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DONATION OF YORK REGION EMS AMBULANCE VEHICLE

The Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendation contained in the following report, December 15, 2004, from the Commissioner of Health Services:

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

1. Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee and Regional Council authorize the donation of a York Region EMS ambulance with supplies and equipment decommissioned from service on September 1, 2004 to the country of Ecuador through Friends of Ecuador.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to obtain authorization from Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee and Regional Council to donate a decommissioned York Region EMS ambulance.

3. BACKGROUND

A report was brought forward to Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee on December 2, 2004, entitled the Donation of York Region EMS Ambulance Vehicles. Recommendation No. 2 regarding the donation of one ambulance with medical supplies and equipment to Ecuador was referred back to staff for further consideration. Based on new information from Dr. Paul W. Roberts, Honorary Consul of Ecuador in Toronto, and Chairman of Friends of Ecuador, York Region EMS is requesting approval to donate one ambulance with medical supplies and equipment to Friends of Ecuador (*see Attachments 1 and 2*).

Friends of Ecuador is incorporated in Ontario as a not-for-profit organization and sends large amounts of hospital, school and emergency supplies to recognized charities in Ecuador.

In 2002, York Region EMS donated a decommissioned ambulance and surplus medical supplies through Friends of Ecuador, for the Firefighters of the City of Guayaquil, Ecuador. The Regional Municipality of York received a letter from the recipients in Ecuador expressing their gratitude in receiving the donated York Region EMS ambulance and medical supplies in 2002 and detailing the value-added service these items provided to their country.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

York Region EMS ambulances are mandated to be replaced based on an established life cycle of 54 months or when the mileage exceeds 245,000 kilometres. In order to maintain the vehicle fleet and comply with the legislatively required preventative maintenance program under the *Ambulance Act*, York Region EMS has developed a 10-year Capital Vehicle Replacement Plan based on Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) vehicle standards and a performance-based service delivery model. Under normal circumstances, decommissioned ambulances are put up for auction annually along with other regional vehicles. This year, York Region EMS has decommissioned 14 ambulances as part of its vehicle replacement strategy.

On December 3, 2004, a request was received through Friends of Ecuador for the donation of an additional ambulance and medical equipment. The Regional Municipality of York has once again an opportunity to provide those less fortunate than us with a much needed emergency vehicle, equipment and supplies.

4.1 Donations by other Regions

The City of Toronto and the Regional Municipalities of Niagara, Waterloo, Halton and Durham have donated decommissioned vehicles to non-profit organizations and other countries such as public hospitals in Ecuador and the Rotary Club in Kenya.

4.2 Relationship to Vision 2026

The recommendation in this report contributes to the Vision 2026 goal of Engaged Communities and a Responsive Region.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Once an ambulance is decommissioned, it is sold at auction. Based on the previous sales of ambulances at auctions, the net value of a decommissioned ambulance can range between \$3,000 to \$10,000 based on the vehicle condition, mileage, and demand.

York Region EMS proposes to donate one 1999 Ford Van Style E 350 diesel ambulance decommissioned on September 1, 2004. This vehicle has an approximate value of \$7,500 based on decommissioned ambulances previously auctioned.

The vehicle has been equipped with medical supplies and equipment valued at \$2,500. The donation of the vehicle, equipment and supplies has a total value of \$10,000. The expense for shipping, permits and related costs will be covered by the Friends of Ecuador.

Table 1
York Region EMS Donation

	Total Value
Ecuador:	
1 Decommissioned York Region EMS Ambulance	7,500
Medical Supplies and Equipment	2,500
Total	\$10,000

York Region EMS budgeted \$50,000 for the sale of vehicles in 2004, however, it is anticipated that \$75,000 will be received from auction this year. Therefore, a \$10,000 reduction in revenue will have no negative impact on the 2004 budget. Further, prior to donating the York Region EMS ambulance, Friends of Ecuador will be required to acknowledge in writing that The Regional Municipality of York makes no representations or warranties that the ambulance, supplies and equipment are in good operating condition or in a state of proper repair.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

There are no local implications for this report.

7. CONCLUSION

The Regional Municipality of York will benefit from the knowledge that our donation will assist those less fortunate in Ecuador with a much-needed emergency vehicle, equipment and supplies.

It is recommended that Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee and Regional Council authorize the donation of one decommissioned York Region EMS ambulance plus supplies and equipment to Friends of Ecuador in order to further develop community and international partnerships.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The attachments referred to in this clause were included in the agenda for the January 6, 2005 Committee meeting.)