Ministry of the Solicitor General

Office of the Fire Marshal

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MEMORANDUM TO: All Ontario Fire Chiefs

FROM: Jon Pegg

Ontario Fire Marshal

DATE: November 24, 2025

SUBJECT: Eligibility Updates: Ontario Immediate Family

Wellness Program

This communication provides an overview of the following:

The expansion of eligibility for the Ontario Immediate Family Wellness Program, with families now eligible for services if a public safety personnel (PSP) death occurred after January 1, 2000, and program access extension from up to two years to up to 10 years.

Ontario Immediate Family Wellness Program's Expansion of Eligibility

On April 5, 2024, the Ministry of the Solicitor General implemented the Ontario Immediate Family Wellness Program (Family Wellness Program) to support the mental health and well-being of families of PSP.

Recognizing the need for broader support for the families of PSP who have died in the line of duty or by suicide, the program eligibility criteria have been expanded to the following:

- Families are now eligible for services if a PSP death occurred after January 1, 2000, and
- Access to the program has been extended from up to two years to up to ten years.

The previous eligibility dates for PSP deaths were:

- Line of duty: January 1, 2020.
- Death by suicide: January 1, 2023.

The Family Wellness Program complements short-term victim services and immediate crisis support by extending mental health services to identified family members of the fire service, correctional services, emergency health services and police personnel across the province for up to ten years.

Services provided include:

- Access to wellness navigators providing crisis and care planning 24 hours a day,
 7 days a week, 365 days a year.
- Access to wrap-around services that connect families to necessary supports whenever they are needed, including rapid access to counselling.
- Individualized care plans that support families no matter where they are on the mental health continuum.

For more information or to inquire about how to register for the program, please visit: https://onfamilywellness.ca or contact the Family Wellness Program coordinators by email at info@onfamilywellness.ca or phone at 1-866-643-9247.

Please share this information on the Family Wellness Program broadly across your networks.

Questions regarding any of the above can be directed to the Mental Health Secretariat by email at mh.secretariat@ontario.ca.

If you require alternate formats, accessibility accommodations, or communication supports, they can be provided upon request.

Sincerely,

Jon Pegg

Ontario Fire Marshal

c: Mario Di Tommaso, O.O.M.

Deputy Solicitor General, Community Safety, Ministry of the Solicitor General

Erin Hannah

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