



# COMMUNIQUE

OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL  
BUREAU DU COMMISSAIRE DES INCENDIES

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No. 2023-08

## Notification of Fires and Explosions involving Lithium Batteries

The Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM) has been deployed to investigate the origin, cause and circumstances of a number of fires involving lithium batteries in recent years. These fires vary in size and may not meet the notification criteria contained within [Fire Marshal's Directive 2023-001: Notification of Fires and Explosions](#). The severity and the number of lithium battery-fire occurrences is concerning to the fire service and the OFM.

### Request for Notification

The updated Standard Incident Reporting process will provide the OFM and fire service with more details about lithium battery fires. Until that process is in place, the OFM is requesting the Ontario fire service submit all information on fires they believe have been caused by lithium-battery fires, no matter the size, related damage or whether the OFM was dispatched to investigate, as per *Fire Marshal's Directive 2023-001: Notification of Fires and Explosions*.

The attached form has been designed to assist fire departments to submit key elements about these fires including:

- Municipality of origin
- Suspected cause of the fire
- Time of day and date
- Type of device (charging/storage/mobility)
- Manufacturer
- Year of manufacture and country of origin
- Previous issues with device
- Municipal response to fire

Fire departments can submit this form via [ofmfdm@ontario.ca](mailto:ofmfdm@ontario.ca). Additionally, if the lithium battery occurrence did not meet the Fire Marshal's Directive criteria, the device or battery should be seized for examination whenever possible. The OFM would be looking to further analyze the device.

Your support to report this information is appreciated. If you have any questions, please speak with your Fire Protection Adviser.