

# B.3

## COUNCIL MEMBERS' MOTION

### 3. Saving Lives with Community Defibrillators and First Aid

Submitted by Councillor Fry

WHEREAS

1. Sudden cardiac arrest takes the lives of up to 40,000 Canadians a year, nearly 6,000 of those deaths are in BC;
2. Since BC's overdose crisis was declared in 2016 more than 7,700 British Columbians have perished as a result of apparent opioid toxicity (overdose);
3. In the event of sudden cardiac arrest, bystander use of an automated external defibrillator (AED), along with CPR, is crucial and increases the chance of survival to 75% or higher;
4. In the event of an overdose, Naloxone can quickly reverse the effects of opioid drugs and can reverse slowed breathing within 3 to 5 minutes allowing for life-saving intervention;
5. St. John Ambulance is Canada's leading first aid charity with a mission to empower all Canadians to save lives by providing first aid training and supplies;
6. Through their "Start Me Up BC" campaign<sup>1</sup>, St. John Ambulance (BC/Yukon) hopes to address a serious gap in our public emergency preparedness platform, through a campaign to place 1000 low cost one-of-a-kind freestanding community defibrillator stands across British Columbia. These Publicly Accessible Defibrillators (PADs) are equipped with an AED, first aid and naloxone kits, as well as a connected alarm system to dispatch emergency first responders.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to report back on opportunities to install automated Publicly Accessible Defibrillators (PADs) equipped with naloxone and first aid kits, in locations throughout Vancouver, including:

- a. In consultation with St. John's Ambulance in consideration of their "Start Me Up" campaign;
  - b. As part of a public benefit amenities on new developments;
  - c. At city facilities and/or appropriate public spaces; and/or
  - d. In partnerships at key locations for entertainment, transit, and public gathering.
1. St. John Ambulance "Start Me Up"  
<https://www.startmeupbc.ca/>