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## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: May 23, 2012  
Contact: Wayne Oudijn  
Contact No.: 604.665.6086  
RTS No.: 9645  
VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20  
Meeting Date: July 10, 2012

TO: Vancouver City Council  
FROM: General Manager/Fire Chief Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services  
SUBJECT: 2012 Emergency Preparedness Conference - Partnership Donation

### *RECOMMENDATION*

THAT City Council approve a Partnership Donation in the amount of \$5,000.00 to the 2012 Vancouver Emergency Preparedness Conference. The source of funds for the donation to be from the Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services' 2012 Operating Budget.

### *REPORT SUMMARY*

The Emergency Preparedness Conference held in Vancouver brings together emergency management professionals from across British Columbia and the Pacific Northwest from a broad range of organizations.

The City and Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services have been a major participant and host of this conference since its inception.

The City of Vancouver is committed to the principles of being prepared and therefore it would be appropriate to support this conference through a "Gold Partnership" donation in the amount of \$5,000.

### *COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS*

City Council previously approved a similar request for a \$5,000.00 partnership donation for the 2011 Emergency Preparedness Conference.

Approval of grants and donations requires eight affirmative votes.

### *CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS*

The Fire Chief RECOMMENDS approval of the foregoing.

### *REPORT*

#### *Background/Context*

The Emergency Preparedness Conference is held annually in Vancouver. The theme for the 25<sup>TH</sup> Annual Conference is, "*Benchmarks, Best Practices & Breaking New Ground.*"

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 costs 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 six 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

#### *Strategic Analysis*

The 2012 Annual Emergency Preparedness Conference will be held November 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> at the Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre Hotel. This conference will attract over 350 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.

*Implications/Related Issues/Risk (if applicable)**Financial*

Funding would be made available through the existing 2012 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, it would be appropriate to support this conference through a Gold Partnership" donation in the amount of \$5,000.00.

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