

File: 0110.00

July 29, 2021

Honourable Premier John Horgan
Province of British Columbia
PO Box 9422 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9V1

Email: premier@gov.bc.ca

The Honourable Adrian Dix, M.L.A.
Minister of Health
PO Box 9050, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Email: HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Premier Horgan and Minister Dix:

Re: Improvement to Pre-Hospital Care System

At its July 26, 2021 Regular Council meeting, the Council for the City of Langley adopted the following resolution regarding the above-referenced subject.

WHEREAS local governments have been raising concerns of long delays with ambulance response time and First Responders responding to increasing number of Medical Emergency Service Alarm (MESA) calls due to lack of inadequate number of ambulances being available.

WHEREAS the recent heat wave exacerbated the shortcoming of the pre-hospital care system which created unacceptable delays in ambulance response time.

WHEREAS First Responders had to respond to extraordinary number of Medical Emergency Service Alarm (MESA) calls during the recent heat wave and endured unreasonable delays in response time by the ambulance to release them from the calls.

WHEREAS First Responders play an essential role in the pre-hospital care system and in supporting BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) with the delivery of the quickest possible response to patients requiring time-critical care.

WHEREAS the Auditor General of British Columbia's report, published in February 2019, on Access to Emergency Health Services provided recommendations to make transformational changes to the pre-hospital care system.

WHEREAS Health Minister Adrian Dix announced on July 14, 2021 to improve ambulance response time by providing funding for 85 new full-time paramedics, 30 fulltime dispatchers, 22 new ambulances, and converting 22 rural ambulance stations to 24/7 ALPHA stations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of BC and BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) immediately allocate the funding to improve ambulance response

time; and to improve coordination with fire departments to support consistent application of medical standards, information sharing, an integrated dispatch system, and improvements to patient care as recommended in the Auditor General report.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Minister Dix take concrete actions to treat First Responders as an equal and an integral partner of the pre-hospital care system with adequate support (e.g. training) and resources (e.g. cost recovery) in order to achieve this goal; and that this motion be forward to Premier John Horgan; Minister Adrian Dix, Minister of Health; Andrew Mercier, MLA Langley, Susan Wannamaker, Executive Vice President, Clinical Service Delivery, Provincial Health Services Authority; and All municipalities in BC.

Yours truly,
CITY OF LANGLEY



Paula Kusack
Deputy Corporate Officer

cc: Andrew Mercier, MLA Langley
Susan Wannamaker, Executive Vice President, Clinical Service Delivery,
Provincial Health Services Authority
All municipalities in BC.

