

**Medical Tiered Response Agreement
Between**

**The Corporation for the Town of Marten River
"Fire Department"
(Herein know as FD)**

and

**District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board
Paramedic Services
(Herein known as DNSSAB)**

The DNSSAB and the FD wish to enter into a Medical Tiered Response Agreement for the mutual benefit of each agency and to assist community residents. The development of a Medical Tiered Response Agreement is not intended to place undue hardship or pressure on any emergency service, rather Medical Tiered Response Agreements are intended to provide a rapid response of trained personnel to specified events and within specified times and as specified in this document.

The Medical Tiered Response Agreement will be reviewed by both organizations annually and when required, amended to reflect evolving community needs, or capacity. Where no amendments are brought forward by either party, this agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

The Medical Tiered Response Agreement may be cancelled by any of the participating agencies with a minimum of three months written notice to participating agencies. All participating agencies will be subject to all legislated responsibilities including but not limited to maintenance of patient confidentiality as provided in the Personal Health Information Protection Act.

The Medical Tiered Response Agreement is not intended to alter the assignment of participating agencies from those incidents that they would wish to respond to under their mandate for specific service delivery. As an example, Fire Services may wish to respond to all motor vehicle collisions to provide agency specific activities. Such a response would not be part of a Medical Tiered Agreement but would be managed within their organization.

Medical Tiered Response Activation Criteria

1. Unconscious/unresponsive patient, including cardiac/respiratory arrest, or choking incidents (excluding seizures); or
2. Upon the request of Paramedics; or

3. All “Code 4” (Life or Limb) medical emergencies; or
4. Off-Road Rescue/Recovery - An off-road response is defined as a patient that cannot be accessed by the ambulance and will require an off-road vehicle and/or additional personnel to complete; or
5. All confirmed structure fires; or
6. The Fire Department shall only respond to calls within the municipal boundaries of their respective townships; or response area; or
7. Where any Paramedic Services resource assignment to an emergency call is expected to be delayed more than 8 minutes.

Medical Tiered Response Exclusion Criteria

1. Medical Tiered Responses will not be activated to a care facility, long term care residence or hospital that have staff on-duty capable of assisting the client or patient while awaiting the Paramedic Services arrival; or
2. Medical Tiered Responses will not be activated to a custodial setting (jail, prison, or police station) where there are staff on-duty and capable of assisting the patient while awaiting the Paramedic Services arrival; or
3. This agreement recognizes that the Fire Department may not be able to respond when occupied with a fire emergency, or for any other reason as determined by an on-duty fire official; or
4. Cardiac Arrest response where the patient has a Do Not Resuscitate Order (DNR) (confirmed by the caller to be present with the patient and signed by a physician).
5. The Ambulance Service and Fire Department shall have in place the necessary Liability Insurance.

It is understood that the Fire Service may not be available to respond to a Medical Tiered Response request due to a competing incident, or for any other reasons determined by the senior on-duty Fire Services Officer. Where possible, such an “other reason” should be communicated to the North Bay Central Ambulance Communications Centre and include the estimated duration for suspension of the Medical Tiered Response Agreement.

Fire Services Notification Process

The North Bay Central Ambulance Communications Centre (CACC) will notify the Fire Service through the 911 system in the event of an emergency that meets inclusion criteria. If at the time of activation, the Fire Service is unable to respond they will immediately notify North Bay CACC. This information will be communicated to responding Paramedic Services staff.

Medical Tiered Response Compliance

1. Fire Service personnel who respond to any Medical Tiered Response incident shall hold a valid minimum certification of Standard First Aid and CPR-HCP.
2. Fire Services personnel shall provide supportive and interventional care to the level of First Aid and CPR-HCP, including use of an Automated External Defibrillator where such a device is deployed on the Fire Service vehicle.
3. DNSSAB Paramedic Services will replace normally issued medical disposables used by the Fire Service at no charge.
4. Any concerns or conflict between agencies will be addressed through the Fire Service Incident Commander/Senior Officer and the Paramedic Superintendent on duty. Escalation will be managed through the Chiefs' offices.
5. DNSSAB will work with Fire Services to ensure an effective Medical Tiered Response program by assisting with;
 - Training that includes but is not limited to, Introduction to Paramedic Services equipment and processes, Equipment types and locations, Stretcher removal and handling and any other information agreed to between the Chiefs.
6. There shall be no transfer of liability from one agency to another through this agreement.
7. If available, this agreement shall accompany a resolution or memorandum of understanding from municipality or municipal council, authorizing and approving participation of the Fire Service in the Medical Tiered response Agreement.
8. The authorized representative of each partner agency shall sign this agreement.

For
The Corporation of the Town of Marten River

Date

For

date

District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board