



SCBA & EQUIPMENT DECONTAMINATION WASHER

REQUEST FOR DECISION | FIRE SERVICES | MAY 12, 2026

WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED?

- Council Decision:

- Approval of \$183,000 for the purchase and installation of SCBA and Equipment Decontamination Washers in the Acheson, West Central, and Tomahawk Fire Stations, funded from Future Capital Restricted Surplus.

WHY THIS IS NEEDED

Occupational Cancer Risk

- Firefighting exposure is classified as Group 1 carcinogenic by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC).
- Approximately 86% of Canadian firefighter occupational fatality claims are cancer-related.
- Firefighters face frequent exposure to the toxic by-products of combustion, accumulating on SCBA, PPE, and equipment.
- Repeated exposure occurs during response and equipment handling.

CURRENT PRACTICE



Manual hand-washing using hoses and tools



Inconsistent cleaning results



Increased secondary exposure to firefighters



Accelerated wear on life-safety equipment

PROPOSED SYSTEM – HOW THIS IMPROVES SAFETY

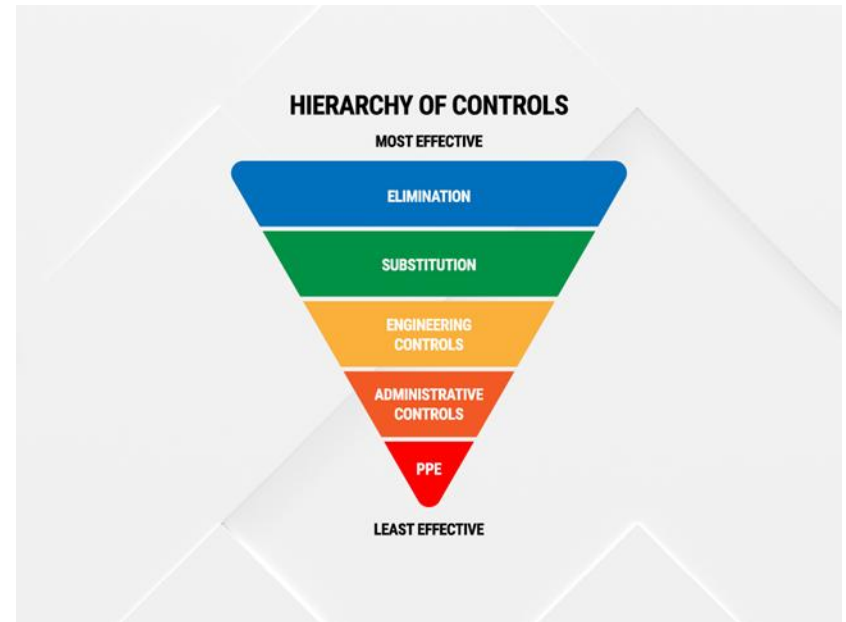
Purpose-built, automated decontamination

- Controlled temperature, mechanical action, approved detergents
- Consistent, validated cleaning outcomes
- Reduced hands-on exposure
- Supports manufacturer maintenance requirements.



WHY THIS IS COMING FORWARD NOW

- Priority action item from the **Fire Services Joint Worksite Health and Safety Committee**
- **Frontline-driven initiative**, fully support by Fire Services Administration
- Aligns with County Strategic Goals:
 - Responsible Leadership
 - Workplace Safety
 - Service Excellent
- Demonstrates due diligence under **Alberta OHS Legislation**



REQUESTED MOTION

That Council approves \$183,000 for the purchase and installation of SCBA and Equipment Decontamination Washers in the Acheson, West Central, and Tomahawk Fire Stations, funded from Future Capital Restricted Surplus.

QUESTIONS

