

Municipal Modernization Fund – Intake 2 Review Stream Final Report

Joint Municipal Paramedic Service Deployment Review – Counties of Oxford, Elgin and Perth

Oxford County in partnership with neighbouring Counties of Elgin and Perth whom share municipal borders, engaged an external consultant to undertake a critical review of existing paramedic service deployment plans and operational strategies for each of the partnering municipalities and to examine effectiveness in terms of level of service and performance and identify alternative approaches to derive improved levels of service and possible cost savings.

Recommendations

The consultant's recommendations included that all three counties should:

- create an ongoing joint Paramedic Service Sharing Working Group to oversee implementation of multiple service sharing arrangements;
- adopt an analytics dashboard tool when considering necessary resourcing additions across the 10-year 2022-2032 planning horizon; and
- conduct a cost/benefit analysis of Code 8 movements as part of their deployment plans to achieve effectiveness in managing response times and improving emergency coverage.

Two of the participating counties should consider collaborating to build and jointly staff a new shared border area station to improve service delivery in both municipalities.

One of the participating counties should commit to a phased approach to add paramedic coverage to eliminate a gap in the County's geographic coverage plan.

Estimated Cost Savings

Joint purchasing, human resource sharing and coordinated mutual coverage plans predict that an estimated saving potential of \$40,000 - \$60,000 or 10% annually may exist. Further opportunities for efficiencies will be explored by the counties through the Paramedic Service Sharing Working Group.