



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Monday, September 16, 2024 at 12:05 p.m.

Report of a meeting held on Monday, September 16, 2024 at 12:05 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber. The following Committee members were in attendance:

Chair: Mayor R. Alty,
Councillor S. Arden-Smith,
Councillor G. Cochrane,
Councillor R. Fequet,
Councillor B. Hendriksen,
Councillor T. McLennan, and
Councillor R. Warburton.

The following members of Administration staff were in attendance:

S. Van Dine,
C. Caljouw,
C. Greencorn,
C. MacLean,
K. Pandoo,
K. Sulzer,
C. White,
G. White, and
S. Jovic.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
1.	(For Information Only) Mayor Alty read the Opening Statement.
2.	(For Information Only) There were no disclosures of conflict of interest.
3.	(For Information Only) Committee heard a presentation regarding the Community Emergency Plan. Administration noted that the overall objective is to have an effective, contemporary emergency plan as an 'evergreen' document that continues to grow and evolve based on the development,



characteristics and hazards in the community. Administration further noted that the process never really ends, the evolution of the plan and the program is continuous. Administration noted that with the emergency plan developed, the City can move forward to systematically exercise the components and engage with stakeholders to make it successful. Administration further noted that education, training, and exercising ensures the plan is feasible and meets the needs for the City.

4. In response to a question from the Committee, Administration undertook to provide whether Mary Murphy Seniors Home and Spruce Bough Seniors Home are included in assisted living, long-term care facility in Yellowknife and whether they would be supported during an evacuation.
5. **Committee read a memorandum regarding whether to adopt for information the City of Yellowknife After-Action Assessment: 2023 North Slave Complex Wildfires Final Report.**

Committee noted that in October 2023, Council directed Administration to seek external expertise to complete an After-Action Assessment (AAA) of the 2023 North Slave Complex Wildfires Emergency Response. Shortly thereafter, the City issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the AAA and in December 2023 awarded the RFP to KPMG.

The main objectives of the AAA were to:

1. Assess the efficiency and effectiveness of the City's emergency management response and recovery processes, procedures, capabilities and framework in support of the 2023 North Slave Complex Wildfires.
2. Identify and document strengths, areas for improvement and gaps in existing preparedness and response capabilities.
3. Identify actions that need to be implemented immediately to ensure better preparation for the future, as well as medium to long term actions needed to strengthen and institutionalize the emergency response capabilities.
4. Consider, at minimum, the following four questions: 1) What was expected to happen? 2) What actually occurred? 3) What went well and why? 4) What can be improved and how?

The key deliverables of the AAA were:

1. After-Action Assessment Report – completed by KPMG June 2024.
2. After-Action Work Plan - as part of the Final AAA report, KPMG identified and prioritized recommended follow-up actions for the City.
3. Interim Presentation to Yellowknife City Council – KPMG presented their preliminary findings to Council on May 13, 2024.



4. Final Presentation to Yellowknife City Council – KPMG presented the Final AAA report to Council in July 2024.

Committee noted that Council's policies, resolutions or goals include:

Strategic Direction #1: People First

Focus Area 1.3 Liveable Community

Key Initiative 1.3.6 Working with all partners towards a safe, supportive and compassionate community for all.

Strategic Direction #3: Sustainable Future

Focus Area 3.1 Resilient Future

Enhancing Yellowknife as a great place to live, visit, work and play now and into the future.

Motion #0124-23 That Council direct Administration to seek external expertise to complete an After-Action Assessment (AAA): 2023 North Slave Complex Wildfires Emergency Response.

Committee noted that in the Final AAA report, KPMG made 26 recommendations to address areas for future improvement prioritized in categories of quick wins, major projects, incremental task, and future opportunities. Many of these recommendations had been started by Administration prior to receipt of the Final AAA report.

A phased approach of further implementing viable recommendations from the Final AAA report is on Administration's 2024 – 2026 Work Plan, with an estimated completion time of Q2 2025.

Committee recommends that Council adopt for information the City of Yellowknife After-Action Assessment: 2023 North Slave Complex Wildfires Final Report.

MOVE APPROVAL

6. The meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.