

TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL ACTION ITEM

Committee: Committee of the Whole – Administration and Operations

Date: October 15, 2024

Department: Fire

Topic: Council MTO Resolution

Purpose: To receive Council support of the attached resolution

Background: Under the current agreement between the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs OAFC and the Ministry of Transportation MTO, fire departments must perform approved services to qualify for reimbursement when responding to provincial highways. Approved services include; fire extinguishment, spill cleanup, vehicle stabilization, traffic control, extrication, hazmat and standby that is requested by the OPP.

Costs for these services are recovered by the MTO from the driver(s) involved in the incident and then paid to the fire department. In cases where approved services are not needed or the incident is simply not located the cost of the response is borne entirely by the taxpayers of the municipality responding.

Policy Implications: N/A

Strategic Plan Implications: N/A

Financial Considerations: An average call out to the highway costs the Township approximately \$600.00. A set fee for no service calls would help cover the cost incurred to the Township for supplying emergency response to the Provincial highways.

Recommendation: That Committee recommends that Council support the draft resolution requesting the MTO to update its agreement with the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs to recognize emergency response as a service and establish a minimum fee for every response.

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