



Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC) Zone 5 Meeting Minutes

In-person, Eastern Ontario Emergency Training Academy, Norwood
Thursday, March 29, 2018
1:00pm

Participants: Christopher Baughman; Bill Balfour; Tim Blake; Bob Branscombe; Steve Brockbank; Tony Brownson; Ted Bryan; Richard Caddick; Mike Cavanagh; Donald Corbett; Ryan Edgar; Jason Gear; Ray Haines; Pat Hoover; Mike Iles; Terry Jones; Gord Jopling; Reno Levesque; Derrick Little; Mark MacDonald; Scott Maracle; Don Mitchell; Robert Murphy; Paul Patry; Darryl Payne; Chuck Pedersen; Ron Raymer; Mike Robinson; Robert Rutter; Brian Sears; Chris Snetsinger; Gene Thompson; Mike Vilneff; James Oliver; Mark Pankhurst; Dan Koroscil

Regrets: Mike Bekking; Tim Burgess; Jesse Lambe; Scott Manlow; Allen Mann; Chris Moffatt; Brandon Northrup; Jason Post; Kelly Serson; Daniel Smith; John Whelan

Minute Taker: Chad Brown

1. **Welcome** – Deputy Chief Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Additions to the Agenda** – None
3. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** – None
4. **Minutes of Last Meeting** – Don Corbett moved to adopt the minutes of the last meeting. It was seconded by Pat Hoover. The motion was carried.
5. **Introductions** – Sean Moore was introduced as the new Fire Prevention Officer and Training Officer for Trent Lakes. Mike Robinson, District Chief Hamilton Township, was also introduced, attending for the first time.
6. **Update on Fire Code** – The chiefs should have received Part 6 regulation update from the province regarding standpipes. There is a requirement for additional work to be done regarding test requirements. This was sent out in the Communiqué. There is a chance departments will be asked for compliance information.
7. **PAC 5 Report** – Deputy Chief Brown has not received any correspondence other than the Chief Lloyd retirement. If there are any upcoming retirements, let him know. There is a retirement celebration in Brighton for Fire Chief Lloyd Hutchinson on April 14, 2 to 4 pm.
8. **OAFC Update (Ted Bryan/Chad Brown)** –
 - **Conference** – The OAFC 2018 Conference will take place May 3-6 at the Delta Airport Hotel and Conference Centre, with a Trade Show on May 4-5 at the Trade Show International



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Centre. A change has been made to the format; the Annual AGM will be in November at the former mid-term meeting.

- **Technical Table** – The OAFB supports the mandate of the Technical Table. There were over 400 submissions regarding the draft regulations on risk assessment, mandatory certification, and mandatory reporting. There may be an adjustment in the effective dates to July 1, 2019 and January 1, 2020.
- **OFMEM** – Kalpana Rajgopalan from the OFMEM is moving to Mississauga Fire and Emergency Services; today is her last day. Lyle Quan will be her replacement.
- **Mandatory Training and Certification Regulation** –
 - There were approximately 400 comments received by the government regarding the draft regulations. Tech Table met last week. Still open dialogue, they recognize the issues. Municipalities have been quoted with inaccurate information; the OAFB advises chiefs to use the OAFB briefing notes for information when updating council or media.
 - The certification regulation received the most comments. Grandfathering is open, but not for anything done before 2014. Departments still require all the training records to support their submission. This means in the NFPA system, to advance your career, you have to be certified. If not grandfathered or certified, personnel have to go back to FF I and II. Go forward date is January 1, 2019.
 - There are prerequisites and co-requisites. For the Officer 1021 program, certification requires FF I and II, and NFPA 1041 Level 1 Fire Instructor. There were issues noted with the submission for courses at the OFC where 1021-1 were not accepted due to the 1041 Prerequisite. This could be just with the Fire College as the two courses are co-requisites. Fire Prevention Officer's prior hazmat training through the OFC is no longer recognized as a prerequisite and causing similar issues. Chief Rutter stated so much has to be done at the government first and questioned why the OAFB, our parent organization, is trying to get us a six-month extension, rather than four or five years. It was noted that the six months was better than the original time period that was expressed by the ministry.
 - If chiefs want to take advantage of this second round of grandfathering, they need to act as soon as possible. This opportunity closes at the end of September, 2018. Departments may be audited, so ensure documentation and records are available to support your submission. Deputy Chief Brown offered to help anyone who needs support through the applications. The OAFB has nothing to do with grandfathering. The accrediting bodies have said you have until September. There were 84 departments in Ontario that did not submit applications for grandfathering and there may be others who did limited applications.
 - When asked about the capacity of the OFMEM to deliver the training, the Minister has assured the OAFB they have capacity.



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- There is a survey being developed that should be sent out by the OFMEM. They need to know the potential cost from each department. Each Chief should respond to this survey with the cost of training and certification to their department. This may be a tool to get funding for training. One comment on the survey should be: \$65 fee from the OFM should not be changed. They do recognize there are capacity issues, but they stated that they are correcting the issues.
- Technical Table discussed the internship program. The probationary period in Fire Prevention will be 12 months, and two years for a new firefighter.
- Regarding the NFPA updates, Ministry lawyers understand they can't be updated, so they are agreeing with the OAFIC that this is not the intent of the regulation. They also agreed with the time it takes to certify to the new standard. (three-year window)
- AMO was pushing for an indemnification clause. Future government would have to look at this issue.
- The OFC still has openings in courses. This may be a result of needing pre-requisites and not recognizing the grandfathering.
- Chief Bryan met with Humber College staff; they agreed to supply everything needed for the 1021 Level 4 program review. Learning Outcomes have to be reviewed, present their list to Pro-Board, etc. There may be delays with Kalpana leaving the OFMEM.
- Chief Pankhurst asked if the courses he is presently taking will count towards certification. This was supposed to have been worked out with ProBoard & IFSAC. Company officers can be certified FO1 or 2, or grandfathered, so what are the repercussions if they claim all staff are officers once the legislation comes into force?
- Chief Bryan defended the OAFIC position paper, saying they fought hard representing the members, and we are lucky to have the compromise of a 6-month extension. He asked for a copy of the submitted letters, but they will not be provided to him. Our concerns are shared across the province.
- **Community Risk Assessments Regulation** – It doesn't matter where the data comes from, provided it results in a good risk assessment. The risk assessment regulation will be effective July 1, 2019, after which fire departments have five years to submit a risk assessment. The OFMEM is to provide all fire services with a template. This should be a Community Fire Risk Assessment.
- **Public Reporting Regulation** – There is no definition for the term non-volunteer. Breaking down 1710, reporting data is an issue. Response times mean nothing and are relative. SIR information will be fed to province, then back to municipality. Deputy Chief Brown committed to sitting on the SIR working group. 76% of all calls originate from CACC, so there is a huge issue of what needs to be reported. We will have to get a commitment on SIR information. Chief Bryan said there is a different reporting regulation for rural volunteer fire departments. They will be reporting against themselves, not the standard. In regards to Medical reporting, EMS codes their calls. Non-emergency calls should be taken out of the Emergency Response category. It should be Fire calls only. We don't have the authority to report on medical calls. This will not be accepted.



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9. New Business and Roundtable –

- It was mentioned that OAFB membership fees for 2018 are due.
- It was asked what the OAFB is doing with the 2 hatter issue. Nothing was provided to Chief Bryan on this. We should ask how they are supporting us on this issue. If we can get this resolved under human rights by one municipality, it will be done. The OAFB are providing advice where appropriate.
 - The following motions were proposed: That an update be provided by the OAFB President regarding the status of all PAC 5 resolutions including the two hatter issue, First Nations and Child Abuse Reporting.
 - Moved by: Robert Rutter
 - Seconded by: Mark MacDonald
 - Carried.
- It was suggested that the two-hatter might be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.
- The OAFB election process amendments will require positions be extended by six months until the former Midterm date. Changes may be released at the May conference. It was noted that a Constitutional package will be requested at the May conference.
- One chief advised the constitution came to the Midterm in November for change, where members were told there would be briefing notes, with some noting none were received. Chiefs were advised to ensure their comments are submitted before it goes to the floor.
- One chief suggested there should be no wall between fire departments. Out of 440 fire departments, only 36 are full-time. The majority of Ontario is protected by volunteer/part-time firefighters.
- A Section 21 update was provided. Guidance Notes will be posted on the Ministry of Labour website, linked to on the OAFB website. OPFFA was noted as “making this happen.”
- A member asked about the MCSCS survey. Chief Bryan said the questions are from the Ministry. Chief Balfour suggested there should be someone with technical expertise to develop the questions. The OAFB Technical Table has had an opportunity to advise.
- It was reported that the Trent Lakes administration office has moved to the downtown. The chief received information on Bill 148. There may be retroactive pay for statutory holidays. He can share the review if anyone would like to see it, and for the calculations.
- Northumberland County has finished with the Emily Project. Every entrance will be marked. The chief talked to the OFA about having the first sign erected in Tweed, at the accident site. Solar signs will be green with white lettering. He will provide the write-ups to Deputy Chief Brown. Sticker ribbons are available to send a message on the back of vehicles regarding the Emily Project. The website is www.farm911.ca
- One member asked if there would be a certification cost. Members were advised that there is no charge to certify.
- One chief suggested the OAFB re-send the comments to the OFC. NFPA is always open for comment. 1710 was only met by two departments in the States; that number should indicate a change is needed.



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- The following motion was proposed: That public comments on the proposed regulations be disclosed to the OAFC under FIPPA, and disclosed to the OAFC members.
 - Moved by: Chief MacDonald
 - Seconded by: Chief Mitchell
 - Carried.
- Chief Bryan commented that anger is expected, but asked the chiefs to direct it appropriately.
- Chief Mitchell was contacted by Dr. Rosanna Salvaterra who reported there were no firefighters at the recent Health conference; they were not invited. They had presentations from BC, Quebec, etc. on the differences in rural fire departments. The Deputy Minister disregarded the information and certification will go ahead for all. Chief Bryan thanked everyone for their support.
- AMO's lobbying ability was discussed.
- Deputy Chief Brown thanked Chief Bryan for all his work on the regulations and Technical Table. It was noted that the vast majority of those in attendance sent comments.
- There was consensus that meetings on Thursdays at 1pm are good. If mornings meetings are scheduled, they should start at 9am.

10. **Next Meeting** – At the call of the chair.

11. **Adjournment** – 3:55pm