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The Regional Municipality of Peel
POLICE SERVICES BOARD
10 PEEL CENTRE DR., BRAMPTON, ON L6T 4B9

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www.peelpoliceboard.ca

December 3, 2009

Mr. J. Payne
Regional Clerks
Region of Peel
10 Peel Centre Drive
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES	
COPY TO:	FOR:
Chair	✓ Committee
CAG	✓ Council
Corporate Services	Jan 14
Public Works	2010
Employee and Business Services	File
Health Services	
Human Services	
Peel Living	

Dear Mr. Payne:

RE: #IC242/09- VCOM Group Annual Report

On November 27, 2009, the Regional Municipality of Peel Police Services Board considered a memo dated November 7, 2009 from Deputy Chief P. Tetzlaff, Corporate Services, providing the Board with the annual report on the activities of the VCOM group.

The following motion was passed by the Board:

“That the information be received;

And further, that the 2008 VCOM Group Annual Report be forwarded to Regional Council for information;

And further, that the 2008 VCOM Group Annual Report be forwarded to the Regional Fire Coordinator for information.”

In keeping with the Board’s motion, I would request that you take the necessary action to have a copy of the attached report provided to Regional Council.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Board office.

Yours truly,

Frederick Biro
Executive Director

FB:dl

c. Deputy Chief P. Tetzlaff, Corporate Services

Attach: VCOM Group Annual Report

REFERRAL TO _____
RECOMMENDED _____
DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED

RECEIVED

DEC 03 2009

REGION OF PEEL
CLERKS DEPT.



FORWARDED TO
POLICE SERVICES BOARD

DATE NOV 16 2009

[Signature]
CHIEF OF POLICE

MA-CI-2

242.

REPORT
Police Services Board
RECEIVED

NOV 17 2009 For Information

Registration No.: 11450 File Class: 1-01-02-03

File Class: V04

Cross-Reference File Class: _____

DATE: November 7, 2009

SUBJECT: VCOM GROUP ANNUAL REPORT

FROM: Paul Tetzlaff, Deputy Chief, Corporate Services

RECOMMENDATION

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the VCOM Group Annual Report dated November 7th, 2009 be received by the Police Services Board.

AND FURTHER THAT, the 2009 VCOM Group Annual Report be forwarded to Regional Council.

AND FURTHER THAT, the 2009 VCOM Group Annual Report be forwarded to the Regional Fire Coordinator as information.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- A slight increase in number of radios was realized in 2008-2009, but well within projections
- Upgrades and renewals related to Power supply and HVAC have been completed
- Microwave and tower light replacement is in progress
- Planning for system renewal 2011 -2014 is underway
- The VCOM radio system continues to well serve the needs of our member municipalities

DISCUSSION

In accordance with the June 8th, 1995 agreement between the Regional Municipality of Peel, the City of Brampton, the City of Mississauga, the Town of Caledon, and the Peel Police Services Board, a VCom Group was formed in the summer of 1997 to manage the operation of the radio system. Section 6 of that agreement states in part: *'The VCom Group will be accountable to Regional Council through the Police Services Board and report annually in September of each year on its activities to Regional Council, through the Chief of Police to the Police Services Board with an information report forwarded to the Regional Fire Coordinator.'*

RECEIVED

NOV 13 2009

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

09 - 2161

VCom Group Activities

The VCom system entered its 12th year of operation functioning well to support ten agencies within the Region of Peel. The following are noteworthy from the last year of activities:

- **System Users:**

At present the VCOM system supports a total of 4,442 radios, which is a slight increase from 2008 which reported 4,314 user units. Most agencies have increased their radio complement, but are well within growth projections. 2009 system loading is within operational tolerances, averaging 34% of system capacity.

In summary, current users of the system along with the number of radios are:

Peel Regional Police*	1466	31.5%
Brampton Fire Services*	236	5.3%
Caledon Fire Services*	154	3.5%
Mississauga Fire Services*	249	5.6%
Regional Works*	438	9.9%
Brampton Hydro	100	2.3%
City of Mississauga	953	21.5%
G.T.A.A.	325	7.3%
R.C.M.P.	69	1.6%
C.B.S.A.	<u>452</u>	10.2%
Total:	4442	

*denotes Vcom Group member. All others are Users.

- **Financial Trends:**

The radio operating costs for VCOM for 2009 is \$166.90 per radio, an increase of \$20.36 per radio from 2008. This increase is due to the three year backup battery replacement cost and equates to an overall increase of \$75,080. These user fees are based on a total gross operating cost of \$851,790 less tower revenues of \$110,710 for 2009.

- **Generator Projects:**

The Dixie Road and Clarkson radio sites have been completed and are fully functional. All VCOM radio sites are now equipped with backup generators capable of maintaining operation during an extended blackout period.

- **Site backup battery replacements:**

Uninterruptable Power Supply (UPS) and transmitter backup batteries require replacement every three years and involve the removal / replacement of approximately 500 high capacity cells. This replacement came due in 2009 and was completed in November.

- **Site Upgrades UPS/HVAC/Tower Lights**

All VCOM site Uninterruptable Power Supplies (UPS) have been replaced with updated and currently supported units. The Peel Regional Police Headquarters master site UPS system has also been replaced with a modular and expandable system. Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning systems have also been replaced at all sites. Obstruction warning lights remain to be replaced, and will be undertaken in the near future.

- **Microwave Radio System Upgrade:**

The Microwave Radio System upgrade project is underway. Harris Stratex (the existing system manufacturer) completed a thorough examination and assessment of our network in June 2009. The resulting report found the feed lines and antennas in good condition and capable of supporting the microwave radio replacement. This project is on schedule with an expected completion by the third quarter of 2010.

- **VCOM System Upgrade/Replacement in 2011 thru 2014:**

The VCOM System replacement planning continues with participation from all user agencies. Letters of intent to participate in the new system have been received from most agencies with the remainder expected prior to year end. A region wide radio coverage study performed by PRP TSS concluded an additional site will be required in the North Brampton, 410/Mayfield area to address poor signal and growth projections. A detailed replacement plan will be developed early 2010 with a subsequent recommendation to PSB prior to 2010 year end.

CONCLUSION:

The VCOM Group is pleased to report that the VCOM radio system continues to well serve the needs of our member municipalities.

Approved for Submission:



Deputy Chief, Corporate Services

For further information regarding this report, please contact Supt. Frank Roselli #846 at extension 4440 or via email at frank.roselli@peelpolice.on.ca

Authored by: Supt. Frank Roselli #846