September 3, 2025

To whom it may concern,

Please be advised that at the Regular Meeting of Council on August 19, 2025, the Town of Cobalt adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION No. 2025-124

MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson SECONDED BY: Councillor Hughes

WHEREAS the Ontario Government has enacted O. Reg. 343/22, establishing mandatory certification requirements for firefighters under the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997;

AND WHEREAS Council for the Town of Cobalt acknowledges the importances of standardized firefighter training and safety;

AND WHEREAS these mandatory certification requirements pose significant challenges for small, rural and northern municipalities due to limited financial and training resources, geographical barriers and reliance on volunteer fire departments;

AND WHEREAS the implementation of these requirements without additional flexibility or support may negatively impact the Town's ability to recruit and retain volunteer firefighters and provide adequate fire protection to its residents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt formally opposes the mandatory firefighter certification requirements as currently outlined in O. Reg. 343/22;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Solicitor General, Premier of Ontario, MPP John Vanthof, the Fire Marshal, AMO, FONOM and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

Kind Regards,

Steven Dalley

Town Manager, Clerk/Treasurer

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cc: Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, premier@ontario.ca

MPP, John Vanthof, <u>ivanthof-co@ndp.on.ca</u>
Solicitor General, Michael.kerzner@pc.ola.org
Ontario Fire Marshall, askofm@ontario.ca

AMO, resolutions@amo.on.ca FONOM, fonom.info@gmail.com

Ontario Municipalities