



Township of
**Leeds and the
Thousand Islands**

Council Report

Meeting Date: 2025-01-13

Department: Fire Services

Report Number: Fire Services-2025-001

Submitted By: Mike Prior

Approved By: Stephen Donachey

Subject: Fire Protection Grant- Cancer Prevention Initiative

Recommendation:

That Council receive Report Fire Services-2025-001-Fire Protection Grant- Cancer Prevention Initiative, and

That Council authorize the Treasurer to sign all relevant documents and agreements to facilitate receiving the funding in relation to the Fire Protection Grant.

Background:

In 2024, the Office of the Fire Marshal ('OFM') announced a Fire Protection Grant available for fire departments in Ontario to apply for funds to promote cancer prevention initiatives. The funding would be based on the application and the number of fire stations within the municipality. The OFM estimated that each municipality could receive up to \$10,000 dollars per station depending upon the number of successful applications.

Cancer prevention in the fire service is a focal point as firefighters die of cancer at a rate of four times higher than the general population. This initiative through the OFM is an excellent step in cancer prevention.

Analysis:

Staff analyzed needs within the department and applied for funding to purchase two washer/ extractors for turn out gear cleaning. Such units remove contaminants that have attached to the gear during active fire calls. Currently, Fire Services has one washer/ extractor at Station 1 with one additional unit planned for new Station 2.

Fire Services' application was successful and will receive \$32,921 under the Fire Protection Grant. The OFM advised that all successful applicants were allotted \$8,230.25 per station.

The grant funds will enable the purchase a washer/extractor for each of Stations 3 and 4. Having a washer/extractor at each station will make it easier to clean the turnout gear in house.

Alternatives: None

Financial Implications: None. The grant is sufficient to the two washers.

Relevant Policy or Legislation: Fire departments in Ontario follow NFPA requirements as the standard of practice. The model of washer/ extractor units to be purchased conforms to NFPA 1851 for the care and maintenance of equipment.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

Council adopted the Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands Strategic Plan (2021-2031) at its regular meeting held on November 8, 2021. The initiative contained within this report supports the following Strategic Pillars as set out in the Strategic Plan:

- Delivering Effective and Accountable Government
- Promoting Quality of Life and Environmental Stewardship
- Growing a Liveable Community with Great Services
- Fostering Jobs and Economic Development

Consultations:

This report was reviewed in consultation with:

Philip Reniers, Treasurer / Director of Corporate Services

Michelle Hannah, Clerk

Attachments:

None.