure of up to \$23,000 from the Gaming Reserve Funds for exercises to reinforce emergency management training, validate emergency plans and strengthen interdepartmental and interagency emergency functions.

**REPORT****OVERVIEW**

Recent events like the earthquake in Haiti (January 2010), small plane crash in Richmond (July 2009), flooding in Chilliwack (November 2009), or the Terasen gas leak on Lougheed Highway (February 2008) illustrate that emergencies and disasters are inevitable and unpredictable. To be prepared proper planning, training, and exercising are critical. Preparation will better enable us to respond quickly, dispel fear, and reduce confusion in our community, which in the end could save lives.

Training ensures effectiveness from the City's emergency responders, Emergency Operations Centre staff, volunteer teams, and our organization as a whole. Exercising the City's emergency plans allows staff to practice what they've learned, anticipate issues and respond with confidence when confronted with emergency situations.

As legislated by the Emergency Program Act, Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation (B.C. Reg. 380/95) Section 2(3)

- (3) A local authority must, as part of the local emergency plan prepared by it under section 6(2) of the Act,
  - (b) establish and maintain for all emergency response staff to whom responsibilities are assigned in the plan,
    - (i) a program of emergency response exercises, and
    - (ii) a training program,

### **Training**

Training forms a large and important part of preparing to respond to emergencies and disasters. As previous incidents have clearly demonstrated, the end result benefits Burnaby's citizens and our emergency response staff.

*Incident Command System (ICS) Training* provides first responders with common terminology, knowledge and skills necessary to efficiently manage incidents of any size, increasing site communication and coordination.

*Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) Training* provides staff designated to the EOC with knowledge and practice of their duties and roles within the EOC in the event of its activation.

*Emergency Call Centre Operator Training* is a program unique to Burnaby which will provide staff with the necessary training to act as operators within an Emergency Call Centre. A call centre may be activated as part of an emergency response which will allow Burnaby residents to contact the City for immediate, up-to-date information about an incident or event.

### **Exercises**

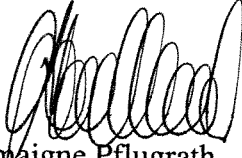
Emergency exercises are the most effective means of assessing and validating emergency plans and the response capabilities of emergency responders, EOC staff, and volunteers. The exercise program will identify strengths and limitations of the City's Emergency Plan, Emergency Social Services Plan, EOC Plan, Evacuation Plan, and others, while providing staff the opportunity to utilize response resources and rehearse their roles during an emergency situation. In addition, these exercises allow Burnaby staff and volunteers to become familiar with the various agencies' personnel, foster relationships and learn to coordinate and operate together.

### **CONCLUSION**

The training and exercises described here are scheduled for completion before March 31, 2011. Applications have been submitted to the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) for funding equal to up to half of the costs for these projects. If the applications are approved, any JEPP funding received will be repaid to the Casino Gaming Reserve.

To: Finance and Civic Development Committee  
From: Emergency Program Coordinator  
Re: 2010 Training and Exercises  
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These projects will greatly enhance Burnaby's emergency management capabilities and contribute to public safety. Therefore, it is recommended that an allocation of up to \$68,000 be authorized from the Gaming Reserve Funds to finance the costs for these initiatives.



Charmaine Pflugrath  
EMERGENCY PROGRAM COORDINATOR

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Copied to: City Manager  
Director Finance