



CITY OF HAMILTON
HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT
Hamilton Fire Department

TO:	Chair and Members Healthy and Safe Communities Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	February 3, 2022
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Deputy Fire Chief Appointment (HSC19005(c)) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	David Cunliffe (905) 546-3343
SUBMITTED BY:	Angela Burden General Manager Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

That the By-law to Amend By-law 19-035, Being a By-law to Appoint a Fire Chief, a Deputy Fire Chief, and Provincial Fire Co-ordinator pursuant to the Hamilton Fire Department Establishing and Regulating By-law 19-034, and to Repeal By-law 20-052, attached as Appendix "A" to Report HSC19005(c), which has been prepared in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, be passed.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

After a country wide recruitment process, Michael Rember was selected to fill the Deputy Fire Chief vacancy due to the retirement of Deputy Fire Chief Mark Hodge. The By-law attached as Appendix "A" to this Report formally appoints Michael Rember as Deputy Fire Chief pursuant to By-law No. 19-034 'To Establish, Maintain and Operate Hamilton Fire Department', effective January 7, 2022. This amending By-law essentially updates By-law 19-035, which is the by-law that makes the appointments pursuant to By-law 19-034, and it repeals the previous amending by-law 20-052.

Alternatives for Consideration – Not Applicable

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: N/A

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

Staffing: N/A

Legal: The draft amending by-law attached as Appendix “A” to this Report has been prepared in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

All municipalities in Ontario are legislated by the Province’s *Fire Protection and Prevention Act*, 1997, S.O. 1997, c. 4 (the “FPPA”) to establish a program in the municipality to include public education with respect to fire safety and certain components of fire prevention and provide fire protection services. Typically, this requirement is accomplished through the establishment of a fire department. Where a fire department is established, the Council of the municipality must appoint a Fire Chief for the fire department who is ultimately responsible to Council for the delivery of fire protection services.

The ability for the Fire Chief to delegate authority to others is outlined in section 6 of the FPPA. In the absence of the Fire Chief, a Deputy Fire Chief is designated to act in his/her capacity and is delegated the authorities of the Fire Chief. City of Hamilton By-law No. 19-034 states that a Deputy Fire Chief may act in the capacity of the Fire Chief and that Council appoints the Deputy Fire Chiefs. City of Hamilton By-law 19-035 is the By-law that actually appoints the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief and Provincial Fire Co-ordinated pursuant to By-law 19-034.

For the City of Hamilton, the fire co-ordinator assigned by the Fire Marshal through the Province of Ontario Mutual Aid Plan is the Fire Chief and the alternate fire co-ordinators are the Deputy Fire Chiefs. As such, in appointing the Fire Chief and the Deputy Fire Chiefs, the By-laws recognize that these appointees will be the fire co-ordinator, and alternate fire co-ordinators for the City of Hamilton. They will be authorized to carry out the duties of the fire-coordinator as outlined in the FPPA.

Further, they shall fulfil the duties and responsibilities of the fire co-ordinator as outlined in the Province of Ontario Mutual Aid Plan including to:

- Develop, review, and maintain the mutual aid plan;
- Submit an annually updated mutual aid plan to the Office of the Fire Marshal;
- Coordinate and monitor mutual aid plan activations;
- Consider requests and recommend the deployment of provincial and regional assets; and,
- Attend annual fire co-ordinator meetings.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

By-law No. 19-034 ‘To Establish, Maintain and Operate Hamilton Fire Department’ states that the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chiefs are to be appointed by Council and By-law 19-035 is the By-law that makes the appointments.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Legal Services was consulted in the preparation of the draft By-law.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Adoption of the recommendations will ensure compliance with the FPPA as administered by the Office of the Fire Marshall and the City's By-law 19-034.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

None

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Healthy and Safe Communities

Hamilton is a safe and supportive City where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

Our People and Performance

Hamiltonians have a high level of trust and confidence in their City government.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" to Report HSC19005(c): Amending By-law to By-law No. 19-035, Being a By-law to Appoint a Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief, and Provincial Fire Co-ordinator pursuant to the Hamilton Fire Department Establishing and Regulating By-law 19-034, and to Repeal By-law 20-052