Agenda – Standing Policy Committee on Community Services – December 2, 2025

REPORTS

Item No. 1 **Agreement with Shared Health to Allow Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service 9-1-1 Communications Staff Access to Emergency Department Information System (EDIS)**

WINNIPEG PUBLIC SERVICE RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the City enter into, execute and deliver a multi-year agreement with Shared Health to allow WFPS 911 Communications staff access to the Emergency Department Information System (EDIS) and such other agreements as determined necessary by the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services to implement the intent of the foregoing ("Ancillary Agreements").

2. That authority be delegated to the Chief, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the agreement with Shared Health and the Ancillary Agreements in accordance with this report and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

3. That authority be delegated to the Chief, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of all future similar agreements with Shared Health for access of WFPS Communications Staff to EDIS.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Agreement with Shared Health to Allow Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service 9-1-1 Communications Staff Access to Emergency Department Information System (EDIS)

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

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
T. Wallace	C. Schmidt	N/A	J. Dunford

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service (WFPS) provides emergency medical help and coordinates moving patients between hospitals in Winnipeg. WFPS has a long-time partnership with Shared Health Emergency Response Services (SH ERS). To work better with the province's Virtual Emergency Care and Transfer Resource Service (VECTRS), WFPS needs limited access to the Emergency Department Information System (EDIS). This access will let WFPS see an up-to-date electronic view of patients in the health system. It will be subject to privacy legislation and a data sharing agreement between SH ERS and WFPS.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the City enter into, execute and deliver a multi-year agreement with Shared Health to allow WFPS 911 Communications staff access to the Emergency Department Information System (EDIS) and such other agreements as determined necessary by the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services to implement the intent of the foregoing ("Ancillary Agreements").

2. That authority be delegated to the Chief, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the agreement with Shared Health and the Ancillary Agreements in accordance with this report and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

3. That authority be delegated to the Chief, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of all future similar agreements with Shared Health for access of WFPS Communications Staff to EDIS.

4. 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

As there is no existing delegated authority, Council approval is required to enter into the proposed multi-year agreement with Shared Health.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

There are no financial implications for the City for entering into the agreement. The agreement provides access to EDIS for the City, but Shared Health retains ownership and ongoing management of EDIS. WFPS 9-1-1 Communications employees will receive EDIS orientation and will be required to adhere to all policies and procedures associated with EDIS access and ensure the confidentiality and protection of patient health information.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

In March 2023, Shared Health and Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service (WFPS) entered into an Emergency Medical Response and Transport Services and Community Paramedic Services Agreement. This includes the provision of 9-1-1 Communications and Inter-Facility Transport (IFT) Coordination services. In May 2023, Shared Health launched Virtual Emergency Care and Transfer Resource Service (VECTRS) to provide a centralized and coordinated source for clinical guidance and patient transport support throughout the Province of Manitoba. WFPS 9-1-1 Communications IFT services work closely with VECTRS to coordinate patient transport services.

In April of 2025, Shared Health Emergency Response Services (SH ERS) requested that WFPS enter into a data sharing agreement to allow WFPS 9-1-1 Communications staff limited access to the Emergency Department Information System (EDIS). This access will enable better information sharing including, but not limited to, patient and client identification, tracking within the broader health system, patient condition, sending and receiving facilities and departments, and reasons for IFT. This information includes personal health information and its access and use is, therefore, governed by The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) and the Personal Health Information Act (PHIA).

A summary view of EDIS has been in place in the WFPS 9-1-1 Communications Centre for many years. This new data sharing agreement with SH will allow a more detailed view of EDIS.

The term of this agreement will be from date of signing until the termination or expiry of the Emergency Medical Response and Transport Services and Community Paramedic Services Agreement dated May 10, 2023. The term of that agreement expires on December 31, 2027, but may be extended for successive five-year terms on mutual agreement of the parties.

Following execution of the data sharing agreement, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service 9-1-1 Communications employees will receive orientation training on how to utilize EDIS to enhance IFT coordination with VECTRS.

The terms of the data sharing agreement require, amongst other things, that the WFPS report on any breaches of patient health information to SH ERS. WFPS will be responsible for conducting regular privacy audits of authorized users' access and activity on EDIS and may be subject to SH ERS audit. WFPS employees who have access to EDIS will be required to sign a pledge of confidentiality and an acknowledgement that they have reviewed required privacy and security policies.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement Date: Nov 03, 2025

Project Name:

Agreement with Shared Health to Allow Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service 9-1-1 Communications Staff Access to Emergency Department Information System (EDIS)

COMMENTS:

There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

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: Tom Wallace
Date: November 3, 2025
File No: N/A