



Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs

Large Urban Committee Meeting Minutes

The Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs mission is to lead innovation and excellence in public and life safety. Our vision is to inspire and influence a safer Ontario.

Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93574641532?pwd=T0s2aXZoUGlOcHU3dnN3VU1RRm5pUT09>

Meeting ID: 935 7464 1532

Thursday, March 18, 2021, 12pm

Attendees: Mark MacDonald, Paul Hutt, Jim Jessop, Steve Kraft, Dyren Rizzi, Stephen Laforet, Lori Hammer, Mike Doyle, Dave Cunliffe, Kim Ayotte, Michelle O'Hara

Guests: None

Minute Taker: Mark Tishman

1. Welcome – Committee Chair

- Paul Hutt provided welcoming remarks and comments and passed it over to Jim who requested the meeting.

2. Provincial Funding Announcement

- Jim noted that he has received calls from various people at the provincial government who have received multiple complaints from Fire Chiefs regarding the provinces recent \$5M announcements towards COVID-19 inspections and training and wanted to know the OAFCh's position on it.
- Another department has also received similar calls from their union president who requested the chief send in a letter of support for the announcement. The Chief sent an email in support.
- Michelle noted in the OAFCh position paper and briefing note, the OAFCh requested annualized firefighter training funding. The OAFCh is happy the fire service received funding period. While we agree there are some issues with the grant (no FN or NFPP departments are eligible), but the funding formula used is similar to one in other areas.
- Michelle also noted the OAFCh was in the process of drafting a letter of support for this grant.
- The last fire grants from the province were in 1999 and 2006 and were one-time grants based on a population size.



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- A second letter of support from the Large Urban group was discussed, but ultimately rejected as we don't want to a) mix messages, and b) the OAFCh represents all departments.
- Most Large Urban chiefs were asked by their union presidents to send in something in support of this grant. Most will on behalf of their departments, but not on behalf of the LU, or OAFCh.
- The OAFCh has noted the FFAO's displeasure with this grant.
- The OAFCh's official position is that we are happy with this grant, though we would like all fire departments in Ontario to receive it, and for it to be annualized.
- It was agreed for the OAFCh to send out their letter of support ASAP.

3. Adjournment

Chief MacDonald moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:38pm