



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** May 20, 2016
From: Phyllis L. Carlyle **File:** 09-5350-00/Vol 01
General Manager, Law and Community Safety (16.05)
Re: **Emergency Programs Activity Report**

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "Emergency Programs Activity Report," dated May 20, 2016 from the General Manager, Law and Community Safety, be received for information.

Phyllis L. Carlyle
General Manager, Law and Community Safety
(604-276-4104)

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: DW
APPROVED BY CAO 	

Staff Report

Origin

This report provides Council with an update on Emergency Programs activities. Emergency Programs continues to work towards the City's vision of being the most appealing, livable and well-managed community in Canada, through the delivery of its programs and services. Emergency Programs is reporting on its activities in support of its mandate to maximize the protection of life, public infrastructure, private property and the environment in the event of a major emergency or disaster.

This activity report for Emergency Programs provides information on each of the following areas:

1. Community Involvement/Public Education
2. City of Richmond Staff and Volunteer Education
3. Public Works Open House
4. Media Inquiries

This report supports Council's 2014-2018 Term Goal #1 A Safe Community:

Maintain emphasis on community safety to ensure Richmond continues to be a safe community.

Analysis

1. Community Involvement/Public Education

Beginning with Emergency Preparedness Week May 1 -7, 2016, the month was busy with 13 Community Involvement/Public Education events that were attended by both staff and volunteers; including:

- Personal Preparedness Presentations: Carmel Point Condo Complex, Ferris Elementary School, South Arm United Church, Pelican Pointe Condo Complex, Richmond Auto Mall, Steveston Community Centre, Lord Byng Elementary School, and Suki's Hair Salon.
- Festivals: Move for Health at Minoru Park, and Secure Living Fair at Aberdeen Centre Mall.
- Open Houses: City of Richmond Public Works Open House, City of Richmond Reception Centre and Vehicle Readiness.

In total, 75 volunteers and staff assisted over 2,000 people who each received program information packages. As well as being able to provide public education in English, Emergency Programs has staff and volunteers who can assist residents in the following languages: Arabic, Cantonese, Dutch, French, German, Gujarati, Hebrew, Hindi, Hindustani, Hungarian, Mandarin, Marathi, Polish, Punjabi, Spanish, Tagalog and Toi Shan.

2. City of Richmond Staff and Volunteer Education

In addition to education for the general public, during the month of May 2016, Emergency Programs has provided three Personal Emergency Preparedness information opportunities for city staff and held a volunteer workshop.

3. Public Works Open House

On May 14, 2016, Emergency Programs participated in a very successful Public Works Open House. In partnership with the Insurance Bureau of Canada, Emergency Programs was able to bring the Quake Cottage¹ to Richmond for the day. With the cooperation of the weather, there were 185 adults and 170 children who were able to feel what an 8.0 magnitude earthquake would be like. In addition to the Quake Cottage, Emergency Programs' personal preparedness booth was able to provide information to the approximately 1,000 people in attendance at the Open House.

4. Media Inquiries

On May 18, 2016, News 1130 reported on how various municipalities are preparing for emergencies. The City of Richmond's Senior Manager of Corporate Communications, Ted Townsend spoke with the reporter and commented on the City's Emergency Planning processes, community awareness efforts, the Emergency Notification System (ENS) and investments in infrastructure such as dikes, drainage improvements and the upgrade of the Community Safety Building.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

In the month of May, with 13 opportunities for the public and four for staff and volunteers, Emergency Programs was able to reach over 3,000 members of the general public, staff and volunteers and provide them with information on many of the City's emergency preparedness initiatives. With the assistance of Corporate Communications, Emergency Programs is looking forward to fulfilling more requests for presentations and workshops in the future.



Lainie Goddard
Manager, Emergency Programs
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LG:lg

¹ <http://www.quakecottage.com/>