



ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

Leading innovation and excellence in public and life safety

January 13, 2025

Director Jason Whiteley
Fire Chief
North Bay Fire and Emergency Services

RE: 2025 Mandate Letter

Dear Director Whiteley,

Thank you for your commitment to serving as an Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (O AFC) Director. The O AFC plays an important role in ensuring firefighter and public safety, and your dedication and willingness to do more will leave an enduring legacy on the Ontario Fire Service.

The purpose of this letter is to outline the O AFC's priorities and expectations for the upcoming year, and to provide an open, transparent and formal mandate to you for the 2025 term specific to your areas of designated responsibility.

For the 2025 term, the O AFC has the following priorities that Directors are tasked with supporting and achieving:

- Improving member engagement & communication, and representing members from all fire departments
- Completing the modernization of the zone program to better represent local member interests
- Ensuring the continued success of O AFC events and the value they provide to members
- Conducting a 2026 to 2029 strategic plan
- Continuing our strong government relations program, including hosting another Queens Park Advocacy Day, having a strong presence at the ROMA and AMO conferences, maintaining regular engagement with key Ministries and providing all members with government relations speaking points to ensure consistent messaging
- Ensuring effective business operations for the O AFC, including ensuring staff are supported, looking at on-going opportunities to diversify revenue, and developing a framework of internal processes that will ensure effective future succession planning
- Conducting a comprehensive governance review, including evaluating further constitutional improvements, determining the best approach related to a code of conduct, formalizing election and resolution processes; and ensuring adherence to the Ontario Not for Profit Corporations Act (ONCA)

For the 2025 term, in addition to your role as a Director, I am appointing you as the Board Chair of the Communications Committee, as the Board Alternate of the Urban Committee, as a member of the Standard Incident Report (SIR) working group, IMS Steering Committee, a member of the Next Generation 911 Working Group, Next Generation 911 Interagency Advisory Panel (IAP), Public Safety Broadband Network (PSBN) Working Group and Public Safety Radio Network (PSRN) Working Group and as the O AFC representative on the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) National Advisory Council (NAC).



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My expectations, as it relates to the oversight of the Communications Committee, is as follows:

- The Communications Committee will meet quarterly (at minimum) with at least one in person meeting at the AGM
- Those meetings will be scheduled in advance for 2025 so that attendees have them locked into their calendars
- As the Board Chair, you are responsible for preparing the agenda and distributing it at least one week in advance of the meeting
- As the Board Chair, you are responsible for preparing meeting minutes and distributing them at least four weeks following the meeting
- In addition to these meetings, you shall maintain regular dialogue with the Communications Committee members, ensuring the OAFChiefs remains aware of emerging issues and offers support to members as quickly and effectively as possible

In addition to the Communications Committee expectations, I ask that you be the Board Alternate for the Urban Committee and assist the Board Chair of that committee with meeting their mandate, as well as replacing them as required.

Specific to your roles on the Standard Incident Report (SIR) Working Group, IMS Steering Committee, Next Generation 911 Working Group, Next Generation 911 Interagency Advisory Panel (IAP), Public Safety Broadband Network (PSBN) Working Group and Public Safety Radio Network (PSRN) Working Group these are important roles and under the leadership of the working group chairs, the expectation is that you will attend meetings and contribute to the meaningful work that these groups do for the betterment of the Ontario Fire Service.

Specific to your role as the OAFChiefs representative on the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) National Advisory Council (NAC), this role is key to our success, and we wish you to continue the strong work underway in that role.

On behalf of the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs, thank you for your contributions to making the Ontario Fire Service better and safer.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Grimwood'.

Deputy Chief Rob Grimwood
President

cc: Jeremy Parkin, Vice President
Mark MacDonald, Executive Director