



# COMMUNIQUÉ

OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL  
BUREAU DU COMMISSAIRE DES INCENDIES

June 23, 2023

No. 2023-06

## ***Amendments to the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997***

On June 8, 2023, the Ontario government's [\*Strengthening Safety and Modernizing Justice Act, 2023\*](#) received Royal Assent, introducing amendments to the [\*Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997\*](#) (FPPA) regarding Deputy Fire Marshals, Fire Safety Commission operations and cost recovery.

Amendments made to the FPPA are now in force and are summarized below:

- Section 8 has been amended to allow for the appointment of more than one Deputy Fire Marshal.
- Section 26 has been amended to provide the Fire Safety Commission (FSC) with the authority to extend the time to appeal an order beyond the 30-day period if the FSC is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for an extension.
- Section 36(3)(b) has been amended to allow the FSC to consider how costs appealed by a property owner may relate to fire department actions taken to immediately close lands or premises under the provisions of section 21(2)(b).
- Sections 38(1) and 39(1) have been amended to further support recovery of costs incurred by municipalities or the province for actions taken to immediately close lands or premises under the provisions of section 21(2)(b).
- Section 58(4) has been amended to allow for proceedings before the FSC to be heard and determined by a panel consisting of one or more members of the Commission.

These amendments enhance executive capacity at the Office of the Fire Marshal, increase operational efficiency at the FSC, and close gaps in the FPPA regarding cost recovery.

If you have any questions regarding these FPPA amendments, please contact your local fire protection adviser.