

Committee Report

Meeting: Lucknow and District Fire Board

Report Title: Budget Estimates 2025

Prepared By: Jeff Bradley, Fire Chief

Date: Dec. 19, 2024

Report Number: LDFB-2024-12-09

File Number: C05 LDFB 24

**Attachments: Fire Fighter Exposure to Carcinogens Information Sheet,
2025 Operational and Capital budgets**

Recommendation:

THAT the Lucknow & District Fire Board hereby approves Report LDFD-2024-12-09 prepared by Jeff Bradley, Fire Chief;

AND FURTHER approves the proposed Lucknow Fire Board budget, confirming that it fulfills the requirements of the Joint Fire Services Agreement Section 4(a);

AND FURTHER recommends approval of the proposed Budget by each respective Council.

Background:

As per the Joint Fire Services Agreement Section 4(a) the Fire Chief shall prepare annually and present through the Lucknow and District Fire Board and estimate of operating revenues and expenditures and capital contributions and purchases for the Lucknow and District Fire Board.

Attached to this report are the 2025 Operational Budget Estimates and the 2025 Lucknow & District Fire Department Capital Expenditure Business Plan for review by the Lucknow & District Fire Board.

Per Section 4(b) of the agreement all parties (being the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh and Township of Huron-Kinloss) to the agreement must approve the Fire Chief's estimates as submitted or amended.

Discussion:

Operational Budget Expenditures:

The 2025 Operational budgets proposed reflect the estimated actual operating and capital costs of the Lucknow & District Fire Department which are consistent with the 2024 expenditures as attached to this report.

Increases this year are mainly in salary and benefit costs. This is consistent with the previous year's call volumes and wage expenditures.

Capital Budget Expenditures:

The equipment being sought and the rationale for each is detailed as follows:

1. Equipment Decontamination:

To meet Regulations, fire departments are implementing cancer prevention programs. We are implementing 3 separate phases in this project:

- 1) On scene decontamination:** We are currenting managing this phase by washing with water and decontamination solution, to remove the majority of the physical contaminates that are on the gear and equipment.
- 2) Cleaning contaminated gear:** Includes: Purchasing fire Gear extractors that remove a considerable amount of carcinogens vs regular residential washers. These are NFPA approved for extracting carcinogens from the fire gear safely. Also includes Gear dyers to reduce the drying time and eliminate trapped moisture in the gear.
- 3) Constructing a decontamination room:** This supports the decontamination program by containing and controlling the space where contaminated gear and equipment will be staged and await cleaning. As contaminated gear will continue to off gas in the room, venting to the outside is required. It will include Installing a large sink that will support washing SCBA, bottles, masks, and any equipment exposed to contaminated situations and ensure that all equipment is thoroughly cleaned before reuse.

1) \$1,000 2) \$17,000 3) \$62,000.

Total \$80,000

[National Framework on Cancers linked to Firefighting - Canada.ca](#)

2. Safety Equipment – 'New; pumper (16-1):

Hard top cover for new pumper (16-1) hose bed.

This is a safety feature that allows personnel to not fall off sides of truck when loading/unloading hose (top folds up on either side). Protects hose from elements when on scene increasing life span of hose. **\$10,000.00**

3. SCBA Harness Assembly Cycle Replacement Program:

5 sets of SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) (4500 psi).

We are continuing to replace our SCBA in 2025 with following our 4-year plan to outfit the department with todays standards of PPE. This has been ongoing proposed schedule with the intent to take advantage of discounted savings because of purchasing demo units as they become available from the supplier at the end of each year until all SCBA have been completed in 2026.

\$56,000.00

4. Firefighting Equipment – Turnout Gear:

Replacement of 10 yr. expired Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment
(Turnout Gear sets, boots, gloves, helmets etc.) **\$20,000.00**

5. Equipment – SCBA Air Bottle Fill Station Replacement

As we continue replace our SCBA to the modern style SCBA. The new SCBA air bottles are not compatible with the current fill station installed in 2010. We will need to align with the current NFPA regulations, which have changed for the installation requirements.

Current situation: we are traveling with the empty bottles to Ripley station when filling is required. **\$85,000.00.**

Capital Planning:

The Fire Chief will continue to identify future capital needs for the Lucknow & District Fire Department. Annual capital business plans will be prepared according to those needs assessments.

All other capital assets that may be identified for upgrade or replacement will be captured in the annual capital budget proposals each year.

Financial Impacts:

2025 budget estimates as outlined in the report.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Jeff Bradley, Fire Chief

Report Approved By:

Jodi MacArthur, Chief Administrative Officer