

February 19, 2021

Mr. Graydon Smith, President
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario
200 University Ave., Suite 801
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3C6

Dear Mr. Smith:

Re: Closure of the Ontario Fire College in Gravenhurst

The Township of Tiny Council recently reviewed correspondence dated January 14, 2021, from the Office of the Fire Marshal regarding the pending closure of the Ontario Fire College in Gravenhurst, Ontario.

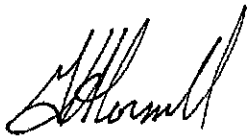
The Ontario Fire College provided fire service training to hundreds of municipal fire departments, like ours, who do not have the capacity or resources to provide their own in-house training for specialized programs.

Should the Office of the Fire Marshal continue to develop fire fighter training curriculum, municipalities will now bear the cost for its use and delivery. The alternative use of Regional Training Centres, for specialized training, will be at a significant cost to municipal fire departments, including room and boarding expenses.

With the closure of the Ontario Fire College and the lack of provincial or federal funding for volunteer fire departments for much needed training, it puts municipalities at risk.

We ask that reconsideration be given to the closure of the Ontario Fire College, at the very least, until a plan is in place to support municipalities with the resources and funding that is required to adequately train and support its fire fighters.

The Corporation of the Township of Tiny



George Cornell
Mayor

cc. The Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services
Ontario Municipalities
Jill Dunlop, MPP, Simcoe North