



May 1, 2020

Mayor Bill Dingwall
City of Pitt Meadows
12007 Harris Road
Pitt Meadows, BC V3Y 2B5

Dear Mayor Dingwall,

Re: United Support – Dispatch Protocol Concerns

Thank you for supporting our united message to the Ministry of Health and the Provincial Health Officer regarding our concerns related to dispatch protocols for fire services during the COVID-19 pandemic. I am pleased to report that our united efforts have elicited a positive response from the Ministry as well as positive actions to help us provide effective care for the residents of our communities.

Dr. Bonnie Henry and representatives of the Ministry of Health have assured us that the recent dispatch protocol changes announced on March 31, 2020 are only temporary measures designed to ensure effective management of personal protective equipment and reduce the exposure to COVID-19 for first responders. In addition, due to the overall decrease in call volumes, BCEHS has been able to provide timely care for our citizens during this period.

Through our united advocacy efforts, an ongoing dialogue has been established between the Ministry of Health, the Fire Chief's Association of British Columbia, and the British Columbia Fire Commissioner. This group is meeting weekly to address outstanding and emerging issues and has already facilitated the return of some calls to the dispatch protocol.

We continue to have success in British Columbia by working together in our fight against the pandemic. Our united efforts regarding the dispatch protocol is a great example of this as we continue to follow the strong leadership of Dr. Bonnie Henry and the Ministry of Health.

As I tell my community regularly – we will get through this together.

Yours truly,

George V. Harvie
Mayor

