



**REPORT TO THE ELECTORAL AREA SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, 2 MARCH 2011**

SUBJECT SALT SPRING ISLAND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BYLAW

ISSUE

The Salt Spring Island Emergency Program bylaw is the final bylaw within the Capital Regional District's (CRD) Emergency Management program to be updated. The changes will be consistent with the overall CRD Emergency Management bylaw, the *Emergency Program Act* and will recognise the importance of local community input into the program development.

BACKGROUND

In January 2011, the Board adopted amendments to all of the CRD Emergency Management bylaws, with the exception of Bylaw No. 3446, the Salt Spring Island Emergency Program Administration Bylaw. The adoption of amendments for this bylaw were deferred to allow for continued consultation with the local Commission, and to ensure input from local community members was received and that the amendments reflected a recognition of their comments.

The Commission has discussed the potential impacts of the changes to the program at their regular monthly meetings, as well as assigning a working group to review the proposed amended bylaw. Following the working group's review, at the direction of the Commission, correspondence was sent to CRD staff with proposed changes to the new bylaw.

Following receipt of the correspondence, staff met with a member of the Commission's working group to discuss the intent of the Commission's recommendations, and the key concerns of the group. Staff reviewed both the recommendations, as well as the comments made, and revised the bylaw to more clearly capture concerns around local input into the program.

The new bylaw provides the balance needed between the CRD's legislated and program responsibilities, with the need of emergency programs to reflect that the program is in place to support the unique needs of each community.

This report in draft, along with the revised bylaw were circulated to the Salt Spring Island Emergency Management Commission, prior to their February 21 meeting, to allow for discussion and transparency in staff's recommendations.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Bylaw No. 3752 "Salt Spring Island Emergency Program Administration, 2011" be introduced and read a first time and second time, read a third time and adopted.
2. Direct staff to continue consultation with the Commission on other alternatives.

IMPLICATIONS

Social Implications

The bylaw recognises the importance of the Advisory Commission in providing input, local priorities and strategic development into the program, to ensure the program is developed specifically to reflect the local community and local response agency needs.

Economic Implications

The bylaw change has no impact on the annual budget or requisition amount.

CONCLUSION

The recommended bylaw reflects the responsibility of the CRD under the *Emergency Program Act*. It also recognises the importance of local input in developing the local program. An emergency program must be able to support the local community it represents, and therefore must be built from the ground up. This bylaw ensures that the program's priorities and work plan will be developed through local consultation, and through the recommendations of the Advisory Commission. The CRD will then, through its Emergency Management Program, ensure it is able to support and assist the local community during an emergency or disaster.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Electoral Area Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

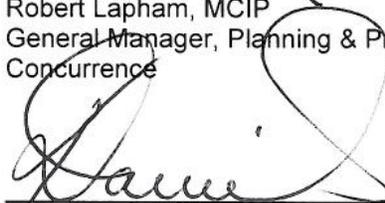
1. that Bylaw No. 3752 "Salt Spring Island Emergency Program Administration, 2011" be introduced and read a first time and second time, read a third time and adopted.



Travis Whiting
Senior Manager, Protective Services



Robert Lapham, MCIP
General Manager, Planning & Protective Services
Concurrence



Kelly Daniels
Chief Administrative Officer
Concurrence

Attachment: Bylaw 3752, "Salt Spring Island Emergency Program Administration Bylaw, 2011"