

FIRST RESPONDER vs EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONDER

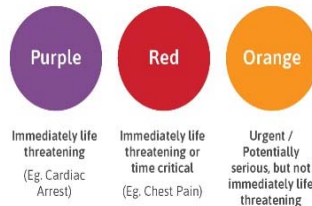
Nanaimo Fire Rescue

BACKGROUND ON PRE-HOSPITAL CARE

- BC EHS (ambulance) responds to all medical aid requests in Nanaimo as determined by their **CRM** (clinical response model) and their MPDS (medical priority dispatch system)
- Fire (first responders) may respond to calls determined to be *“urgent, serious, time critical, or immediately life threatening”*.

BCEHS

**The Clinical Response Model
(CRM) and how we work with
First Responder Partners.**



SAME NUMBER OF CALLS



- Does not change the number of incidents NFR will respond to
- Changes the service we can provide when we're there
- **76.7%** of calls arrive **before** ambulance
- 47.8% for 30 seconds to 6 minutes
- 28.9% for 6-15 minutes or more

NFR ALREADY HAS EMR



- Protection Island on-calls have been EMR for **10 years**
- Combination of FR and EMR licenses

OTHER MUNICIPALITIES

North Van District
Port Coquitlam
Campbell River
Prince George
Vancouver
Delta

1. License **some** members including instructors
2. Train department off-shift or on-shift or **both**
3. Instructors **co-teach** and then solo-teach
4. Train all or **some** members



SUPPORTS PATIENTS & RESPONDERS

- **Accurate** administration of oxygen
- Blood glucose and blood **pressure** measurement
- **Faster pain** management
- Increases responder **confidence** and reduces **anxiety**



THE PROCESS

- Does not have to be a wholesale change
- Transition **over time** with some EMRs on trucks
- Investment over 6 years for **\$7.50** per patient



THE BIG DEBATE

- Why is the City doing the Province's work?
- We've been doing it for over **25 years**
- Saved many lives and provided a valuable **service** to assist BC Ambulance
- Fire departments provide this service across **North America**
- Number one priority should be "**Patient Care**"
- Meets Council's strategic priority of "**Livability**"



RECOMMENDATION

That the Finance and Audit Committee recommend that Council consider funding an increase to the Nanaimo Fire Rescue training budget of \$66,750 in the first year (2020) and \$60,000 for the following five years (2021-2025) during the 2020-2024 Financial Plan review to raise the service level to Emergency Medical Responder (EMR).