



City of Richmond

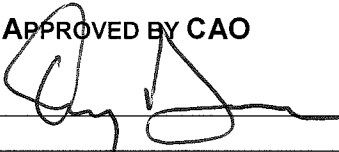
Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee
From: Phyllis L. Carlyle
General Manager, Law and Community Safety
Date: June 20, 2016
File: 09-5350-00/Vol 01
(16.00.06)
Re: Emergency Programs Activity Report - May 2016

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "Emergency Programs Activity Report - May 2016," dated June 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

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

During the month of June, staff and volunteers attended the following Community Involvement and Public Education events:

Doors Open Richmond

On June 4 and 5, the Emergency Programs Division were invited by Richmond Fire Rescue (RFR) to join them at Firehall #2 on Steveston and No 2 Road to participate in the 9th annual Doors Open Richmond. During this community event Emergency Programs staff and volunteers provided information to the public on personal preparedness by talking with the public and handing out materials.

Canadian Association of Retired Persons (CARP¹)

On June 25, 2016, the Richmond chapter of CARP hosted a senior health and resources expo at the South Arm United church, located at 11051 No. 3 Road. This free event featured 75 exhibitors who provided financial advice, health care information, and other seniors' resources. City staff and volunteers were on hand to teach attendees about personal preparedness and provide information booklets.

¹ CARP is a national, non-partisan, non-profit organization that advocates for financial security and improved health care for Canadians as they age. CARP works closely with all levels of government and collaborates with other organizations to advocate on health and financial issues. <http://www.carp.ca>

Richmond Emergency Programs Amateur Radio Club² (REPARS) Field Day

Each year, on the fourth weekend of June, the REPARS Club members join more than 35,000 amateur radio operators from across Canada and the US with a goal of contacting as many national and international amateur radio stations as possible. During the 24 hour period in Steveston's Garry Point Park; radio communication equipment was demonstrated, emergency radio operations in less than ideal conditions was practiced; and amateur radio in emergency communication to the general public was promoted; and staff showcased the City's Emergency Programs communications vehicle.

Personal Preparedness Presentation

On June 27, 2016, Emergency Programs held a Personal Preparedness Presentation for Covenant Court Senior's Complex. This presentation was initiated by referral from the CARP open house that staff attended on May 5, 2016. Participants expressed an interest to be involved in planning other emergency management training sessions.

2. City of Richmond Staff and Volunteer Education

Exercise Coastal Response 2016³

On June 8, 2016, staff were involved with the Province's Coastal Response Exercise. Exercise Coastal Response 2016 was based on a magnitude 9.0 earthquake resulting from a rupture of the Cascadia Subduction Zone off the coast of southwestern B.C. In this exercise scenario, strong shaking lasting several minutes occurred in areas of Greater Vancouver, Greater Victoria and central Vancouver Island, causing damage in the major urban centres and widespread destruction in the Port Alberni valley. The earthquake also generated a small tsunami on the west coast of Vancouver Island minutes after the initial shock.

The purpose of Exercise Coastal Response 2016 was for Emergency Management BC (EMBC) to bring together key stakeholder groups – multiple levels of government, various jurisdictions in Canada and the U.S., and a number of provincial ministries, First Nations, Crown corporations and first responders – in a coordinated and integrated way to activate the B.C. Earthquake Immediate Response Plan (IRP).

This exercise was well received by all participants as it served to strengthen relationships among partners and stakeholders with the ultimate goal of enhancing operational coordination.

RCMP Block Watch Training

During the month of June, the Richmond Detachment hosted training sessions for Block Watch Captains and Co-captains. Staff from the Emergency Programs Division attended to provide emergency program information and handouts for personal preparedness. The training was well

² <http://www.rarclub.ca>

³ <http://www2.gov.bc.ca>

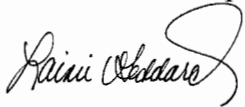
received as numerous Block Watch participants have since contacted staff to express an interest in volunteering with Emergency Programs.

Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

In the month of June, Emergency Programs staff and volunteers were out in the community for three public open houses, a personal preparedness presentation, participated in a provincial emergency exercise and attended four training sessions for Block Watch Captains and Co-captains and are looking forward to more opportunities to capitalize on synergies created by a closer relationship with the RCMP's Block Watch volunteers.



Lainie Goddard
Manager, Emergency Programs
(604-244-1211)

LG:lg