



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

City's Critical Care Transfer Unit (CCTU) Funding Agreement with Ornge

Date:	May 23, 2007
To:	Community Development & Recreation Committee
From:	Chief and General Manager, Toronto EMS
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

In prior years, the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care provided funding directly to the City of Toronto for CCTU services. For the fiscal year April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008, the City of Toronto was informed that the Ministry intended to flow the funding through Ornge – formerly Ontario Air Ambulance Services Inc. Consequently, a funding agreement has been drafted with Ornge in the amount of \$2,855,495. Legal Services provided input and guidance throughout the process.

Based on staff review and consultation, Toronto Emergency Medical Services on behalf of the City of Toronto is seeking authority to sign the funding agreement with Ornge. CCTU funding will begin once the agreement is signed and shall be paid bi-monthly to an account so designated by the City.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chief and General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services recommends that:

1. City Council grant authority:
 - a. for the City of Toronto to enter into a funding agreement with Ornge for the provision of critical care transfer unit services in 2007 – 2008 such that transfer payments can begin, and
 - b. the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact to the approved 2007 Operating budget for Toronto Emergency Medical Services. Financial transfer payments to the City of Toronto in the amount of \$2,855,495 will offset Toronto Emergency Medical Services operating costs for the provision of CCTU services for the fiscal period April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

In prior years, the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care provided funding directly to the City of Toronto for CCTU services. Starting the fiscal year April 1, 2007, the City of Toronto was informed that the Ministry intended to flow the funding through Ornge – formerly Ontario Air Ambulance Services Inc. It is the Ministry's intent to have CCTU services delivered province-wide for both land and air by Ornge in the future. Consequently, a funding agreement has been drafted with Ornge in the amount of \$2,855,495.

COMMENTS

The City of Toronto provides land ambulance and CCTU services to a large geographic area known as the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). CCTU refers to the transport of critically ill patients between hospital intensive care units. The GTA for the purposes of the funding agreement includes the City of Toronto plus the surrounding municipalities of Durham, York, Halton and Peel. The Ministry recognizes Toronto's CCTU service to the GTA and provides funding for this purpose.

For the current fiscal year starting April 2007 and beyond, the City was informed that the Ministry would flow the CCTU funding through Ornge. As a result, staff worked with Ornge to draft a funding agreement between the parties. The amount of \$2,855,495 is essentially the same as the amount funded for the previous fiscal year and is considered adequate for the CCTU services provided.

It is anticipated that in the future, Ornge will assume the management of CCTU services to the GTA at which point the City of Toronto will no longer be providing CCTU service.

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SIGNATURE

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