

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

**TO:** Select meeting type...

**FROM:** J. Zaffino, Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** January 9, 2025

**RE:** **Fire Protection Agreement between RDOS and City of Penticton**

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### **Administrative Recommendation:**

THAT the Board approve the Fire Protection Services agreement between the City of Penticton and the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen.

### **Purpose:**

The Rural Fire Protection Services agreement between the City of Penticton and the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen to provide "First Responder Services" and "Fire Suppression Services" to the West Bench Fire Protection Area.

### **Reference:**

Agreement dated January 1, 2025  
Bylaw No. 1125, 1990

### **Business Plan Objective:** *(Tie to current RDOS Business Plan)*

- Goal 1.1 To be an effective, fiscally responsible organization.
- Goal 2.2 To meet public needs through the continuous improvement of key services.

### **Background:**

On July 25, 2024 the Board agreed to extend the Fire Protection Agreement dated February 28, 2018, between the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen and the City of Penticton for first responder and fire suppression services to the West Bench Fire Protection Area, which expired on December 31, 2024, be extended to December 31, 2024, to allow for negotiations of new terms.

The City of Penticton approved entering the new agreement on December 17, 2024.

### **Analysis:**

There are no changes to the services being provided under the new agreement, however, the following were added:

- Section 6.3  
Both parties agree that future discussions may occur that investigate the addition of other protection areas to this service agreement
- Section 6.4

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Both parties agree that future discussions may occur that investigate the option of adding fire inspection or investigations to the services provided by the City

**Financial Implications:**

The agreement is funded through the Service Area Establishment Bylaw # 1125, 1990 and is based on assessed value of the land and improvements in the area as a percentage of the total area being serviced by the City of Penticton Fire Department. The funding formula is outlined in section 3.2 and is the same funding formula used in previous agreements.

**Alternatives:**

That the Board not enter into the agreement and renegotiate the agreement with the City of Penticton.

**Communication Strategy:**

Residents of West Bench, Sage Mesa and Husula Highlands will not experience any change in the level of service provided. Consequently, no external communication is planned at this time.

**Respectfully submitted:**

*"Deborah Jones-Middleton"*

D. Jones-Middleton, Senior Manager of  
Protective Services