STAFF REPORT TO Regional District of Nanaimo Board July 22, 2025

BOW HORN BAY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT – FIRE APPARATUS BORROWING

RECOMMENDATION

That the five-year short-term borrowing of up to \$475,000 be authorized for the purchase of a new fire engine for the Bow Horn Bay Volunteer Fire Department in accordance with the approved 2025-2029 Financial Plan.

BACKGROUND

The Bow Horn Bay Volunteer Fire Department (BHVFD) has ordered a new 4x4 fire truck to replace their aged Rescue 78. That apparatus is over 20 years old and is past the end of its life span for front line fire apparatus to maintain good mechanical reliability, operational readiness, as well as to ensure the insurance rating by Underwriter Insurance.

The apparatus has been ordered, and delivery is planned for late summer/ fall of 2025. In accordance with the approved 2025-2029 Financial Plan, this apparatus will be partially funded through short term 5-year borrowing from the Municipal Finance Authority (MFA).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Up to \$745,000 for the purchase of the new fire apparatus, with up to \$475,000 in 5-year short-term borrowing, is included in the approved 2025-2029 Financial Plan.

Repayment of this borrowing has also been accounted for in the approved 2025-2029 Financial Plan.

Borrowing is only utilized for the actual costs associated with the approved purchase and may not be for the total approved amount if the actual cost is less than budgeted for.

Staff recommend authorizing up to \$475,000 of 5-year short-term borrowing, in accordance with the approved 2025-2029 Financial Plan.

REVIEWED BY:

- S. Windsor, Manager, Fire Services
- T. Moore, Chief Financial Officer
- L. Grant, A/Chief Administrative Officer