



March 19th 2021

Sent via e-mail

Re: Town of Gravenhurst Resolution – Ontario Fire College

Please be advised that on March 10th 2021 the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion to support the Town of Gravenhurst – Ontario Fire College.

Motion #13 – *Moved by Netty McEwen, Seconded by Tim Wilkins that Council support item “v)” from the Town of Gravenhurst regarding the Ontario Fire College.*

Motion Carried.

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has been in operation in Gravenhurst since 1958; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus is one of the primary sources of certified training for Ontario Firefighters; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has built a reputation of integrity, credibility, and reliability in providing some of the best training to our Fire Services within the Province of Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has been used to train and certify both Volunteer, Part-Time and Career firefighters throughout Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Regional Training Centers are not all created equal and similar in function to the Ontario Fire College Campus; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus gives Ontario Firefighters another option other than Regional Training Centers to obtain National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) certifications; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus is the most cost-effective method for municipalities to certify Firefighters to NFPA Standards in Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Government enacted and revoked O. Reg. 379/18: Firefighter Certification in 2018; and

The Corporation of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming

P.O. Box 250, 546 Niagara Street, Wyoming Ontario N0N 1T0

Tel: 519-845-3939 Ontario Toll Free: 1-877-313-3939

WHEREAS when the Ontario Government revoked O. Reg. 379/18: Firefighter Certification, it was made known by the Office of the Solicitor General that the act would be amended and brought back in the future; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Plympton-Wyoming requests that the Province of Ontario reverse their decision to close the Ontario Fire College Campus in Gravenhurst as the OFC is one of the best and most cost-effective methods for municipalities to train their firefighters which assists us in protecting our residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Resolution is forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Sylvia Jones; Ontario Solicitor General, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Fire Marshal; Jon Pegg, and all municipalities within the Province of Ontario.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely,



Erin Kwarciak
Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming



Sent via Email

February 11, 2021

RE: TOWN OF GRAVENHURST RESOLUTION – ONTARIO FIRE COLLEGE

At the Town of Gravenhurst Committee of the Whole meeting held on February 9, 2021 the following resolution was passed:

**Moved by Councillor Lorenz
Seconded by Councillor Murray**

WHEREAS the site of the Ontario Fire College has been in institutional use since 1902 as the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives and the site of many heritage buildings that require protection;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Gravenhurst has been home to the Ontario Fire College since 1957, providing world-class training and camaraderie to thousands of Firefighters from across the Province in a unique setting;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College has established the reputation to certify both Volunteer and Career firefighters in a cost effective manner, offering top-tier training to all Fire Departments in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS there is concern from several municipalities and firefighters across the Province that the closure is detrimental to their training and that downloading of training is simply too expensive for municipalities and not included in their 2021 budgets;

AND WHEREAS the Fire Marshal has a duty (F.P.P.A.S 9.2(e)) to operate and maintain a central fire college and that regional training facilities are unproven and the closure of the Ontario Fire College was implemented with no stakeholder consultation;

AND WHEREAS the community of Gravenhurst has benefitted from the employment opportunities that the Ontario Fire College has provided;

AND WHEREAS the closure of the facility will result in significant job losses and would be a detriment to the broader community;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario reconsider the closure of the Ontario Fire College;

AND THAT if the closure occurs, the facility and site in the Town of Gravenhurst be considered to be the location of a Regional Training Centre for Fire and Emergency Services, for all the people of Ontario;

AND THAT the Province engage the Town of Gravenhurst and community partners to use the site in a matter that fosters growth of the community in a responsible way;

AND FINALLY THAT this motion be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Ontario Solicitor General, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MPP Norm Miller, the Ontario Fire Marshal, Jon Pegg and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

Sincerely,



Kayla Thibeault
Director of Legislative Services / Clerk
Town of Gravenhurst

DRAFT MOTION:

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has been in operation in Gravenhurst since 1958; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus is one of the primary sources of certified training for Ontario Firefighters; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has built a reputation of integrity, credibility, and reliability in providing some of the best training to our Fire Services within the Province of Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has been used to train and certify both Volunteer, Part-Time and Career firefighters throughout Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Regional Training Centers are not all created equal and similar in function to the Ontario Fire College Campus; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus gives Ontario Firefighters another option other than Regional Training Centers to obtain National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) certifications; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus is the most cost-effective method for municipalities to certify Firefighters to NFPA Standards in Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Government enacted and revoked 0. Reg. 379/18: Firefighter Certification in 2018; and

WHEREAS when the Ontario Government revoked 0. Reg. 379/18: Firefighter Certification, it was made known by the Office of the Solicitor General that the act would be amended and brought back in the future; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the **TOWNSHIP/MUNICIPALITY** requests that the Province of Ontario reverse their decision to close the Ontario Fire College Campus in Gravenhurst as the OFC is one of the best and most cost-effective methods for municipalities to train their firefighters which assists us in protecting our residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Resolution is forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Sylvia Jones; Ontario Solicitor General, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Fire Marshal; Jon Pegg, and all municipalities within the Province of Ontario.