

Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs

Zone 4 Meeting

AGENDA

Thursday, Nov 17, 2016

Mississauga Fire and Emergency Services

Mississauga Training Facility

(Garry W. Morden Centre), 7535 Ninth Line, Mississauga, ON L5N 7C3

10:00 Call to Order

10:05 Opening Remarks

10:10 Michael Morton (CEMC Update from OFMEM)

- Emergency Management overview, OFM / EM integration
- OFMEM Org Chart
- OFMEM Goals for 2016/17

10:30 OAFB Sub-Committee Report – Mark Berney / Brad Bigrigg

OAFB Updates

OAFB Provincial Advisory Committee – The Zones have been restructured into the Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC) to meet anticipated legislative changes. The PAC will comprise representatives from 12 geographical areas assigned by the Board of Directors in the Province of Ontario. Each area will have an individual member appointed on the Committee by the Board of Directors. The Advisory Committee will be responsible for disseminating information from the Boards as well as gathering information and feedback to bring back to the Board. The Board of Directors will set the composition and terms of reference for the PAC.

Portage Group – Warren provided an overview of the report prepared by the Portage Group. The Board has developed a comprehensive Strategic Plan consisting of 4 key items. There was a 33% response from the membership survey. This has provided an accurate assessment that reflects the issues and thoughts within the Ontario fire service. The Strategic Plan is to be prepared and delivered at the mid-term meeting in November. The Report will be available to the membership prior to the mid-term meeting. Brad Patton indicated that an Executive Summary of the report would go over well with the membership.

Light Weight and Truss-Type Construction - Perth-Wellington MPP Randy Pettapiece will be presenting a Private Members Bill regarding the marking of industrial/commercial lightweight and truss-type construction to the Legislature this fall. Formal debate is not expected until spring 2017 at the earliest.

OAFC response to Sault Ste. Marie issues – Copy of OAFC response to OPFFA letter to Sault Ste. Marie residents has been sent to all OAFC members.

Loyalist Township LODD – Verbal Update

2 Hatter Issue – Verbal update

Initial FPPA issues and tracking – Identify issues/problems associated with the current legislation along with the reason. Also identify wants/needs in any new or amended legislation. All results to go through the Board of Directors for final decision on further action and submission. PAC representatives are responsible to solicit comments from chiefs in their zone.

Fire-Paramedic Discussions – The OAFC has not been consulted on this issue or provided any study materials or terms of reference for consultation.

Next Generation 9-1-1 Update – Discussions are now underway regarding the Next Generation for 9-1-1. This includes the capacity of call centres to receive text messages. This will involve additional new technology which many centres may find difficult to fund. Few of the existing 9-1-1 answering points in Ontario currently have the capacity to use the new technology.

Solar Power/CANSIA Update – The OAFC, in partnership with the solar power industry has completed the Solar Electrical Safety Handbook for Firefighters. One copy has been distributed to each fire station in Ontario. The OAFC has finalized the training package to support the handbook. The training and selection of the instructors is complete.

The course roll-out is imminent and will be announce by e-blast. The ESA has announced the website enrolment which will allow fire departments to identify solar power generating sites which may be integrated into CAD dispatching systems. The launch date will be finalized by OAFC 2016.

Beyond Hoses + Helmets - Strategy and Tactics of Leading a Volunteer or Composite Fire/Rescue Organization

The Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs and the provincial fire chiefs associations have been working in partnership with the Volunteer and Combination Officers Section (VCOS) of the International Association of Fire Chiefs to offer this two day course to provide chief officers who manage volunteers within the fire/rescue/delivery system with information, education, services and representation to enhance their professionalism and capabilities.

Designed and delivered by active fire chief officers from across Canada, the course is packed with practical hands-on fire department examples on how to provide leadership, how to recruit and retain firefighters (a critical issue for volunteer fire departments) how to run successful training programs, and how to build community support.

The Beyond Hoses and Helmets course focuses on five key areas of fire department operation:

- Leadership
- Training
- Recruitment
- Retention
- Branding/Marketing

The modules are highly interactive with group assignments and presentations. Students are left with many ideas and solutions that they can take home and use immediately. The key areas covered in the course are critical to the operation of any fire department.

The course is two days long and is usually run on a weekend. In order to maximize the amount of discussion and interaction, the course is limited to 40 participants.

If you are interested in hosting a course, please fill out the [online course request form](#). For additional course information and details, please send an email to info@oafc.on.ca

CTS Update – 25 Fire Departments are now in the system using CTS, and 5 other departments have the agreement under review with Legal and/or Human Resources. As of Oct. 1/16 there are 5957 Registered Users on the OFAI Site, 2614 candidates tested with 1744 receiving complete certification.

CTS for VFF (R. Arnel) – The Rural/Suburban committee had assigned a sub-committee to determine if there is a demand for a CTS for volunteer firefighters. There is no intention of creating a mandatory CTS for volunteer firefighters. Huntsville, Essa, Northumberland County, East Gwillimbury, Orangeville and Petrolia are using different components of CTS for VFF testing. Approximately 150 VFF candidates have been tested to date.

Highway Responses – The OAFB has worked closely with MTO on issues of concern regarding highway responses and the withdrawal of extrication services on some portions of highway. We will continue to meet with MTO as the need arises. Fire Chiefs should be aware that it is quite possible that EMS and/or Police Services will assume responsibility for auto extrication where there is no fire department response on a portion of provincial highway.

MTO Rate (R. Arnel/K.Serson) – OAFB staff have been advised that MTO will not be providing a no-service collision rate for southern Ontario.

FUS Tanker Shuttle (R. Arnel/K. Serson) – As of March 17/16, the Superior Tanker Shuttle Service (STSS) Accreditation through Fire Underwriter's Survey has not changed. The current maximum age for fire department tankers to be used and credited in the tanker shuttle is 20 years. FUS will notify the OAFB if/when any changes in the process are made. The OAFB has been informed that FUS will no longer recognise fire services whose Superior Tanker Shuttle Service (STSS) Accreditation is more than 5 years old and have not been recertified; these Stations' STSS Accreditation will be listed as expired within the Canadian Fire Insurance Grading Index.

Road to Mental Health Readiness – On July 30/15, The Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (OAFB) announced the launch of a partnership with the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) which will see the Road to Mental Readiness (R2MR) program made available to fire services across Ontario. This program, originally developed by Canada's Department of National Defense, addresses stigmas, and identifies the signs and symptoms of occupational stress injury, based on a comprehensive mental health continuum model.

Our goal is to be able to provide each and every firefighter and chief officer in Ontario with these much-needed skills and tools as this program expands and spreads.”

Course delivery is now available through the OAFc office staff currently underway. Approximately 1000 fire service personnel have already received training. Fire Chiefs should be aware that all courses, whether internal or external, must be approved and coordinated through the OAFc board office through the R2MR coordinator. As part of our commitment to this program, its delivery and the quality assurance process required by the Mental Health Commission of Canada, this requirement is strictly enforced.

The 4-hour primary course and the 8-hour leadership course have a maximum amount of 24 fire service personnel allowed per session. ***The 8-hour leadership course must be offered in the department before the primary course is offered.*** This is to ensure that everyone within the department is speaking the same language when it comes to this training. The 8-hour leadership course may be separated into 2, 4-hour sessions providing the sessions are not more than 7 days apart. The 4-hour primary course cannot be split into 2 sessions. More information concerning course requirements and booking can be found at:
<http://www.oafc.on.ca/r2mr-course-and-booking-information#sthash.PTwpF0YQ.dpuf>

Combined Inquest – The joint inquest into multiple fatality fires which occurred in East Gwillimbury in March 2013 and in Whitby in April 2012 has been completed. The OAFc did not seek standing at this inquest. OAFc staff worked with the firms representing the fire departments involved to ensure that appropriate evidence was available to the Coroner’s Jury as necessary.

Pending Inquest (Water Rescue Training Fatalities) – Verbal update

Elliot Lake Commission of Inquiry – The OFMEM has made no recommendation or direction to change fire or rescue operations. There have been no changes to the Provincial Incident Management System arising out of the Inquiry.

PSHSA Training (Staff) – OAFc staff are working with the Public Service Health + Safety Association staff to develop higher hazard curriculum (such as trench and confined space rescue) and identify training centres across Ontario capable of delivering PSHSA training and higher hazard training starting in the fall of this year. Members should expect an announcement concerning an MOU with PSHSA in the near future.

Guelph-Humber Partnership (S. Hernan) – Agreement has been reached between the OAFc and Guelph-Humber University. The Fire Services Management Certificate and the Diploma/Degree programs have commenced.

Certified Municipal Manager Designation (K. Serson)

The Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs is proud to be a significant stakeholder and partner in the OMMI. In an effort to keep current with the changing face of the fire service and training standards the OAFc is in the process of updating *the evaluation process to review the education requirements for each designation level and include the NFPA Professional Qualifications Standards. We are also working to link all fire service designations and develop a progression path. It is expected this work will be complete in mid-2016.*

12:00 Meeting adjourned.