

Original signed by: Kari Bolton, Deputy CAO

# City Staff Report

**Report Date:** January 12, 2021**Meeting Date:** January 19, 2020**To:** City Manager**From:** Community Development Coordinator**Subject:** COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure - Quesnel Fire Hall #1 Upgrades

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## Purpose

The purpose of this report is to gain Council's approval to submit an application to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure program under the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure stream.

## Summary

The upgrades and renovation to Fire Hall #1 will include:

- Upgraded fire barrier walls;
- Seismic stability reinforcement;
- New concrete in fire bays;
- Asbestos removal;
- New life safety and lighting systems;
- Upgraded doors and hardware;
- Millwork and finishes;
- Replace mechanical systems (gas meter, HVAC (furnace, air intake heat exchangers, and controls));
- Replace plumbing (copper water piping, fixtures);
- New women's change area for female volunteers;
- Accessible doors to washrooms.

## Recommendation

THAT Quesnel City Council supports the application for the Quesnel Fire Hall #1 Upgrades project through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream;

AND THAT Council supports the project and commits to any associated ineligible costs and cost overruns from the Capital Reinvestment Reserve.

## Council Policy

N/A

## Financial Implications

This program will fund 100% of total eligible projects costs.

We are still waiting for project quotes, and anticipate the maximum project cost to be approximately \$2,100,000.

## Background

The Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program is available to local governments in four streams. The Fire Hall #1 Upgrades project fits under the Retrofits, Repairs and Upgrades to local



government buildings. It is not common for grant programs to fund fire hall improvements. Total project costs must not exceed \$10 million, however, the total funding pool for this stream is \$80.29 million; it is expected that projects with lower total cost will have a higher likelihood of being approved.

A City of Quesnel Fire Department Needs Analysis & Facilities Assessment Study was recently completed in August, 2020. This Needs Analysis found the current Fire Hall #1 is inadequate in space requirements, no longer meets current building code, and is not seismically sound.

The current Fire Hall #1 has inefficient mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems that are near the end of their life span and will need to be replaced. Ventilation in the building is not up to code; when a truck is started in the fire bay, even with the bay doors open, the office area fills with diesel fumes. The exterior envelope and wood windows of the building are inefficient and updating them will greatly reduce the amount of GHG emissions. The proposed upgrades will also increase accessibility and gender equity use of the building.

## **Concurrence**

Director of Community Services

Fire Chief/Director of Emergency Services

## **Options**

1. Support grant application
2. Reject grant application