



The Corporation of the City of Cornwall
Regular Meeting of Council
Report

Department: Cornwall & SD&G Paramedic Services
Report Number: 2021-02-Cornwall SDG Paramedic Services
Prepared By: Bill Lister, Chief
Meeting Date: March 22, 2021
Subject: Community Paramedics Funding to Assist Seniors on Long Term Care Wait List to Remain Safely at Home

Purpose:

To enter into an Agreement with the Ministry of Health so that Community Paramedics can assist seniors who are on Long Term Care wait lists, or soon to be, remain safely in their homes for as long as possible.

Recommendation

That Council receive Report 2021-02-Cornwall SDG Paramedic Services.

Financial Implications

The Ministry of Health will provide up to \$2,815,200 in one time funding for a four-year transfer payment agreement between 2020 and 2025 to support seniors on the provincial long-term care wait list, or soon to be eligible for long term care, with community paramedicine services in the comfort of their own homes. This initiative is 100% funded by the Province. There is no municipal contribution.



Background / Discussion

Over 38,000 seniors are currently on the provincial wait list for Long Term Care bed placements.

Seniors and their caregivers struggle to remain safely at home and often end up in emergency departments for non-emergency conditions. Many are admitted to hospital as it is not safe to return them to home without support.

The goal of this program is to work in coordination with other home and health care providers to keep individuals in their homes for as long as possible. Community paramedics work with primary care providers to do wellness assessments to regularly check on individuals who struggle to remain independent. The program is for those who live in Cornwall and the surrounding counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry. Community paramedics work outside of the traditional 911 system when assisting these individuals.

This impacts caregivers, who gain peace of mind knowing their family members are safe. The program is also significant as it reduces the number of hospital admissions to those individuals who can be assisted in another way.

Individuals are introduced to the program through referrals primarily through the LHIN who will coordinate the entire support team, so everyone is aware of the individual's progression. It is a "whatever it takes" approach to keep individuals safely at home. Paramedics are perfectly suited to be adaptable and resourceful in-home care environments.

This funding enhances the already existing Community Paramedic (CP) Program which has done similar work identifying and assisting individuals who use the emergency department as an access point for non-emergency conditions.

To support this initiative, there is a requirement to add one vehicle to the Service's fleet. This vehicle is estimated to cost \$105,000 and would be funded through the Land Ambulance Reserve and charged back to the CP Program through annual amortization over the life of the vehicle. In the event that the CP Program comes to an end prior to the vehicle being fully amortized, the Service will incorporate this vehicle as part of its current vehicle replacement schedule.

A By-law authorizing The Corporation of the City of Cornwall to enter into an Agreement with the Ministry of Health is included on this Agenda for Council's approval.

Accessibility Impact

This program brings services to the clients in their own homes.

Document Title:	Community Paramedics - Long Term Care Initiative - 2021-02-Cornwall SDG Paramedic Services.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Mar 15, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Bill Lister - Mar 8, 2021 - 10:28 AM

Tracey Bailey - Mar 14, 2021 - 2:57 PM

Maureen Adams - Mar 15, 2021 - 4:44 PM