

September 26, 2016

Mayor Derek Corrigan and Council  
City of Burnaby  
4949 Canada Way  
Burnaby, BC  
V5G 1M2

SECTION 2  
COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE (2016 OCT 13)  
City Manager  
Deputy City Manager  
Dir. Public Safety & Community Services  
Fire Chief  
RCMP - OIC  
Public Safety Committee (Nov. 10)

**Re: Next Generation Radio Program: Master Standing Offer agreements signed for provision of new radios for regional first responders**

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Dear Mayor Corrigan and Council,

I am pleased to report that the planned replacement of E-Comm's regional radio system—known as *The Next Generation Radio Program* (NGRP)—recently achieved another major milestone with formal agreements signed between JVCKENWOOD Canada Inc., Motorola Solutions Canada and RELM Wireless Corporation to supply first responders with new radios that will be compatible with the advanced digital network. Vendors were selected following a detailed technical evaluation and meticulous procurement process that started in January with a Request for Proposal for radio subscriber equipment and included independent external oversight.

These radio agreements mark the first time that police, fire and ambulance agencies using the E-Comm system will be able to choose from a range of products and price points that meet their specific requirements. The new radios will provide greater safety features for first responders and be more effective and durable in challenging conditions—providing our public-safety partners with the opportunity to choose the right tools for the job while increasing responder safety.

Agencies are scheduled to begin transitioning onto the new network starting in 2017 and it is expected full rollout will be complete in early 2018. Development of an overall transition plan with go-live dates defined and agreed for each agency is currently in the works. The top priority for the NGRP team for the remainder of the year is to ensure the new network's 44-site design is fully implemented and that the system performs in a manner that meets the standards our public safety partners expect and deserve.

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Further, I am pleased to report to our shareholders that the NGRP initiative remains on track and on budget overall, with no spike in radio levies anticipated despite the additional features and capacity of the new system.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone involved in the radio procurement process—in particular the senior members of the police, fire and ambulance service who are members of the NGRP Working Group. We appreciate your continued participation in this important public safety initiative.

I have attached a copy of the news release on the radio agreements that was issued September 8, 2016. If you have any questions on any aspect of the NGRP, please do not hesitate to contact me.

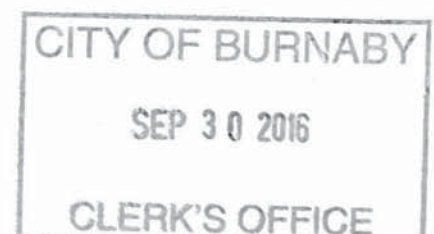
Sincerely,



David W. Guscott, ICD.D  
President & CEO  
604-215-5002

Enclosure: Radio Agreements News Release

cc Metro Vancouver Police and Fire Departments  
Metro Vancouver RCMP Detachments  
Abbotsford Police Department  
BC Emergency Health Services (BC Ambulance Service)







For immediate release – September 8, 2016

## **New radios to provide enhanced capabilities for Lower Mainland first responders**

Vancouver, B.C.—Police officers, firefighters and paramedics in the Lower Mainland will start to use new radios in 2017 that will be more effective and durable in challenging conditions and provide greater safety features for first responders.

E-Comm—*Emergency Communications for British Columbia Incorporated*—has signed agreements with JVCKENWOOD Canada Inc., Motorola Solutions Canada and RELM Wireless Corporation for the provision of radio equipment to be used by first responders on a new digital P25 regional emergency communications radio system currently in development by E-Comm and its public safety partners. Among the key features: Greater reliability, water immersion resistance, radio monitoring (enabling dispatchers to remotely activate radio microphones for improved responder safety), noise-cancelling technology to reduce background sounds and allow responders to be heard more clearly in noisy environments, increased security, GPS tracking, an expanded range of accessories and the ability to add new features through software upgrades in the future.

For the first time, emergency service agencies will also have their choice of radios from multiple pre-qualified vendors, providing them with the opportunity to choose from a range of products and price points that meet their specific requirements.

“There is a tremendous benefit in having agencies choose radio equipment that uniquely suits their needs,” explains Richmond Fire Chief John McGowan, chair of the radio user working group (composed of senior representatives from police, fire and ambulance services) that is collaborating with E-Comm in overseeing the radio system replacement. “The type of radio, its specific technology features and the manner in which radios are used, can differ between police, fire and ambulance agencies.”

For example, Chief McGowan says that larger radios are more desirable for firefighters who wear bulky protective gear such as gloves and jackets. Radios also need to be extra rugged to operate in firefighting conditions (i.e. waterproof); whereas police may prefer smaller, lighter radios that have longer battery life during extended events. “Being able to choose customized options means first responders are getting the best tools to do their jobs,” Chief McGowan adds.

The planned replacement of E-Comm’s radio system—known as the *Next Generation Radio Program*—is a multi-year initiative to replace the entire regional radio network currently used by all police departments and BC Emergency Health Services in Metro Vancouver and Abbotsford, in addition to 12 fire departments in Metro Vancouver. The new network will be based on digital radio technology known as *Project 25* (P25) in the 700 MHz band, an open standard that public-safety agencies across North America have widely adopted and that has been endorsed by the Lower Mainland emergency services community.

E-Comm President and CEO David Guscott echoed Chief McGowan’s comments about the benefit of providing agencies with options for radios. “What it all comes down to is what’s best for the public safety community—helping first responders to be able to provide the highest level of service by ensuring they have the right radios at their disposal. I’m pleased to have such a wide variety of options available for our partners.”

**JVCKENWOOD Canada Inc.**

Thomas Kingston

905-670-7211

[tkingston@ca.jvckenwood.com](mailto:tkingston@ca.jvckenwood.com)

**Motorola Solutions, Inc.**

Chantal Montsion

1-847-668-3050

[chantal.montsion@motorolasolutions.com](mailto:chantal.montsion@motorolasolutions.com)

**RELM Wireless Corporation**

Tim Vitou

321-984-1414

[tvitou@relm.com](mailto:tvitou@relm.com)

