Township of Perry



PO Box 70, 1695 Emsdale Road, Emsdale, ON POA 1JO

February 19, 2021

Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

The Right Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario Legislative Building Queen's Park Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford,

RE: Request that the Province of Ontario Reverse Decision to Close the Ontario Fire College Campus in Gravenhurst

Please be advised that at their last regular meeting on February 17, 2021, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry supported the following resolution:

"<u>Resolution #2021-69</u>

Moved by: Paul Sowrey Seconded by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

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 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

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 Township of Perry 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.

Carried."

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

BI

Beth Morton Clerk-Administrator

BM/ec

cc: Honourable Sylvia Jones, Ontario Solicitor General Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Ontario Fire Marshal Jon Pegg Ontario Fire College – Gravenhurst Campus All Ontario Municipalities Township of Perry Fire Chief Dan Marshall