

March 22, 2021

RE: Ontario Fire College Closure

Please be advised that the Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands, at its meeting held March 17, 2021, passed the following resolution:

2021-195

Moved by Aakash Desai, Seconded by Danielle Valiquette

Whereas Council received the resolution 59/21 from the Township of Howick; and

Whereas, the Province of Ontario has announced that as of March 31, 2021 the Gravenhurst campus of the Ontario Fire College will be permanently closed; and

Whereas, the Province of Ontario announced plans to modernize and expand access to firefighter training in Ontario; and

Whereas, there has been no clear plan communicated by the Province of Ontario on how to obtain firefighter training in the absence of the Ontario Fire College campus; and

Whereas, there has been no clear plan communicated by the Province of Ontario on how firefighter training in Ontario will be modernized and expanded; and

Whereas, there has been no clear plan communicated by the Province of Ontario regarding the costs or funding for modernized and expanded firefighter training in Ontario; and

Whereas, the Municipality of Grey Highlands is a small municipality that operates a volunteer fire department to provide fire protection;

Now therefore, be it resolved that Council respectfully request a clear plan be communicated that establishes how the Province intends to modernize and expand firefighter training ensuring equal access to all municipal fire departments in Ontario, and as well, present a plan for funding to subsidize and/or regulate the cost for firefighter training in the Province of Ontario; and

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Solicitor General, MPP Bill Walker, the Ontario Fire Marshal, the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Ontario Municipalities.
CARRIED.

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,



Jerri-Lynn Levitt
Deputy Clerk
Council and Legislative Services
Municipality of Grey Highlands

The Municipality of Grey Highlands

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March 3, 2021

By email only premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

Please be advised that the following resolution was passed at the March 2, 2021 Howick Council meeting:

Moved by Deputy Reeve Bowman; Seconded by Councillor Hargrave:

Whereas, the Province of Ontario has announced that as of March 31, 2021 the Gravenhurst campus of the Ontario Fire College will be permanently closed; and Whereas, the Province of Ontario announced plans to modernize and expand access to firefighter training in Ontario; and

Whereas, there has been no clear plan communicated by the Province of Ontario on how to obtain firefighter training in the absence of the Ontario Fire College campus; and

Whereas, there has been no clear plan communicated by the Province of Ontario on how firefighter training in Ontario will be modernized and expanded; and

Whereas, there has been no clear plan communicated by the Province of Ontario regarding the costs or funding for modernized and expanded firefighter training in Ontario; and

Whereas, the Township of Howick is a small rural municipality that operates a volunteer fire department to provide fire protection;

Now therefore, be it resolved that Council respectfully request a clear plan be communicated that establishes how the Province intends to modernize and expand firefighter training ensuring equal access to all municipal fire departments in Ontario, and as well, present a plan for funding to subsidise and or regulate the cost for firefighter training in the Province of Ontario. Carried.

Resolution No. 59/21

If you require any further information, please contact this office, thank you.

Yours truly,

Carol Watson

Carol Watson, Clerk
Township of Howick

Cc Solicitor General Sylvia Jones
Huron-Bruce MPP Lisa Thompson
Ontario Fire Marshal Jon Pegg
Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs Mark McDonald
AMO President