



MANAGEMENT REPORT

Date: April 13, 2026
To: Mayor and City Council
From: Richard Anderson, Deputy Fire Chief/CEMC
Report Number: COU26-042
Attachments: None

Title: Community Emergency Preparedness Grant Transfer Payment Agreement

Objective: Objective: To seek City Council approval to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the Funding Agreement between the Province of Ontario and City of Stratford. This agreement is in support of a recent successful application for \$40,679.25.

Background: On September 16, 2025, the Ontario government announced a third iteration of the Community Emergency Preparedness Grant to boost emergency preparedness across the province. This application-based grant allocates up to \$15 million province wide for the purchase of critical emergency supplies, equipment and deliver training and services to improve local emergency preparation and response.

Grants were available in the amount of \$5,000 to \$50,000 per project. This was a competitive application-based program with successful applicants demonstrating need (how often an emergency occurs and its impact), capacity (ability to complete the project and manage resources acquired through grant funding) and alignment with program objectives. Projects must be completed by end of September 25, 2026.

Analysis: The Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) applied for just over \$40,000 of grant funding to enhance and prepare the City's Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) and to properly equip both first responders at ground zero (Emergency Shelter) as well as properly outfitting the Reception Centre.

Based upon the grant allocated, the CEMC applied for an Inflatable Emergency Shelter (\$25,679.25), equipment and items to properly equip an EOC for short to long term sustainability (\$15,000).

The quote for all items amounts to \$40,679.25. The item will be recorded as a capital purchase and funded from the grant revenues.

To receive the funds through the Ontario transfer program, the Ontario Transfer Funding Agreement must be signed by signatories who have the authority to bind the Corporation.

Financial Implications:

Financial impact to current year operating budget:

There would be no financial impact to the 2026 budget.

Link to asset management plan and strategy:

This grant will enhance and prepare the City's Emergency Operation Centre (EOC), first responders, as well as a Reception Centre.

Once the resources are in place, their upkeep will be supported through regular allocation of budget dollars in the existing Emergency Management line item. Many of the resources requested would be replaced on an 'as required' basis, due to their loss of function, and planned for based on estimated useful life. Most of the items require limited or no upkeep and only occasional replacement. The items that expire would be tracked by the CEMC, and replacement planned appropriately, based upon their expiration date.

Alignment with Strategic Priorities:

Enhance our Infrastructure

This report and corresponding investment in asset replacement aligns directly with this Strategic Priority as it is asset and infrastructure maintenance and replacement.

Alignment with One Planet Principles:

Not applicable: This investment does not align with the One Planet Principles.

Staff Recommendation: THAT The Corporation of the City of Stratford enter into an Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement with His Majesty the King in right of Ontario as represented by the Ministry of Emergency Preparedness and Response, to purchase critical supplies and equipment, to improve local emergency response and to improve and enhance the level of emergency management preparedness being provided;

AND THAT the Mayor and City Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to sign the Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement provided through the Community Emergency Preparedness Grant on behalf of the Corporation.

Prepared by: Richard Anderson, Deputy Fire Chief/CEMC

Recommended by: Neil Anderson, Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief
André Morin, Chief Administrative Officer