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DONATION OF YORK REGION EMS AMBULANCE VEHICLES

The Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee recommends that:

- 1. Recommendation No. 1 contained in the following report, November 18, 2004, from the Commissioner of Health Services be adopted**
- 2. Recommendation No. 2 be referred back to staff**

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee and Regional Council authorize the donation of two York Region EMS ambulances decommissioned from service on September 1, 2004 to St. John Ambulance-York Region Branch.
2. Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee and Regional Council authorize the donation of one York Region EMS ambulance with supplies and equipment decommissioned from service on September 1, 2004 to the country of Ecuador through La Fundacion De Formacion Ayuda Social Humanitaria "FASH" Del Ecuador.

2. PURPOSE

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

3. BACKGROUND

St. John Ambulance-York Region Branch (*see Attachment 1*) and La Fundacion De Formacion Ayuda Social Humanitaria "FASH" Del Ecuador (*see Attachment 2*) have both requested a donation of York Region EMS ambulances.

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.

4.1 St. John Ambulance

On September 18, 2003 Regional Council (*Committee Report No. 6 of the Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee*) approved a community affiliation between York Region EMS and St. John Ambulance-York Region Branch. This affiliation provides residents of York Region with improved special event coverage as well as a coordinated response in the event of an emergency.

To date, York Region EMS has collaborated with St. John Ambulance in training exercises, special event coverage, and use of paramedic response stations for infant car seat programs. The partnership continues to evolve and increase local youth development and interest in community and public service. In addition, the partnership provides additional exposure of St. John Ambulance staff to the profession of paramedicine.

On June 28, 2004, a request was received by The Regional Municipality of York from the York Region Branch of St. John Ambulance for the donation of two ambulances as they are in desperate need for replacement units for their current vehicles. St. John Ambulance will utilize the ambulances to serve the community and residents of York Region.

4.2 Donations to Ecuador

In 2002, York Region EMS donated a decommissioned ambulance and surplus medical supplies to the country of Ecuador through the Friends of Ecuador volunteer committee. 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.

On April 23, 2004, a request has been received through the La Fundacion De Formacion Ayuda Social Humanitaria "FASH" Del Ecuador for the donation of an ambulance and medical equipment. The Regional Municipality of York has an opportunity to provide those less fortunate than us with a much needed emergency vehicle, equipment and supplies.

4.3 Donations by Other Regions

Toronto Emergency Medical Services has maintained a community affiliation with the Toronto Branch of St. John Ambulance since 1999 and has donated decommissioned vehicles and supplies/equipment as part of its partnership. In addition, the Regional Municipalities of Niagara, Waterloo, Halton and Durham have also donated

decommissioned vehicles to non-profit organizations and other countries such as the Rotary Club in Kenya.

4.4 Relationship to Vision 2026

The recommendations in this report contribute to the Vision 2026 goals of *Responding to the Needs of Our Residents and 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 three 1999 Ford Van Style E 350 diesel ambulances decommissioned on September 1, 2004. These vehicles have an approximate value of \$7,500 each based on decommissioned ambulances previously auctioned.

St. John Ambulance will incur all costs associated with vehicle transfer, branding and maintenance.

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

Table 1
York Region EMS Donations

	Total Value
St. John Ambulance:	
2 Decommissioned York Region EMS Ambulances	\$15,000
Ecuador:	
1 Decommissioned York Region EMS Ambulance	7,500
Medical Supplies and Equipment	2,500
Total	\$25,000

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 \$22,500 reduction in revenue will have no negative impact of the 2004 budget. Further, prior to donating the York Region EMS ambulances, St. John Ambulance and La Fundacion De Formacion Ayuda Social Humanitaria “FASH” Del Ecuador will be required to acknowledge in writing that The Regional Municipality of York makes no representations or warranties that the ambulances, supplies and equipment are in good operating condition or in a state of proper repair.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

Partnerships with not-for-profit organizations such as St. John Ambulance will enhance the service delivery to the residents of York Region.

7. CONCLUSION

The Regional Municipality of York will benefit from the knowledge that our donation will benefit a not-for-profit community affiliated partner such as St. John Ambulance and the donated ambulance vehicles will continue to be utilized to serve the community and residents of York Region.

The Regional Municipality of York will also 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 two decommissioned York Region EMS ambulances to St. John Ambulance-York Region Branch and one decommissioned York Region EMS ambulance plus supplies and equipment to Ecuador in order to further develop community and international partnerships.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The attachment referred to in this clause was included in the Agenda for the December 2, 2004 Committee meeting.)