



February 25, 2021

Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office, Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Honourable Ford:

On February 23, 2021 Council for the Town of Mono passed the following resolution regarding the impending closure of the Ontario Fire College campus in Gravenhurst, Ontario.

Resolution #8-4-2021

Moved by Ralph Manktelow, Seconded by Sharon Martin

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario wishes to close the Ontario Fire College (OFC) located in Gravenhurst; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College is one of the primary sources of certified training for Ontario Firefighters; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College has built a reputation of integrity, credibility, and reliability in providing some of the best training to our Fire Services within the Province of Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College has been used to train and certify both Volunteer, Part-Time and Career firefighters throughout Ontario; and

WHEREAS many of our firefighters are volunteers who are on call 24/7/365 with day jobs and families that expect them to come home safely each and every time; and

WHEREAS municipalities are mandated to have fire departments, yet there is no provincial or federal funding for fire departments for much needed equipment and training; and

WHEREAS the Regional Training Centers are not all created equal and similar in function to the Ontario Fire College; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College gives Ontario Firefighters another option other than Regional Training Centers to obtain National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) certifications; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College is a cost-effective method for municipalities to certify Firefighters to NFPA Standards in Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Government enacted and revoked O. Reg. 379/18: Firefighter Certification in 2018; and

WHEREAS when the Ontario Government revoked O. Reg. 379/18: Firefighter Certification, it was made known by the Office of the Solicitor General that the act would be amended and brought back in the future.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Town of Mono requests that the Province reverse their decision to close the Ontario Fire College as it is one of the best and most cost-effective methods for municipalities to train their firefighters which assists us in protecting our residents. If the Province chooses not to reverse its decision to close the Ontario Fire College, the Province should provide direct financial support to municipalities to offset the increase training costs of providing Provincially mandated fire fighting services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Resolution is forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Sylvia Jones; Ontario Solicitor General, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Fire Marshal; Jon Pegg, and all municipalities within the Province of Ontario.

"Carried"

Respectfully,

Fred Simpson
Clerk

cc: Hon. Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General & MPP Dufferin-Caledon
Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Jon Pegg, Ontario Fire Marshal
All Ontario Municipalities

February 19, 2021

Mr. Graydon Smith, President
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario
200 University Ave., Suite 801
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3C6

Dear Mr. Smith:

Re: Closure of the Ontario Fire College in Gravenhurst

The Township of Tiny Council recently reviewed correspondence dated January 14, 2021, from the Office of the Fire Marshal regarding the pending closure of the Ontario Fire College in Gravenhurst, Ontario.

The Ontario Fire College provided fire service training to hundreds of municipal fire departments, like ours, who do not have the capacity or resources to provide their own in-house training for specialized programs.

Should the Office of the Fire Marshal continue to develop fire fighter training curriculum, municipalities will now bear the cost for its use and delivery. The alternative use of Regional Training Centres, for specialized training, will be at a significant cost to municipal fire departments, including room and boarding expenses.

With the closure of the Ontario Fire College and the lack of provincial or federal funding for volunteer fire departments for much needed training, it puts municipalities at risk.

We ask that reconsideration be given to the closure of the Ontario Fire College, at the very least, until a plan is in place to support municipalities with the resources and funding that is required to adequately train and support its fire fighters.

The Corporation of the Township of Tiny

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'George Cornell', is written over a horizontal line.

George Cornell
Mayor

cc. The Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services
Ontario Municipalities
Jill Dunlop, MPP, Simcoe North



Township of The Archipelago

9 James Street, Parry Sound ON P2A 1T4

Tel: 705-746-4243/Fax: 705-746-7301

www.thearchipelago.on.ca

February 19, 2021

21-036

**Moved by Councillor Andrews
Seconded by Councillor Barton**

RE: Ontario Fire College – Planned Closure

WHEREAS Council has received a request for support of a resolution enacted by the Town of Parry Sound regarding the planned closure of the Ontario Fire College in Gravenhurst;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council for the Township of The Archipelago supports the resolution enacted by the Town of Parry Sound, and hereby requests that the Province of Ontario reverse their decision to close the Ontario Fire College as the OFC is one of the best and most cost-effective methods for municipalities to train their firefighters which assists us in protecting our residents; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Ontario Solicitor General; Norm Miller, Member of Parry Sound Muskoka; Jon Pegg, Ontario Fire Marshal, District of Parry Sound municipalities, ROMA, OSUM and AMO.

Carried.

CC



Sent via Email

February 11, 2021

RE: TOWN OF GRAVENHURST RESOLUTION – ONTARIO FIRE COLLEGE

At the Town of Gravenhurst Committee of the Whole meeting held on February 9, 2021 the following resolution was passed:

**Moved by Councillor Lorenz
Seconded by Councillor Murray**

WHEREAS the site of the Ontario Fire College has been in institutional use since 1902 as the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives and the site of many heritage buildings that require protection;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Gravenhurst has been home to the Ontario Fire College since 1957, providing world-class training and camaraderie to thousands of Firefighters from across the Province in a unique setting;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College has established the reputation to certify both Volunteer and Career firefighters in a cost effective manner, offering top-tier training to all Fire Departments in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS there is concern from several municipalities and firefighters across the Province that the closure is detrimental to their training and that downloading of training is simply too expensive for municipalities and not included in their 2021 budgets;

AND WHEREAS the Fire Marshal has a duty (F.P.P.A.S 9.2(e)) to operate and maintain a central fire college and that regional training facilities are unproven and the closure of the Ontario Fire College was implemented with no stakeholder consultation;

AND WHEREAS the community of Gravenhurst has benefitted from the employment opportunities that the Ontario Fire College has provided;

AND WHEREAS the closure of the facility will result in significant job losses and would be a detriment to the broader community;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario reconsider the closure of the Ontario Fire College;

AND THAT if the closure occurs, the facility and site in the Town of Gravenhurst be considered to be the location of a Regional Training Centre for Fire and Emergency Services, for all the people of Ontario;

AND THAT the Province engage the Town of Gravenhurst and community partners to use the site in a matter that fosters growth of the community in a responsible way;

AND FINALLY THAT this motion be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Ontario Solicitor General, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MPP Norm Miller, the Ontario Fire Marshal, Jon Pegg and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

Sincerely,



Kayla Thibeault
Director of Legislative Services / Clerk
Town of Gravenhurst



The Corporation of

THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

157101 Highway 10, Melancthon, Ontario, L9V 2E6

Telephone - (519) 925-5525

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Website: www.melancthontownship.ca

Email: info@melancthontownship.ca

February 22, 2021

TO: Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Ontario Solicitor General
Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Jon Pegg, Ontario Fire Marshall
Dufferin County Municipalities

Dear Sirs/Madams:

At the meeting of Council held on February 18, 2021, the following motion was introduced and passed:

Moved by Besley, Seconded by Mercer

Be it resolved that:

"WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has been in operation in Gravenhurst since 1958; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus is one of the primary sources of certified training for Ontario Firefighters; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has built a reputation of integrity, credibility, and reliability in providing some of the best training to our Fire Services within the Province of Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has been used to train and certify both Volunteer, Part-Time and Career firefighters throughout Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Regional Training Centers are not all created equal and similar in function to the Ontario Fire College Campus; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus gives Ontario Firefighters another option other than Regional Training Centers to obtain National Fire Protection Association

(NFPA) certifications; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus is the most cost-effective method for municipalities to certify Firefighters to NFPA Standards in Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Government enacted and revoked O. Reg. 379/18: Firefighter Certification in 2018; and

WHEREAS when the Ontario Government revoked O. Reg. 379/18: Firefighter Certification, it was made known by the Office of the Solicitor General that the act would be amended and brought back in the future; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Melancthon requests that the Province of Ontario reverse their decision to close the Ontario Fire College Campus in Gravenhurst as the OFC is one of the best and most cost-effective methods for municipalities to train their firefighters which assists us in protecting our residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Resolution is forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Sylvia Jones; Ontario Solicitor General, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Fire Marshal; Jon Pegg, and municipalities within Dufferin County."

Carried.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Denise B. Holmes", written in a cursive style.

Denise B. Holmes, AMCT
CAO/Clerk

c. Save the Ontario Fire College



Township of Perry

PO Box 70, 1695 Emsdale Road, Emsdale, ON POA 1J0

PHONE: (705)636-5941

FAX: (705)636-5759

www.townshipofperry.ca

February 19, 2021

Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

The Right Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford,

**RE: Request that the Province of Ontario Reverse Decision to
Close the Ontario Fire College Campus in Gravenhurst**

Please be advised that at their last regular meeting on February 17, 2021, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry supported the following resolution:

"Resolution #2021-69"

Moved by: Paul Sowrey

Seconded by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has been in operation in Gravenhurst since 1958; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus is one of the primary sources of certified training for Ontario Firefighters; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has built a reputation of integrity, credibility, and reliability in providing some of the best training to our Fire Services within the Province of Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has been used to train and certify both Volunteer, Part-Time, and Career firefighters throughout Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Regional Training Centers are not all created equal and similar in function to the Ontario Fire College Campus; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus gives Ontario Firefighters another option than Regional Training Centers to obtain National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) certifications; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus is the most cost-effective method for municipalities to certify Firefighters to NFPA Standards in Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Government enacted and revoked O.Reg. 379/18: Firefighter Certification in 2018; and

WHEREAS when the Ontario Government revoked O.Reg. 379/18: Firefighter Certification, it was made known by the Office of the Solicitor General that the act would be amended and brought back in the future; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Perry requests that the Province of Ontario reverse their decision to close the Ontario Fire College Campus in Gravenhurst as the OFC is one of the best and most cost-effective methods for municipalities to train their firefighters which assists us in protecting our residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Resolution is forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Ontario Solicitor General, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Fire Marshal Jon Pegg, and all municipalities within the Province of Ontario.

Carried."

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Beth Morton
Clerk-Administrator

BM/ec

cc: Honourable Sylvia Jones, Ontario Solicitor General
Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ontario Fire Marshal Jon Pegg
Ontario Fire College – Gravenhurst Campus
All Ontario Municipalities
Township of Perry Fire Chief Dan Marshall



The Corporation of the Township of Strong

PO Box 1120 28 Municipal Lane
Sundridge, ON P0A 1Z0
705-384-5819 (p) 705-384-5892 (f)
www.strongtownship.com

February 25, 2021

The Right Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

RE: Request that the Province of Ontario Reverse Decision to Close the Ontario Fire College Campus in Gravenhurst

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at their last regular meeting on February 23, 2021, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Strong supported the following resolution:

“Resolution R2021-041

Moved By: Jeff McLaren Seconded by: Jody Baillie

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has been in operation in Gravenhurst since 1958; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus is one of the primary sources of certified training for Ontario Firefighters; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has built a reputation of integrity, credibility, and reliability in providing some of the best training to our Fire Services within the Province of Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has been used to train and certify both Volunteer, Part-Time and Career firefighters throughout Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Regional Training Centers are not all created equal and similar in function to the Ontario Fire College Campus; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus gives Ontario Firefighters another option other than Regional Training Centers to obtain National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) certifications; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus is the most cost-effective method for municipalities to certify Firefighters to NFPA Standards in Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Government enacted and revoked O. Reg. 379/18: Firefighter Certification in 2018; and

WHEREAS when the Ontario Government revoked O. Reg. 379/18: Firefighter Certification, it was made known by the Office of the Solicitor General that the act would be amended and brought back in the future; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Township of Strong hereby requests that the Province of Ontario reverse their decision to close the Ontario Fire College Campus in Gravenhurst as the OFC is one of the best and most cost-effective methods for municipalities to train their firefighters which assists us in protecting our residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Resolution is forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Sylvia Jones; Ontario Solicitor General, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Fire Marshal; Jon Pegg, and all municipalities within the Province of Ontario

Carried"

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Caitlin Haggart
Clerk Administrator

BM/ec

cc: Honourable Sylvia Jones, Ontario Solicitor General
Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ontario Fire Marshal Jon Pegg
Ontario Fire College – Gravenhurst Campus
All Ontario Municipalities
Sundridge Strong Fire Chief Andrew Torrance



PORT COLBORNE

Corporate Services Department
Clerk's Division

Municipal Offices: 66 Charlotte Street
Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 3C8 • www.portcolborne.ca

T 905.835.2900 ext 106 F 905.834.5746
E amber.lapointe@portcolborne.ca

February 24, 2021

Sent via E-mail: premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y7

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Resolution – Ontario Fire College Closure

Please be advised that, at its meeting of February 22, 2021, the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne resolved as follows:

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has been in operation in Gravenhurst since 1958; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus is one of the primary sources of certified training for Ontario Firefighters; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has built a reputation of integrity, credibility, and reliability in providing some of the best training to our Fire Services within the Province of Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus has been used to train and certify both Volunteer, Part-Time and Career firefighters throughout Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Regional Training Centers are not all created equal and similar in function to the Ontario Fire College Campus; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus gives Ontario Firefighters another option other than Regional Training Centers to obtain National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) certifications; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire College Campus is the most cost-effective method for municipalities to certify Firefighters to NFPA Standards in Ontario; and

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WHEREAS the Ontario Government enacted and revoked O. Reg. 379/18: Firefighter Certification in 2018; and

WHEREAS when the Ontario Government revoked O. Reg. 379/18: Firefighter Certification, it was made known by the Office of the Solicitor General that the act would be amended and brought back in the future; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Port Colborne requests that the Province of Ontario reverse their decision to close the Ontario Fire College Campus in Gravenhurst as the OFC is one of the best and most cost-effective methods for municipalities to train their firefighters which assists us in protecting our residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Resolution is forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Sylvia Jones; Ontario Solicitor General, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Fire Marshal; Jon Pegg, and all municipalities within the Province of Ontario.

Your favourable consideration of this request is respectfully requested.

Sincerely,



Amber LaPointe
City Clerk

cc: Honourable Sylvia Jones, Ontario Solicitor General
Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Jon Pegg, Ontario Fire Marshal
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ontario Municipalities