



What the Proposed Fire Hall Delivers to the Community A Department Perspective

QUEEN CHARLOTTE



A new Fire Hall is needed to provide our volunteer firefighters training space and a safe and efficient base of operations. This handout provides details on the current stage of the project and the minimum elements that will be considered for the design.

The Village of Queen Charlotte (the Village) and the Volunteer Fire Prevention Society (VFPS) are committed to an open, transparent and information-rich discussion regarding this project. All information about the Fire Hall project will be posted on the Village website at:

www.QueenCharlotte.ca

CURRENT PROJECT PHASE: PLANNING/DESIGN

This project is currently in the Planning/Design Phase. The VFPS and the Village have applied for a \$10,000 Infrastructure Planning Grant through the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development for funding to hire a Consultant to develop the initial design. If successful in our application for this grant, we hope to begin working with a Consultant this fall to develop design options which will then be shared with the community.



Timmins ON Fire Department

PROJECT ELEMENTS

In preparation for this work, the VFPS has identified the following minimum elements required in the new Fire Hall in order to meet legislative requirements, to allow for future growth, and to accommodate other components of municipal emergency services. Every part of the building will serve a purpose and will be in place to ensure that the community will be looked after in the event of an emergency.

STRUCTURE AND DESIGN

- The Fire Hall will be built to legally required post-disaster standards.
- Minimum 50-year life span.
- Improved energy efficiencies will be used to reduce annual operating costs as much as possible.

OPERATIONAL AREAS

- A radio/dispatch/maps room will house the communications equipment, mapping systems and pre-plans.
- Office space, including at least one office for the Fire Chief/Officers, or EOC Director as required.
- A multi-purpose space to be used primarily as a training room that is adequately illuminated and ventilated to provide an engaging area for learning.

- A workshop which provides a space for tools and parts to assist with the maintenance of and minor repairs to the fire trucks and firefighting equipment. These are done by the volunteers reducing costs.

APPARATUS BAYS

- The apparatus bays will be sized to meet industry standards, providing room to reload the fire trucks indoors in a safe manner and to accommodate future fire apparatus.
- The bays will have a vehicle exhaust capture system as required by provincial legislation (not available in our current Fire Hall).
- A 4" water main with filling stations will speed fill up of our pumper truck for incidents outside of the hydrant coverage area.
- Electrical outlets located at each fire truck bay, will ensure they can be ready at a moment's notice.

FUNCTIONAL AREAS

- A Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) clean room for filling, storing, servicing and cleaning air bottles and breathing apparatus after use.
- A compressor room where the breathing apparatus air tanks are filled. The room should be located to mitigate noise, provide adequate ventilation and provide access for heavy equipment.
- A laundry area with a commercial washer and dryer for maintaining the turn-out gear, which needs regular cleaning to maintain its protective ability and extend its life span.
- A hose and equipment storage room for storing clean and dry equipment for reloading the trucks after an emergency while the equipment that was in use is cleaned, inspected and readied.
- A kitchen and bathrooms for use of the volunteers, as part of multi-purpose rentals, and during Emergency Operations Centre and/or Reception Centre activation.
- Other mechanical, electrical and janitor rooms/closets.
- Storage space for other municipal emergency service programs.
- Proper bathing facilities for the firefighters to wash off any chemicals they have been exposed to.

OUTDOOR AREAS

- The parking area for Fire Fighters during training or emergencies will be located across

the street on the School District property, which will be leased for this purpose, and will also be used for outdoor training opportunities.

- The driveway will have a sufficient turning radius.
- Additional lighting will allow the area to be used year-round for training.
- The apron at the front of the apparatus bays will be sized to allow the fire trucks to park without taking up the road allowance, while at the same time not wasting any land. When the fire trucks are removed, the apparatus bays can be used for Emergency Social Services as a Reception Centre during an evacuation event.
- An emergency generator to ensure the Fire Hall and Emergency Operations Centre continues to operate during a disaster.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE/EMERGENCY SOCIAL SERVICES EVACUATION EVENTS

- Will be designed to meet the requirements for all municipal emergency services.
- The building will be expected to accommodate the Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre, Emergency Program Coordinator, and Emergency Social Services.
- The building will be above the Tsunami inundation planning zone and will be designed to withstand a disaster so that additional emergency services such as Police, Ambulance, Fire, and other government and private-sector officials can all be located in one building to respond to the needs of the community.

PROJECT COSTS

It is important to recognize that the cost of the Fire Hall project is not merely land and a building. It will encompass everything from purchasing the property, to holding public meetings/consultations, to designing and constructing the new building, to demolishing the old building and preparing the land, to creating adequate driveways, outdoor training areas, and landscaping.

The initial Planning/Design Phase will produce a preliminary design drawing with elevations, a project budget and a project schedule. This information will be shared with the residents of the community and all information related to the project will be posted on the Village website at:

www.QueenCharlotte.ca