



Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

Memorandum to Council

Memo No.
2023-TFD-SCBA

2023-M-238

Subject:	Fire Services request to Tender for Self Contained Breathing Apparatus
Agenda Date:	November 23, 2023
Attachments:	n/a

RECOMMENDATION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami does hereby receive the report from the Temagami Fire Chief;
AND Further That: Council authorize the issuing of a Request for Tender for the purchase of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for both Fire Departments, with quotations to be received for Council consideration at the December 14, 2023 Council meeting, with delivery in 2024.

INFORMATION

Occupational Health and Safety, Section 21 guidance note 4.9 Respiratory Protection Program, indicates employers must provide an appropriate respirator to protect workers from exposure to a hazardous biological or chemical agent where exposure to these hazards cannot be avoided or effectively controlled. Employers who provide a respirator must comply with the respiratory protection requirements in Regulation 833, including, but not limited to ensuring that respirators provided are maintained in good condition.

Our SCBA were purchased in 2006 (Marten River) and early 2007 (Temagami), replaced just prior to the 2007 NFPA update. Fire Industry common standard for replacing SCBA is 15 years, with larger cities replacing their SCBA either every 5 or 10 years. Our packs are 17 years old.

Our SCBA packs are currently in good condition, Flow-tested annually, all passed third-party certified inspection this fall. Some parts have been discontinued by the Manufacturer (MSA), & harder to obtain. Parts to repair the Head's Up Displays are not available. Last year Marten River was unable to purchase a Heads-Up display that would work / communicate with the control module. MSA's recommended 15 year overhaul of the Regulator & install of Audi-Larm overhaul kits has not been completed.

With every update in the NFPA standard, there are additional safety features added to the SCBA, increasing the complexity and cost of the units. The current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) SCBA standard is anticipated to be updated in 2024. Once the 2024 standard is announced, manufactures will switch over to making packs to the new standard and availability of stock meeting the previous standard will be quickly depleted.

The new standard will also come with an increased cost, anticipated to be in the 15 to 20% range.

Also recommending upgrading both department's SCBA (joint purchase to reduce costs) from the current 2216 PSI (30 minute) pack/cylinders to the 4500 PSI (45 minute) pack & cylinder. SCBA low pressure alarm increased from 25% to 33% in the 2013 edition, providing less time with the 2216 cylinder before the low-pressure alarm sounds, & firefighters having to exit for a new cylinders. The 2024 NFPA standard does not include SCBA with 2216 psi cylinders.

Results from the Request for Tender will be available for the December 14 Council meeting, for Council to make an informed costing decision to replace SCBA units to NFPA 2019 edition or later (2024) edition.

Respectfully Submitted
Jim Sanderson
Temagami Fire Chief