



Memo

TO: Chair, Committee of the Whole

SUBJECT: Emergency Equipment Requirements

DATE: February 13, 2023

FROM: Chief Administrative Officer

Further to council's request for an update on the status of emergency equipment, a meeting was scheduled with April Diver, Manager, Emergency Operations & Planning, CVRD, on December 14th, 2022. Ms. Driver provided assurance that we were no worse position with our level of available equipment to deal with local emergencies. Should an emergency be beyond our means to deal large emergencies we could certainly rely on regional and provincial assistance.

We are fortunate with our ability to deal with small emergencies. An issue that was of greater concern previously was our total reliance on chlorine gas for the water and sewer treatment plants. We do not now rely on chlorine gas for water and we have now have moved away from chlorine gas use at the STP. A chlorine gas leak could have spelled disaster.

We also currently rely to a great extent on emergency funding to update our emergency equipment as needed and Council's support for the CVRD to access funding from Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for Lake Cowichan approved by council at the last meeting.

Together with Ms. Diver we determined the Town's requirements to be include in the CVRD application were as follows:

- A sheltered area for sand and sandbags to be located outside the public works yard;
- Two portable generators for Lift stations No. 2 and No. 3; and
- Laptops and a smart board for the Emergency Operations Centre.

Joseph A. Fernandez