

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**APRIL 8, 2022 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **TOWN OF DEEP RIVER RATIFIES NEW COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE DEEP RIVER PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION**

Deep River, Ontario

The Town of Deep River, and The Deep River Professional Fire Fighters Association “DRPFFA” are proud to announce that they have successfully negotiated a new Collective Agreement that will reform fire services for the Town of Deep River.

Since 2018, the municipality’s fire service has been delivered through a Fire Protection Services Agreement between the Town, and Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL). The initial three-year term was renewed in 2021 with a new common goal;

***“The Parties agree that, the purpose of this Agreement is for the Parties to work cooperatively to have personnel, services, equipment and capital assets deployed to provide the Town with fire services within the Town of Deep River with the objective to enable the Town to provide effective fire services while the Town establishes a standalone fire department (THE COMMON GOAL)”***

The Town and the local Fire Fighters Association have worked together in consultation with the Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association and the International Association of Fire Fighters to negotiate a new Collective Agreement. The resulting agreement provides the Town of Deep River with a standalone, Safe, Quality and Cost-Effective fire service.

Over the next three to six months, all parties will work in collaboration with the Ontario Fire Marshal and the Provincial and International Associations to fine tune the new composite fire service model for Deep River. CNL will continue to provide services and support to the Town of Deep River as it transitions to the new model and the establishment of a standalone fire department.

Information will be shared with the community over the next couple of months to ensure that residents of Deep River fully understand the details of the upcoming changes and the focus on safety during the transition period and into the future.

## Quotes

*"I want to thank the staff, union members, CNL and Council for their diligent and tireless work toward the long-desired goal of a sustainable fire service for Deep River. This agreement is a great step forward for our community. The professional manner that our Fire fighters, CNL staff, and our Town staff have demonstrated throughout this process has been impressive. Many thanks to all involved"*

**Suzanne D'Eon, Mayor**

*"This agreement is an incredibly positive step forward for our community. From the beginning of these negotiations, it was clear that everyone was working to achieve the same desired outcome - holding public safety in the highest regard through the delivery of high-quality fire service model in a cost-effective manner. The level of professionalism that each party exhibited is truly commendable. Many thanks to all involved for bringing us to this pinnacle moment."*

**Glenn Doncaster, Reeve**

*"The Deep River Professional Firefighters Association is pleased to have been a part of a successful negotiation process with the Town of Deep River. Collectively a made in Deep River solution has been achieved that will provide the citizens of Deep River with a strong fire service that will continue to focus on fire prevention, public education and fire protection. We are looking forward to what the future has in store for our department and our community."*

**Scott Morphy, President of Deep River Professional Firefighters Association**

*"This freely-negotiated agreement respects the needs of all parties while maintaining a welcome level of stability as the plans to improve fire protection in Deep River move forward. It was very satisfying to witness how everyone came to the table with the mutual goals of getting this done and advancing public and fire fighter safety. It's a win-win scenario and I congratulate all involved."*

**Fred LeBlanc, IAFF 13<sup>th</sup> District Vice President**

*"CNL is most pleased that the Town of Deep River and the Deep River Professional Fire Fighters Association have accomplished this new agreement. We congratulate the town and association as this step means enhancement of fire protection services for the community and region. CNL looks forward to a continued working relationship between our respective fire protection service departments."*

**Joe McBrearty, President & CEO Canadian Nuclear Laboratories**

**For Questions please contact;**

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