

From: Allan Rothwell, MCIP, RPP Director of Planning and Development
Date: June 4, 2015 (prepared May 25, 2015)
Subject: TEXT with 9-1-1 for Deaf, Deafened, Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired

## **Background:**

It was recently announced that the TEXT with 9-1-1 (T9-1-1) service is available for deaf, deafened, hard of hearing or speech impaired individuals in a number of Provinces, including 470 communities in Ontario, including the entire geographic Perth County area. This service will provide 9-1-1 call takers and emergency services the ability to converse with a caller during an emergency, using text messaging.

In order to use the T9-1-1 service, a cellular phone must be compatible with T9-1-1 requirements, must be registered with a cellular phone company, and must have the capability to send and receive text messages. Cellular phone company websites provide details on registering phones and compatibility with T9-1-1 service.

For further information regarding the T9-1-1 service, visit <u>www.textwith911.ca</u>.

In order to highlight this new service, the County and each of the local municipalities, as well as the City of Stratford and the Town of St. Marys could provide a link to the above-noted website on their municipal websites.

Reference Material Attached: What you Need to Know about TEXT with 9-1-1

## **Recommendation:**

**That** Perth County Council receive the Planning Director's June 4, 2015 report entitled TEXT with 9-1-1 for Deaf, Deafened, Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired for information; and

That the County provide a link to the textwith911.ca website to the County's website and provide a link to this information to each of the local municipalities, as well as City of Stratford and the Town of St. Marys for their municipal websites.

Author

## **Reviewed by:**

Director	Finance	CAO
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Comments:		