



STAFF REPORT

TO: Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: Doug Knott, Fire Chief
SUBJECT: Fire Department – Replacement of Equipment
MEETING DATE: January 27th, 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to request an amendment to the Fire Department's 2026 budget as was previously approved by Council.

BACKGROUND

The Firehall Compressor for breathing Apparatus refill is needing replacement. It is 7 years old but is causing a few thousand in repairs yearly and it is becoming increasingly difficult to source parts to conduct the repairs. Consequently, the impact to maintaining critical life-safety equipment is challenged and runs the risk of being compromised during this fiscal year if it remains unaddressed.

IMPLICATIONS

- a. **Financial:**
The quote provided by Aquatech West, after trade in and tax's is \$38,474.26 which is not in 2026 budget.
- b. **Policy/Legislation:**
N/A
- c. **Strategic Priority:**
Fire safety and fire department operations is classified as a core service provided by the Town as outlined within the strategic plan and falls within the community safety category of the plan.

d. Sustainability:

N/A

e. Communication:

None.

f. Staffing Implication:

None.

Options:

- 1) Receive this staff report and approve amendment of the 2026 Fire Department budget for an increase of \$38,474.26 with notification given to the Cowichan Valley Regional District; OR
- 2) Receive this staff report and request additional information prior to reconsideration of approval of the 2026 budget increase.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff is recommending option 1.

THAT Council approve the increase the Lake Cowichan Fire Department budget for 2026 by \$38,474.26; and

THAT the Cowichan Valley Regional District be notified of the addition to the Lake Cowichan Fire Department budget for 2026.

Signed:

Doug Knott

Doug Knott, Fire Chief

Concurrence:

John T

John Thomas

Chief Administrative Officer