



## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: June 14, 2011  
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Meeting Date: July 12, 2011

TO: Vancouver City Council  
FROM: Fire Chief, Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services  
SUBJECT: 2011 Emergency Preparedness Conference-Partnership Donation

### ***RECOMMENDATION***

THAT City Council approve a Partnership Donation in the amount of \$5,000.00 to the 2011 Vancouver Emergency Preparedness Conference. The source of funds for the donation to be from the Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services' 2011 Operating Budget.

### ***GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS***

The Fire Chief RECOMMENDS approval of the foregoing.

### ***COUNCIL POLICY***

There is no applicable Council Policy, although Council has recognized the importance of emergency preparedness for the City through funding commitments to specific capital improvements and leadership on major emergency response initiatives such as E-Comm, Dedicated Fire Protection System, and Urban Search and Rescue.

Approval of grants and donations requires eight affirmative votes.

### ***PURPOSE***

To obtain approval from Council to support the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Emergency Preparedness Conference, which will be held in Vancouver on November 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011, with a Gold Partnership Donation of \$5,000.

### ***BACKGROUND***

The Emergency Preparedness Conference is held annually in Vancouver. The theme for the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference is, "*Emerging Trends and Challenges in Emergency Management*".

The Conference raises the level of emergency preparedness and makes our City a safer place by developing new strategies, promoting awareness, providing information, tools and solutions to problems, sharing experiences, showcasing technologies and creating networking opportunities.

The conference is organized by the Pacific Northwest Preparedness Society, a non-profit body supported by BC Housing, Canadian Red Cross Society, City of Vancouver, Emergency Management British Columbia, Insurance Bureau of Canada, Justice Institute of British Columbia, Ministry of Health Services and the University of British Columbia.

In order to keep registration low and make the conference as accessible as possible, the organizers rely, as much as possible, on contributions from corporate sponsors.

In return for the sponsorship funding, the City receives the following benefits:

- Free delegate registrations for three delegates
- Discounted registration for an additional two delegates of \$150.00 off Regular Delegate fee
- Two Guest Passes for Awards Luncheon and Fun Night
- Trade Show Exhibit space or one additional Conference Registration
- Display of City logo on the session screen saver board as the GOLD Partner
- Identified as GOLD Partner in the conference brochures and on the official conference website, [www.epconference.ca](http://www.epconference.ca)
- Right to use the Conference logo in correspondence and newsletters recognizing the City's contribution as a GOLD Partner.

### ***DISCUSSION***

As noted previously, the 2011 Annual Emergency Preparedness Conference will be held November 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, December 1<sup>st</sup> at the Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre Hotel. This conference will attract over 300 delegates, including Emergency Service Volunteers, Emergency Management Policy Makers, Planners and Managers, Health Professionals, Educators, Elected and Appointed Officials, Public and Private Sector Executives and Managers, Frontline Responders, Risk and Business Continuity Managers, Safety Officers, and Emergency Management Consultants.

This conference will provide a significant opportunity for City staff to discuss important issues relating to emergency preparedness.

### ***FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS***

Funding would be made available through the existing 2011 Fire and Rescue Services Operating Budget.

### ***CONCLUSION***

The Corporate Strategic Business Plan contains a goal which specifically supports emergency preparedness (i.e. *Goal 8: Vancouver is a safe city in which people feel secure*). As the City of Vancouver is committed to the principles of being prepared, therefore it would be appropriate to support this conference through a Gold Partnership" in the amount of a donation of \$5,000.