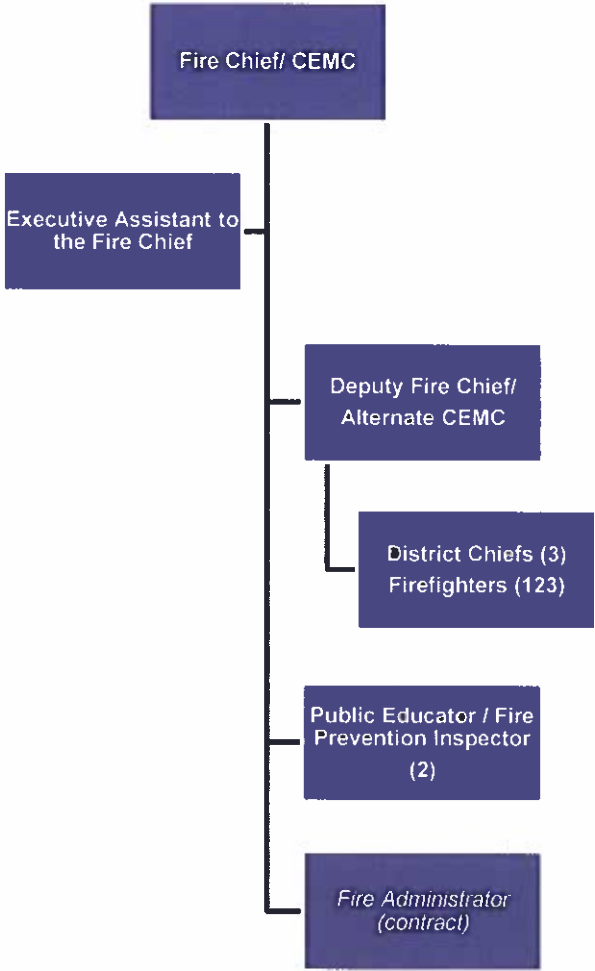


Fire and Emergency Services Department





Fire and Emergency Services Department 2019-2022 Business Plan

Departmental Roles & Responsibilities:

The roles and responsibilities of a municipal fire service in the Province of Ontario are directly impacted by both Provincial and Federal legislation (approximately 20 pieces of Provincial Legislation and 4 pieces of Federal Legislation). As well, under the Municipal Act, there are approximately 10 by-laws that directly impact municipal fire services. There are other international standards that are commonly recognized by fire service leaders such as NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) however; the most common piece of legislation that directly impacts our service delivery model is the Fire Protection and Prevention Act (FPPA). This act came into effect October 1997. Fire protection in the Province of Ontario is mandated under this act and is considered a municipal government responsibility. This is intended to affirm that the municipality is meeting the requirements of the minimum acceptable model for compliance with clause 2.(1)(a) of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997. The minimum acceptable model is comprised of the following: a simplified risk assessment, a smoke alarm program (including home escape planning), distribution of public education material/ implementation of public education programs, and fire prevention inspections upon complaint or request that assist us with Fire Code compliance.

- **Simplified Risk Assessment** - Conducting a simplified risk assessment is a practical information gathering and analyzing exercise intended to create a community fire profile that will aid in identifying appropriate programs or activities that can be implemented to effectively address the community's fire safety needs. Any significant risks identified through the analysis should be addressed through programming, inspections, etc.
- **Smoke Alarm Program and Home Escape Planning** - The objective of a smoke/ carbon monoxide alarm program is the provision, locating, installation and maintenance of working smoke/ carbon monoxide alarms and home escape planning activities for all residential occupancies in the municipality. Municipalities may also take advantage of various smoke and CO alarm initiatives that take place throughout the Province of Ontario that are sponsored by the Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council and/or NFPA pamphlets.
- **Distribution of Public Education Materials** - The Fire Protection and Prevention Act recognizes the importance of implementing the three lines of defense (Public Education, Fire Safety Standards and Code Enforcement, and Emergency Response) to achieve an acceptable level of fire safety within communities. Distribution of public fire safety education materials fall under the first line of defense. Educational material addresses issues such as preventing fire occurrence, the value of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, home escape planning, and being prepared to deal with a fire related incident. The loss of life and property damage in Ontario has continued to fluctuate over the years. However, changing behaviour and improving our residents' knowledge on fire safety can help decrease the incidence of fire.

- Inspections upon Complaint or Request - To assist fire departments with the development and implementation of a process to ensure fire safety inspections are conducted upon a complaint or request, and as necessary to meet the mandatory requirements of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 (FPPA) and associated regulations.

The Fire Protection and Prevention Act (FPPA) also addresses such things as the delivery of suppression, fire prevention, fire safety education, communication, training of persons involved in the provision of fire protection services, and rescue services. At King Fire & Emergency Services our priorities have been realigned to the following – Priority #1 is Education (proactive), Priority #2 is Enforcement, and Priority #3 is Suppression (the failsafe). The overall function of our fire service will continue to be the protection of our local residents and their property from the adverse effects of fire and other manmade or natural disasters in a proactive approach. However, our core services will continue to focus around public education and prevention.

Departmental Objectives: Service Delivery - 3 Lines of Defence

Priority #1 - Public Education and Prevention:

Educating our residents on how to fulfill their responsibilities for their own fire safety continues to be the best way to reduce the incidence of a fire from taking place. Residents must be educated to take responsibility for their own fire safety by taking the necessary steps to prevent fires. For example: residents are responsible for the safe use of candles, heating devices, cooking materials, and the safe use of smoking articles (cigarettes, lighters, and matches). Education and Prevention through door-to-door visits, educational materials/ programs, demonstrations, community events/ engagements, social media and public service announcements will act as our 1st line of defense.

Priority #2 - Fire Safety Standards and Code Enforcement:

Our fire department continues to perform routine fire safety inspections on assembly occupancies, commercial and industrial units as well as residential condominiums and apartment buildings that have the required fire protection systems and life safety features installed (operating smoke alarms, fire alarms, and fire sprinkler systems). These systems have proven that they can reduce both fire damage and loss of life (casualties) when properly installed and maintained. When it becomes apparent that voluntary compliance with mandated codes (fire Code) is not taking place, it becomes necessary for staff members to enforce the applicable legislation – the Fire Protection and Prevention Act and the Ontario Fire Code (Regulation). The Ontario Fire Code is a regulation that establishes the minimum fire safety requirements for buildings and hazardous processes and activities in the Province. Fire safety inspections and code enforcement assists our municipality in meeting our fire safety inspection and enforcement responsibilities in the most effective and efficient way possible as prescribed under the Fire Protection and Protection Act, 1997.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring that fire prevention inspections and code enforcement is being carried out in residential occupancies (apartments, condominiums), commercial businesses and places of assembly where the public congregate/gather, and inspection of vulnerable occupancies as mandated by the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management
Environmental		
Energy, Air Quality, & Climate Change	30% reduction in energy demand by 2031, reduce carbon footprint, increase resiliency to climate change	Identify, train, and plan for major emergencies that require a coordinated multi-agency response supported by local government(s) (York Region, Township of King, etc.) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs – i.e. Red Cross and Salvation Army). Promote/encourage all residents to continue to prepare for an emergency where extenuating circumstances would necessitate the need for a personal 72 hour kit (Emergency Preparedness)
Economic		
Village Vitality & Prosperity (strong local economy)	Strong local economy that meets commercial and retail needs of residents	Continue to promote and develop a disaster resilient community through business continuity plans, training, and information sessions which are supported by the local Chamber of Commerce and the Township of King
Local Economy (collaboration & engagement)	Attract and plan for new businesses that are compatible with community values and priorities	Continue to create partnerships with local businesses and community groups that support long-term cost saving initiatives that support and enhance fire and life safety features in residential buildings such as; the Guide Light program, residential sprinkler systems, door-to-door smoke/ carbon monoxide alarm programs, dry hydrant systems, and fire extinguisher programs/training
Financial		
Managing Growth (future growth trends)	Financial strategy that accounts for future growth trends	Utilize the municipality's up-to-date Fire Master Plan as a guiding document during decision-making processes. Continue to ensure a well-coordinated, timely response to emergency

		situations throughout the entire Township
Annual Budget & Business Plan	Responsible budget that reflects needs and priorities and structured for short, medium and long term	Ensure that a consistent level of care is exercised when purchasing and maintaining fire apparatus and equipment in order to ensure that such items reach their sustainable life cycle. Ensure that our infrastructure (fire stations) are well maintained through an identified maintenance program/ best practices



Fire and Emergency Services Department

Accomplishments

Service Delivery

- Fire Protection Agreements - As per our Fire Master Plan consultant, multiple fire protection agreements have been reviewed and are being prepared for Council's approval in 2019.
- Establishing Regulating Bylaw - As per our Fire Master Plan consultant, our Establishing Regulating Bylaw has been reviewed and is being prepared for Council's approval in 2019.
- Fire Safety Plans - Extensive efforts has gone into creating and developing new Fire Safety Plans for all municipal buildings. These plans are now becoming standardized across the board for all Township owned buildings. This also includes the training and testing of such plans with Township staff.
- Fire Underwriters - Implementation of Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) recommendations for the inspection of all the different types of building classifications by our Public Educator/ Fire Inspectors.
- Emergency Management - In 2018, multiple Emergency Management training exercises were completed by municipal staff members – Re: Annual Compliance training with EMCPA 2018. The municipality also received confirmation that we were compliant with the EMCPA 2017. Our 2018 Compliance documents have been submitted to OFMEM waiting for further notification through the compliance process.
- Emergency Plan - The municipality's 2016 Emergency Management Plan has been reviewed and updated for Council's approval in 2019.
- E-Hydraulic Tools - Fire & Emergency Services has started to expand our arsenal of auto extrication tools into a field of battery operated technology. Battery operated cutters and spreaders were purchased for our Nobleton Fire Station and placed in service in the spring of 2018. Since then they have been used extensively at multiple motor vehicle collisions.

New Equipment

- New Fire Engine – In January 2018, staff members at our King City Fire Station placed into service a brand new pumper truck which replaced a 20 year old fire apparatus which was purchased in 1998. This fire apparatus has since responded for multiple calls for service which includes; structure fires, vehicle fires, carbon monoxide alarms, medical assist calls, and vehicle accidents.
- New 80' Ladder Truck – Staff members at our Schomberg Fire Station placed into service a brand new ladder truck March 2018. This apparatus replaced a 25 year old ladder truck which was purchased used in 2006. Since the new ladder truck was placed into service, it has responded to multiple structure fires in which the aerial device was used extensively.
- New Command/ Rehab Truck – Staff members at our Schomberg Fire Station placed into service a brand new Command/ Rehab truck May 2018. This truck replaced a 30 year old apparatus which was re-purposed back in 2007. This apparatus has responded to multiple large scale incidents where it supported our frontline staff at either structure fires or extensive vehicle accidents.
- New Utility Vehicle – Staff members at our Nobleton Fire Station placed into service a new 4 wheel drive vehicle which is used to tow our emergency response trailers: support trailer for trench rescue and structure fires as well as our Gator trailer. The Gator was instrumental at multiple rescues last year as well as at wildland fires.