

Report

Date April 1, 2026

File:

Subject Disposal of 1996 Superior E-One Aerial apparatus

PURPOSE

To seek direction regarding the disposal of the surplus 1996 Superior E-One Aerial apparatus in the Fire Department fleet.

BACKGROUND

North Cowichan's 1996 Superior E-One Aerial apparatus (Ladder Truck) was in service for over 30 years as a front-line and backup apparatus until early 2026. This term of service aligns with the National Fire Protection Association apparatus guidelines. The ladder trucks fire pump no longer meets the Underwriters Laboratories of Canada (ULC) certification for minimum performance and therefore is no longer recognized in the insurance grading of our community.

Although not mandated by policy, North Cowichan's current practice is to sell surplus apparatus at auction to ensure the best value for taxpayers, as the asset was purchased using public funds. The Fire Department is recommending the sale of the fire engine to the Pacheedaht First Nation Emergency Services in the amount of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00).

DISCUSSION

Fire apparatus that no longer meet the minimum pump performance standards as recognized by ULC have minimal value as a fire apparatus. As a result, few communities are willing to purchase used apparatus, which has led to reduced demand and low resale market prices; the value is estimated at below \$5,000 dollars, if sent to an asset recovery auction or scrap metal yard.

This Superior E-One Aerial apparatus has been in service since 1996 is now at the end of its useful life under the Fire Underwriters Survey recommendations. North Cowichan has purchased a new used 2013 Rosenbauer ladder truck to best serve the communities and is now in service.

If Council approves the sale of the used ladder truck in the amount of \$15,000.00 to the Pacheedaht First Nation Emergency Services, it will assist them in developing their new fire service in pumping capacity and provide a critically needed firefighting capability. The proposed sale aligns with North Cowichan's reconciliation objectives by supporting Pacheedaht First Nation in building emergency response capacity and fostering collaborative, respectful government-to-government relationships.

OPTIONS

1. **(Recommended Option)** THAT Council direct staff to proceed with the sale of the surplus 1996 Superior E-One Aerial Apparatus to the Pacheedaht First Nation Emergency Services in the amount of \$15,000.00
2. THAT Council direct staff to send the surplus 1996 Superior E-One Aerial apparatus to auction for sale.
3. THAT Council direct staff to send the surplus 1996 Superior E-One Aerial apparatus to a scrap metal yard.

IMPLICATIONS

The sale of the fire truck would not only support another community's emergency response capacity but would also generate revenue that could be used to address internal Fire Department needs, including the replacement of equipment that has reached the end of its useful life.

RECOMMENDATION

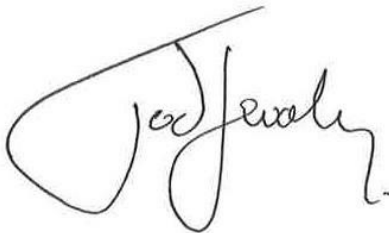
THAT Council direct staff to proceed with the sale of 1996 Superior E-One Aerial apparatus to the Pacheedaht First Nation Emergency Services in the amount of \$15,000.00

Report prepared by:



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Approved to be forwarded to Council:



Ted Swabey
Chief Administrative Officer