Agenda – Council – March 27, 2025

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Community Services – March 5, 2025

Item No. 1 Agreement for Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service Employee Clinical Skills Experience

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 18, 2025, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services and submitted the following to Council:

1. That the City enter into, execute and deliver an agreement with Shared Health, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, St. Boniface Hospital Inc., Seven Oaks General Hospital, Misericordia General Hospital, Riverview Health Centre Inc. and Concordia Hospital for Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service (WFPS) employees to participate in practicums at their facilities for the purpose of obtaining clinical skills experience, for the period April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2029, and such other agreements as determined necessary by the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services to implement the intent of the foregoing (the "Ancillary Agreements").

2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the agreement with Shared Health, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, St. Boniface Hospital Inc., Seven Oaks General Hospital, Misericordia General Hospital, Riverview Health Centre Inc. and Concordia Hospital for Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service employees to participate in practicums at their facilities for the purpose of obtaining clinical skills experience, for the period April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2029, the Ancillary Agreements, and such other agreements as determined necessary by the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Community Services – March 5, 2025

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 18, 2025, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 5, 2025, the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Agreement for Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service Employee Clinical Skills Experience

Critical Path: Standing Policy Committee on Community Services – Executive Policy Committee – Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
R. Sneath	C. Schmidt	T. Graham	S. Armbruster, Interim CAO

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service (WFPS) has a clinical education training program that allows participants to gain important skills and experience in medical facilities. This includes facilities operated by Shared Health, the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, St. Boniface Hospital Inc., Seven Oaks General Hospital, Misericordia General Hospital, Riverview Health Centre Inc. and Concordia Hospital.

The previous agreement expired and a new agreement has been negotiated. This agreement is required as part of the re-accreditation of the Advanced Care Paramedic training program, which will occur in 2026.

The Public Service recommends the approval of the new training program agreement.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the City enter into, execute and deliver an agreement with Shared Health, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, St. Boniface Hospital Inc., Seven Oaks General Hospital, Misericordia General Hospital, Riverview Health Centre Inc. and Concordia Hospital for Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service (WFPS) employees to participate in practicums at their facilities for the purpose of obtaining clinical skills experience, for the period April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2029, and such other agreements as determined necessary by the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services to implement the intent of the foregoing (the “Ancillary Agreements”).

2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the agreement with Shared Health, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, St. Boniface Hospital Inc., Seven Oaks General Hospital, Misericordia General Hospital, Riverview Health Centre Inc. and Concordia Hospital for Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service employees to participate in practicums at their facilities for the purpose of obtaining clinical skills experience, for the period April 1, 2024, to March 31,

2029, the Ancillary Agreements, and such other agreements as determined necessary by the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

Council approval is required to enter into the proposed agreement as it is a multi-year contract with an external organization.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

This agreement will allow for WFPS employees to participate in practicums at healthcare facilities for the period April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2029.

The agreement will give WFPS employees clinical skills experience, assist employees with maintenance of competence, and is required by the Department to maintain accreditation for the Advanced Care Paramedic training program through Accreditation Canada.

While participating in practicums at healthcare facilities, participants will remain WFPS employees with no change to pay, benefits, or funding. There is no additional cost to the City. All parties will maintain general and professional liability insurance in an amount satisfactory to Risk Management.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

Background

In 2002, agreements were entered into with each of the six hospitals in Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA) to establish a clinical education training program for the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service's paramedics. Training agreements had previously been in place with the hospitals, but those agreements required upgrading to reflect new training requirements and the involvement of the WRHA.

In March 2010, the WRHA requested a five-year master agreement with the City of Winnipeg that would allow for the placement of WFPS employees at a variety of WRHA facilities in Winnipeg. This agreement was effective October 1, 2010, to October 1, 2015, and replaced the agreements with all city hospitals except St. Boniface General Hospital, which is outside the scope of the WRHA.

On November 4, 2019, a new agreement was entered into with Shared Health and WRHA for the period October 2, 2015, to September 30, 2020. Since October 1, 2020, the parties have continued operating under same terms and conditions of the expired agreement while negotiations were ongoing. A new agreement effective April 1, 2024 has been negotiated and will replace any previous agreements. This agreement is required as part of the re-accreditation of the Advanced Care Paramedic training program, which will occur in 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement Date: Jan 29, 2025

Project Name:

Agreement for Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service Employee Clinical Skills Experience

COMMENTS:

The recommendations to enter into a contract to obtain clinical skills experience does not create financial impacts on the City.

If during negotiations, a cost for this serivce is proposesd by the healthcare facilities, further discussions with Shared Health will be required to obtain approval for funding increases to the EMS contract. The City operates EMS on a full cost recovery basis and any cost associated with accessing facilicities to support increased scope of practice will fall to the EMS contract.

John Hall FCMA, CGMA
Financial Controller
Fire Paramedic Service

CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with:

- Legal Services

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

01-2b Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery
Direction 1: Provide Emergency Fire/Rescue and Pre-Hospital Paramedical Response
>Collaborate and communicate with other governments and agencies on education and awareness programs, investigation, logistical support and joint preparedness.

WINNIPEG CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ALIGNMENT

Consideration was given as to whether this report connects to the Winnipeg Climate Action Plan (CAP), and it was determined that the CAP is not applicable to this specific report.

WINNIPEG POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY ALIGNMENT

Consideration was given as to whether this report connects to the Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) and its Goals and Objectives, and it was determined that the PRS is not applicable to this specific report.

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service
Division: Executive
Prepared by: Ryan Sneath
Date: January 29, 2025
File No: N/A