



For Immediate Release
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YORKTON ADOPTS FIRE PROTECTIVE SERVICES PLAN

New plan focuses on fire prevention and public education

City of Yorkton Council adopted a fire protective services operational plan Monday that is aimed at improving the fire safety for our community, including enhanced fire prevention and public education services. This follows a comprehensive review of the city's fire service by Dillon Consulting that examined all aspects of the Yorkton Fire Protective Services (YFPS) and various other fire protection models to determine what, if anything, we can be doing better.

After much review and discussion, City Council selected a fire protective services plan that will increase the number of temporary firefighters, resulting in an increase in the total number of qualified firefighter's available at all times. Strategically, this will result in enhancing the initial response and depth of response capabilities of the YFPS. This plan maintains the current number of full-time firefighters and integrates the current role of auxiliary firefighters into the expanded temporary firefighter program.

"The safety of the residents and businesses in the City of Yorkton is our number one priority and we are committed to ensuring that we have the most efficient and effective fire protective services," said Mayor Bob Maloney. "Council has selected a service delivery model that includes strategies for enhancing our fire prevention and public education programs, transitioning to a larger number of qualified firefighters, and improving the overall efficiency and effectiveness of our fire services".

The next step in the transition process is for the City to meet with representatives of the Yorkton Professional Firefighters Association to negotiate revisions to the current collective agreement with our full-time and temporary firefighters. The City is looking forward to this process in working collaboratively with our full-time and temporary firefighters in sustaining the high quality of our current fire services.

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