

## **2014 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CALGARY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The 2014 Annual Report of the Calgary Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) demonstrates its delivery of key emergency management objectives including risk assessment, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

### **ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION(S)**

That the Emergency Management Committee recommends that Council receive this report and attachment for information.

### **PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY**

The annual report is submitted in accordance with The City of Calgary Emergency Management Bylaw 25M2002, Section 6 (2) which states "The Director shall, with the advice and assistance of the Agency, submit to Council annually, a report on the status of emergency preparedness in the City". Based on the information provided, The Emergency Management Committee is to advise Council on the development of emergency plans and programs, as required by Section 11 of the *Emergency Management Act* of Alberta (RSA 2000 c E-6.8).

Administration has provided City Council with annual reports from the Calgary Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) beginning with the 2010 Annual Report, including EM2011-02, EM2012-01, EM2013-0355 and the most recent report, EM2014-0721, received in 2014 October.

### **BACKGROUND**

CEMA is designated as the civic body responsible for the coordination of disaster planning, response and recovery within The City of Calgary. CEMA is The City's emergency management body, and has met legislated policy requirements under the provincial legislation.

### **INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS**

CEMA, including its staff and membership, contribute to the delivery of key objectives within five strategic areas:

- reduce risk and mitigate hazard and vulnerability in Calgary;
- build community capacity and resilience;
- build operational readiness;
- plan for business continuity and recovery; and
- strengthen the Agency.

These strategic result areas support the comprehensive emergency management model, a continuum that includes non-response activities (risk assessment, prevention, mitigation and preparedness) as well as response, recovery and rehabilitation.

In 2014, CEMA continued to support ongoing recovery efforts for the 2013 June Floods. The Conference Board of Canada released its report on The City's performance during the flood and issued five recommendations (EM2014-0414). These recommendations have been incorporated into the Corporate work plan to address lessons learned.

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Some of the 2014 highlights include two large scale events – the September snowstorm and the October downtown fire and power outage – and both required the activation of the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), including Emergency Social Services (ESS) to assist Calgarians impacted by the downtown power outage. Several other smaller and pre-planned events also saw multiple business units coordinating information and response at the EOC throughout 2014. CEMA staff completed the annual Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) for the city of Calgary; piloted a community preparedness program (READYCalgary) for implementation in 2015; developed and produced a business continuity handbook and training manuals, in conjunction with the Calgary Chamber; conducted a full-scale exercise and activation for Canada Task Force 2 in conjunction with the Town of High River; and sought out and shared best practices in emergency management at all levels of government. More information on each of these areas can be found in the 2014 Annual Report of the Calgary Emergency Management Agency (Attachment).

In 2014 October, CEMA submitted amendments to the Emergency Management Bylaw (25M2002) included in report EM2014-0824 entitled Emergency Management Bylaw 25M2002, Amending Bylaw which provided for the CEMA director to be appointed by the general manager of Community Service & Protective Services.

### **Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication**

Engagement with Agency members and partners occurs throughout the year. In 2014, the Concept of Operations for the EOC was refined and will be implemented in 2015. This will assist in more functional groupings of Agency members and partners in the EOC.

All public CEMA documents, including the previous annual reports are available at [calgary.ca/CEMA](http://calgary.ca/CEMA). The 2014 Annual Report will also be available online following Council approval.

### **Strategic Alignment**

CEMA's annual report aligns with Council's Fiscal Plan for Calgary 2012-2014: "*Ensuring every Calgarian lives in a safe community and has the opportunity to succeed*". In addition, this report is complementary to the goals and objectives of imagineCALGARY, and supports The City's Sustainability Direction 2020 objective: "Calgary, its communities and neighbourhoods are safe, resilient and supportive" as well as the outcomes outlined in the 2012-2014 Community Services & Protective Services Departmental Business Plan.

### **Social, Environmental, Economic (External)**

#### **Social**

Communities are well serviced when emergency event responses are effectively coordinated. Recognizing that there was considerable interest in community preparedness after the 2013 June flood, CEMA created and piloted a community preparedness train-the-trainer program called READYCalgary in targeted communities. This supports CEMA's goal of shared responsibility for emergency preparedness. The READYCalgary program is expected to launch to the 32 flood affected communities in 2015.

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**Environmental**

Protecting lives, property and the environment is of the highest importance to The City. Environmental impacts can be disastrous to a community and CEMA is committed to preparedness through hazard risk identification, analysis and mitigation. This includes the HIRA completed in 2014 and presented to Council in 2014 October.

**Economic**

Managing emergency events and disasters is fundamental to municipal, provincial and national economic stability and resiliency. The City continues to demonstrate the ability to effectively respond to and recover from such events, and preparedness efforts will continue to minimize response and recovery costs in future. Submissions for costs associated with the two 2014 fall events – the September snowstorm and the October downtown fire and power outage – have been made by CEMA to the provincial Disaster Recovery Program on behalf of The City of Calgary.

**Financial Capacity**

**Current and Future Operating Budget:**

CEMA's 2014 operating budget was contained within the overall budget of the Calgary Fire Department.

**Current and Future Capital Budget:**

This report has no capital budget impacts. In 2014, CEMA's capital budget was contained within the overall budget of the Calgary Fire Department.

**Risk Assessment**

The 2014 Annual Report of the Calgary Emergency Management Agency identifies emergency management objectives, specific deliverables and deliverable status in 2014.

**REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):**

This report illustrates the efforts undertaken by CEMA members and staff to support safe, liveable communities, and fulfills the reporting requirement as outlined in Bylaw 25M2002.

**ATTACHMENT**

2014 Annual Report of the Calgary Emergency Management Agency