

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: B. Newell, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: March 2, 2023

RE: Fire Services Mutual Aid Agreement

Administrative Recommendation:

THAT the Regional District enter into the South Okanagan Similkameen Fire Services Mutual Aid Agreement, as appended to this report.

Purpose:

To authorize Regional District Fire Departments to travel outside their geographic area to assist other Fire Departments or Brigades in the south Okanagan Similkameen when requested by a participating fire department.

Reference:

Fire Services Mutual Aid Agreement

Background:

The Regional District has eight Fire Departments, each created by a service establishment bylaw by assent of ratepayers in a specific geographic area. All Departments are paid-on-call and in any significant event or disaster, the response may require resources over and above what they are able to provide, or the other way around. In those situations the Incident Commander may find it beneficial to call for assistance from an adjacent Department or Brigade.

In this case, the responsible local government, indian band or society must authorize the Fire Department to go out-of-area and set out the conditions of doing so. The previous agreement expired at the end of 2020 and was extended for one year to allow a more thorough review.

Analysis:

The proposed agreement has been reviewed by all Parties and is now moving for adoption.

Alternatives:

1. Deny the Agreement