



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Donation of Obsolete Fire Fighting Equipment To The Municipality of Plovdiv, Bulgaria

<b>Date:</b>	August 19, 2010
<b>To:</b>	City Council
<b>From:</b>	Fire Chief and General Manager Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer
<b>Wards:</b>	All
<b>Reference Number:</b>	P:/2010/Internal Services/PMMD/cc10030PMMD (AFS12806)

#### **SUMMARY**

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The City received a letter from the Mayor of the Municipality of Plovdiv, Bulgaria reporting on the very poor personal protective equipment available to Plovdiv's fire fighters, and requested that surplus equipment from Toronto Fire Services be donated to assist in reducing the high risk of personal injuries when entering burning structures.

This report requests approval to donate obsolete fire fighting equipment currently in Toronto Fire Services inventory consisting of sixty (60) bunker suits and helmets, forty (40) pairs of fire fighting boots and six (6) medical equipment storage bags, which has no resale value in North America, to the Municipality of Plovdiv, Bulgaria Fire Services.

The Municipality of Plovdiv, Bulgaria will be responsible for all costs associated with transporting the items from Canada to Bulgaria.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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**The Fire Chief and General Manager, and Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer recommend that Council grant authority:**

1. To donate sixty (60) bunker suits and helmets, forty (40) pairs of fire fighting boots and six (6) medical equipment storage bags that do not meet the current required standards in North America, have no resale value and would normally be discarded, to the Municipality of Plovdiv, Bulgaria ,
2. To execute indemnity and waiver agreements with the appropriate officials receiving the donated items, such agreements to be in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

### **Financial Impact:**

There are no financial implications associated with the approval of this report. All costs associated with transporting the items from Canada to Bulgaria will be borne by the Municipality of Plovdiv.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

The Executive Committee at their meeting held on August 16, 2010 considered the following report "Toronto Fire Services (TFS) 2010 Capital Project to Replace Firefighter Bunker Suits" that was forwarded by the Budget Committee in a letter dated June 29, 2010.

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2010/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-32928.pdf>

The Executive Committee approved the Recommendations included in the report with the exception of Recommendation 4. The following Decision Advice requested that The Fire Chief and Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer report directly to City Council on August 25, 2010.

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2010/ex/decisions/2010-08-16-ex46-dd.htm>

## **COMMENTS**

Toronto Fire Services currently has obsolete fire fighting equipment that has no resale value in North America. Toronto Fire Services has reviewed the request from the Mayor of the Municipality of Plovdiv, Bulgaria reporting on the very poor personal protective

equipment available to Plovdiv's Fire Fighters leading to a high risk of personal injuries when entering burning structures. The donation of equipment will improve the safety of Fire Fighters and citizens in the Municipality of Plovdiv.

From the inventory of outdated equipment, Toronto Fire Services can provide a donation of sixty (60) bunker suits and helmets, forty (40) pairs of fire fighting boots and six (6) medical equipment storage bags. The Municipality of Plovdiv, Bulgaria will be responsible for all costs associated with transporting the items from Canada to Bulgaria.

While obsolete Fire Fighting protective clothing would normally be discarded in Canada, it is a valuable alternative to a fire department that has limited protective clothing of any kind. Even with the refurbishment of the equipment, it would still not meet the current standards required by North America (National Fire Prevention Association 1851).

The Purchasing By-law, Chapter 195-Section 195-17, states that surplus materials or equipment must be disposed of by public auction or solicitation, by way of trade-in at fair market value as part of the acquisition of other materials or equipment, or as Council may otherwise authorize. Donation of equipment would therefore require Council authority. The indemnity and waiver agreements will have the recipients release and hold the City harmless from any claims made by them or others in relation to the donated equipment.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**



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William A. Stewart  
Fire Chief and General Manager

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Cam Weldon  
Deputy City Manager and  
Chief Financial Officer