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July 5, 2026

Bill Rosenberg MPP Algoma-Manitoulin
Jim Belanger MP Sudbury East-Manitoulin-Nickel Belt
The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Minister of the Solicitor General
The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario...carried
All municipalities , Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs , Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association
Ontario Volunteer Fire Fighters Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Rural Ontario
Municipal Association

**RE: SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE PROVINCIAL GRANT FUNDING FOR FIRE SERVICES
IN ONTARIO**

Please be advised that at the Municipality of Central Manitoulin Council meeting of May 28, 2026, the following motion was approved:

149-2026 That the Council of the Municipality of Central Manitoulin supports the following motion from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming dated May 13, 2026:

WHEREAS Municipal fire services in Ontario operate under legislative authority established by the province through statutes, regulations, codes, and prescribed standards governing training, equipment, certification, inspection, and operational requirements;

AND WHEREAS municipalities are responsible for implementing and maintaining compliance with these provincially mandated requirements primarily through local property taxation;

AND WHEREAS current provincial fire service grant programs are available to both full-time and volunteer fire departments across Ontario and are distributed through competitive application processes that may not fully reflect the differing financial and administrative capacities of urban and rural municipalities, highlighting the need for a more balanced approach to funding that supports all fire services equitably;

AND WHEREAS volunteer firefighters represent approximately 70–75% of firefighters in Ontario, protecting the majority of communities across the province and, particularly in rural areas, are frequently the first emergency responders to arrive on scene ahead of other emergency services;

AND WHEREAS other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services, receive stable and predictable provincial funding contributions or cost-sharing arrangements;

AND WHEREAS the absence of a comparable and stable funding model for fire services creates a structural imbalance between provincial regulatory authority and municipal financial responsibility;

AND WHEREAS reliance on competitive funding creates budget uncertainty, limits long-term financial planning, and may not reflect the actual operational needs of fire services, contributing to instability, reduced preparedness and the reduction of services within a critical emergency response sector;

AND WHEREAS stable and predictable funding is essential to maintain emergency preparedness, firefighter safety, service sustainability, and equitable protection for residents regardless of municipal size or tax base;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming respectfully calls upon the Province of Ontario to transition the current practice of competitive provincial fire service grant programs into a permanent, stable, and predictable non-competitive provincial funding program that supports municipalities in meeting provincially legislated fire protection requirements;

AND FURTHER THAT this funding be structured to provide equitable and predictable annual support for operational readiness and training costs associated with volunteer, composite and full-time fire departments across Ontario;

AND FURTHER THAT the annual value of this funding be reviewed and adjusted to more appropriately reflect the level of Provincial funding support currently provided to other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services;

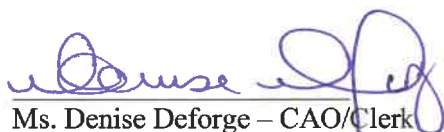
AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated for endorsement to:

- *All municipalities*
- *Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs*
- *Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association*
- *Ontario Volunteer Fire Fighters Association*
- *Association of Municipalities of Ontario*
- *Rural Ontario Municipal Association*

AND FURTHER THAT, upon endorsement, this resolution be submitted to:

- *Bill Rosenberg MPP Algoma-Manitoulin*
- *Jim Belanger MP Sudbury East-Manitoulin-Nickel Belt*
- *The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Minister of the Solicitor General*
- *The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure*
- *The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing*
- *The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario...carried*

Sincerely,



Ms. Denise Deforge – CAO/Clerk
Municipality of Central Manitoulin

cc. File