

More Details Emerge On Fire Fighter Regs Confirmed: no true volunteer fire department consulted

By: Jennifer Layman
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Every now and then, Ottawa Valley Business touches on a topic that ruffles some feathers. The mandatory certification of firefighters has been one such topic. On one hand, compliments came in from rural fire departments who felt, for the first time, like their concerns were being heard. On the other hand, some went on the offensive, attacking what had been written and condemning Ottawa Valley Business for fear mongering and "not very good journalism." As the dust settled, more truth emerged, and it became clear that the proposed regulations have some big problems, and it starts with the fact that the Ontario Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (MCSCS) purposely excluded rural fire departments from the discussion.

The Rural Exclusion

The regulations being proposed came from a year of discussions from individuals who were part of a Fire Safety Technical Table. Participation was invite-only and those invitations came from MC-



SCS. The invitees included: the Office of the Fire Marshall and Emergency Management, the Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association, the Toronto Fire Fighters Association, the Fire Fighters Association of Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs and individual fire chiefs representing the fire departments of Ottawa, Thunder Bay, Toronto, Kingston and Otonabee-South Monaghan. The Table met monthly and were not permitted to share or seek input on their discussions.

The problem with the province's hand-picked choices of who should sit at the Table was that they chose not to hear from the type of fire departments that make up the majority of members in Ontario. Brent Ross, spokesperson for the MCSCS said the Table included representatives from both rural and volunteer fire departments, but this wasn't true. There are 448 fire departments in Ontario and 211 are volunteer departments. No one from this sector was at the Table. There were representatives from full-time and com-

posite fire departments, but not from volunteer fire departments. 211 fire departments across the province had no voice.

No Rural Voice

Ted Bryan is the Fire Chief for Otonabee-South Monaghan, a composite fire department. When Ottawa Valley Business asked why there were no rural fire departments at the Table, everyone pointed to him as the rural representative. But in his words, "rural Ontario was severely under-represented."

Bryan runs a 90-member fire department of mostly volunteers - three times the size of a small town compliment. He believes in the certification process. He also believes that fire fighting should be treated a little differently because no other emergency service deals with such a significant volunteer contingent. He knows communities are proud of their volunteer fire departments and that the volunteer aspect of fire fighting has a value of a billion dollars or more annually. In his opinion, the Table should have heard from these communities.

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News, article ideas, employee news, business events, tenders and letters to the editor are welcomed. Content will be edited to fit the space available. Events not related to business can consider 101 Things to Do in the Valley: 101things@travelourbackyard.com

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Events

March 21, 2018

Renfrew County Plowmen's Meeting. Cobden. Contact Yves Rochon at 613-646-7737.

March 22, 2018

Selling Food to Ontario. Shady Nook Recreation Centre. 9:00am-3:00pm. Marketing channel, food regulation basics, getting on the retail shelf, local resources and a presentation by the Health Unit. For information contact Teena McKitchen at 613-432-3951 ext.224

March 22, 2018

Renfrew County Beef meeting. Cobden. Contact Donna Campbell at 631-432-5568.

March 24, 2018

Mental Health Awareness Workshop. Hosted by the National Farmers Union. Barr Line Community Centre, 1766 Barr Line. 9:30am to 3:00pm. \$8 includes lunch. Representatives from the Robbie Dean Family Counsel-

ling Centre will be talking about mental health awareness. For info: rcnfu330@gmail.com

March 26, 2018

Renfrew County Federation of Agriculture meeting. Cobden. For information, contact Donna Campbell at 613-432-5568.

March 27, 2018

Renfrew County Farm Safety workshop. With WSPS, Esso and NOCO Fuels. Barr Line Community Centre. 10:30am registration. 11:00am workshop begins. Lunch included. Contact Lynn at lliclelland@nrto.net or 613-432-6317 for information.

March 27, 2018

Career Fair at Best Western Pembroke Inn. Free booths available to employers. Contact Jackie Stott: 613-735-0091 or jstott@countyofrenfrew.on.ca

April 5, 2018

Building Farmland Viability in Ontario. Wellington & District Community Centre in Prince Edward County. This year's keynote speaker is the Agricultural Land Commission from British Columbia who will be speaking to their experience supporting farmland protection and

viability through the Agricultural Land Reserve. \$125 until March 15. \$100 for farmers. \$60 for students. www.ontariofarmlandtrust.ca

April 5, 2018

Greater Arnprior Chamber of Commerce 14th Annual Business Achievement Awards Gala Reception. Nick Smith Centre. 5:30pm. \$50 per person. Tickets by calling 613-623-6817.

April 9, 2018

Arnprior Federation of Agriculture meeting. 8:00pm. Galetta Community Hall. Contact Bruce Hudson at 613-839-2346.

April 9, 2018

Deadline to book into the May-June Edition of 101 Things to Do in the Valley. Promote your event or business for \$25 for one listing, or five listings for \$100. 613-732-7774 or 101things@travelourbackyard.com

April 18, 2018

Renfrew County Plowmen's Meeting. Cobden. Contact Yves Rochon at 613-646-7737.

April 19, 2018

Renfrew County Beef meeting. Cobden. Contact Donna Campbell at 631-432-5568.

April 23, 2018

Renfrew County Federation of Agriculture meeting. Cobden. For information, contact Donna Campbell at 613-432-5568.

April 21, 2018

Shred-It Day in Arnprior. 9:00am-1:00pm. For households, businesses and seniors. \$8 per banker's box. For information, call 613-875-7981 or lizwall@cssagency.ca

April 23, 2018

Renfrew County Federation of Agriculture meeting. Cobden. For information, contact Donna Campbell at 613-432-5568.

April 27, 2018

Deadline to book into Travel Our Backyard - the region's tourism magazine. Distributed locally. Rates by email or online: www.travelourbackyard.com

April 28, 2018

Upper Ottawa Valley Chamber of Commerce 60th anniversary business awards gala. Rankin Culture & Recreation Centre. For details: 613-732-1492 or www.uovchamber.com

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Fire Fighter Regs: Associations Speak

Who stands to gain versus who stand to lose

Continued from Page 1

“Was there a true volunteer fire department at the table? No, there wasn’t,” says Bryan, a paid fire chief running a volunteer department. “But how could there be? We met once or twice a month or more. What volunteer fire chief could do that?”

A Move To Full Time?

So when the only people invited to discuss the future of fire fighting are associations and individuals representing paid fire fighters, it isn’t a leap to wonder if that is the preferred direction of the province. Rob Hyndman, president of the professional fire fighters (OPFFA), says that’s not the case at all.

“Realistically, that’s fear-mongering,” he says. “That conversation has not taken place. Nobody has even hinted at that. I guarantee you that has not come up.”

When the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs was asked the same question, they replied “no comment.”

The OPFFA is the association representing paid or career fire fighters in Ontario. They were the only association that had no problem with any of the government recommendations. No issue with time. No issues with cost. No issues with impact. Every

other individual had issue with something at that Table.

What’s The Panic?

The biggest issue (almost) everyone seemed to have was timing. The government wants the regulations imposed as of January 1, 2019, but the regulations aren’t even finalized yet. 2018 is also a municipal election year and local councils will have “lame duck” status in July, so they will be unable to make any financial decisions until the new council assumes power in November.

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) noted that as the nature of the certification requirements is not known, the financial risk to municipalities is not known, no funding is forthcoming from the province and that as it is the municipalities that decide the future of their fire operations, “a later effective date is needed.”

The Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs agreed. The Fire Fighter’s Association of Ontario (FFAO) said there needed to be “flexibility” in the timing. Ted Bryan was more direct.

“What’s the panic?” he asked. “I’m all for slowing things down and doing it right.”

Estimating The Costs

The other issue that seemed to cause some disagreement was

the actual cost for certification. The OPFFA said the training is only five hours and costs are “not overly strenuous” if the fire department is already doing appropriate training.

The FFAO felt the timing was more along the lines of every second weekend for six months, and a cost of about \$50,000.

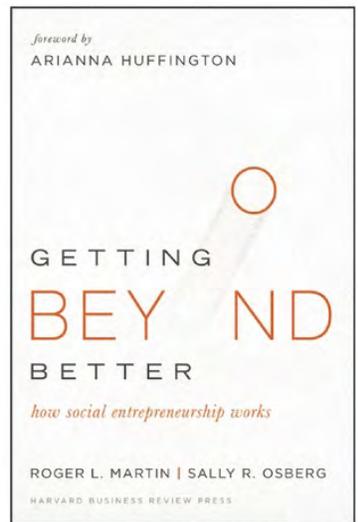
Ted Bryan, who has been sending fire fighters to be certified since 2008, said the commitment is six months of weekends (one day of the weekend) and trainees are off for long weekends and Father’s Day and that kind of thing. Bryan spends \$34,000 annually on training.

Bancroft This Week newspaper reported some figures from North Hastings Fire Chief Pat Hoover. Hoover says the cost is \$15,000 per individual which includes course fees, training hours, travel and accommodations.

The only thing everyone knows for sure is that the province is contributing \$0. The Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs put it this way:

“If sufficient provincial funding is not provided to municipal governments, the province will be knowingly creating a new unfunded mandate on municipalities.”

Book Club



In this compelling book, strategy guru Roger L. Martin and Skoll Foundation President and CEO Sally R. Osberg describe how social entrepreneurs target systems that exist in a stable but unjust equilibrium and transform them into entirely new, superior, and sustainable equilibria. All of these leaders - call them disrupters, visionaries, or changemakers - develop, build, and scale their solutions in ways that bring about the truly revolutionary change that makes the world a fairer and better place.

The book begins with a probing and useful theory of social entrepreneurship, moving through history to illuminate what it is, how it works, and the nature of its role in modern society. The authors then set out a framework for understanding how successful social entrepreneurs actually go about producing transformative change. With both depth and nuance, Martin and Osberg offer examples and personal stories and share tools invaluable to anyone who aspires to drive positive change.

Getting Beyond Better sets a bold framework, demonstrating how and why meaningful change happens in the world and providing concrete lessons and a practical model for businesses, civil society organizations, and individuals who seek to transform our world for good.

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On The Move

Nicole Dwyer

Nicole Dwyer is the new Director of Planning for the Municipality of Mississippi Mills. Dwyer began her position on March 1, 2018. She comes to the municipality from the Town of Smiths Falls and brings years of municipal planning experience to the role.

Brad Levean

Brad Levean has been hired as a volunteer Fire Fighter for the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards. The hiring is conditional on a successful probationary period.

Jennifer Gardiner

Jennifer Gardiner is the new Director, Government Relations and Public Affairs at Canadian Hydropower Association in Ottawa. This is a secondment. Gardiner will return to Ontario Power Generation in Renfrew at the end of 2018.

John Hermans

M&R Feeds is pleased to announce that John Hermans has joined their team at the Micksburg location. John was raised on a farm in the Douglas area, completing many 4-H projects and showing market steers. John continues to be active in a local farm's daily activities. John worked with Goldie Mohr Ltd for the previous 12 years, most recently as a job site supervisor.

Sarah Robinson

Sarah Robinson is the new Executive Director of the Renfrew Victoria Hospital (RVH) Foundation. Robinson comes to RVH from Algonquin College where she was a member of the College's Foundation. She previously worked for the United Way. Robinson is from Renfrew. She will replace Barb Desilets who is retiring from the position next month.

Local Police Report

News from local detachments



Bancroft Detachment

In the early morning at approximately 4:02am on March 15, 2018 officers of the Bancroft OPP responded to a fatal fire investigation at the R.J Brooks Retirement Centre in Bancroft. All residents have been evacuated from the R.J. Brooks Centre and have been moved to the Bancroft Bible Chapel. An elderly female was located deceased in the fire.

On December 16, 2016, officers along with the Crime Unit investigated a robbery at Canadian Tire store on Hastings Street North in Bancroft. Romaro Cameron of Ajax, Ontario and Jesse Weekes of Durham area have been charged with robbery and theft. Cameron has also been charged with uttering threats - causing death or bodily harm.

During the week of the February 26 to March 5, the Bancroft OPP responded to 87 calls for service.

Killaloe Detachment

During the week of the February 26 to March 5, there were 71 calls for service, including the Whitney Detachment. There were seven motor vehicle collisions, five were animal related. There were six domestic dispute calls for service, and one domestic related incident involving criminal code charges.

During the week of March 5 to March 11, there were 73 calls for service. There were nine motor vehicle collisions, five were animal related. There were four domestic dispute calls for service, and three domestic disputes resulting in criminal code charges.

Lanark County Detachment

Between February 26 and March 5, the Lanark OPP responded to 394 calls for service.

Between March 5 and March 12, officers responded to 351 calls for service.

Cobden Arena Theft

Police are seeking assistance from the public after a thief entered several change rooms at the Astrolabe Arena in Cobden and stole personal property. The thefts occurred on March 11 between 6:00pm and 8:20pm. A lone male was observed to enter the arena and go directly to the change rooms. He was observed leaving through a fire exit door at the back of the building. He is described as approx. 5'7" tall, medium build wearing a hoodie with a jacket over top of it and boots. A stolen credit or debit card was used later in the evening at the Ultramar Gas Bar in Arnprior, and at a Fresh Mart grocery store in Ottawa.

No Frills Theft

On February 11, 2018 at approximately 6:30pm an unknown suspect committed a theft of gas from the No Frills Gas Bar in Renfrew. The suspect vehicle was an older, red 4 door Ford pickup truck with an amber flashing beacon light on the roof. The suspect also filled a portable gas can, stealing over \$170 worth of gasoline. If you have information on any criminal offence that results in charges being laid, you qualify for an award of up to \$2,000. Call Pembroke/Renfrew County Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477. All tips remain anonymous.



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Business News Around The Valley

Correction

In the March 6 edition, Ottawa Valley Business reported that the County of Renfrew was proceeding with a study regarding the Pembroke and Area Airport. In fact the motion was tabled until the Airport appears as a delegation at county council. Specifically the tabled motion is as follows: "The Development & Property Committee recommends to county council that staff review the funding request of the Pembroke & Area Airport (\$1.41 per resident of the County of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke). The request is to consider the County's existing "no grants" policy, economic development relationships and impacts, existing federal and provincial relationships (existing funding, fees and future funding opportunities), funding of the Arnprior Airport and the operations of ORNGE from the airport and the relationship with the County's paramedic services and governance structure of the

Airport Commission. A report is to be brought forward to a future committee meeting and county Council."

Towns Can Tax Tourist Accommodations

Municipalities are now able to charge a tax on roofed accommodations to be collected by the relevant tourism operators thanks to legislative changes approved by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport. Renfrew County municipalities that choose to collect the tax must share the revenues with Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization and the Ottawa Valley Tourist Association. At least 50 per cent of the tax revenue must be shared with those organizations. Any municipality that chooses to levy this tax will have a significant economic development competitive advantage in the area of tourism marketing and the development of new tourism product in their regions. The OVTA board will provide a position paper.

Municipality to Acquire Kemptville Campus

The Municipality of North Grenville is acquiring a large portion of the former University of Guelph Kemptville Campus. After reaching an agreement in principle with the Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario in November 2017, an offer to purchase the property was agreed to in December 2017 which stipulates that the municipality will acquire approximately 633 acres of land, including 34 buildings, for the development of an Education and Community Hub focused on education and training, health and wellness and economic development with a focus on climate change Resiliency and low carbon innovation.

City Offering Awards

The City of Pembroke is accepting nominations for their annual Civic and Youth Awards. The Youth Awards program provides \$300 bursaries to students under age 19 in five categories: personal courage, arts and literature,

leadership, young athletes, and community contributions. The Civic Awards program recognizes individual and group volunteers in seven different categories: civic pride, arts and culture, Good Samaritan, community service, Pembroke senior of the year, mystery, and spirit of sport. Nomination forms and criteria are available at City Hall, the Parks & Recreation office at the PMC and via www.pembroke.ca. The nomination deadline is April 20 at 4:00pm.

Ferry Open For Season

The Quyon Ferry has opened for the season. The Quyon Ferry operates on the Ottawa River between Quyon, Quebec and Ottawa (Fitzroy Harbour). The Ferry runs Monday to Thursday from 5:30am to 10:00pm, Friday from 5:30am to 11:00pm, Saturday from 7:00am to Midnight and Sunday from 7:00am to 10:00pm. The maximum weight for the ferry is 90 tonnes.

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2018 PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

Spring Summer Edition

Deadline: April 13
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Special Section:
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Fall Edition
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Publishing: August 31
Special Section:
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Election '18

So You Want To Run For Council

In case you want to make note of these courses and workshops before May 1st, here is a run down of what is being offer regionally.

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario offers an online course for \$66.37. You can take it in your own home. It is available via their website at: www.amo.on.ca. The topics covered are: reasons for running, what you should know before you run, dealing with media, the council decision-making process, major roles of council and staff, understanding the power and influence of municipal government, appropriate behaviour, conflict of interest, transparency in decision making, pecuniary interest, about the Municipal Act and more.

Public Workshops

In addition, there are workshops happening at nearby communities, offered by Fred Dean, a municipal practice lawyer.

This workshop will give you an understanding of Council's roles and responsibilities and the significant changes coming to local government. It will also explain how duties and responsibilities of public office will impact your life.

These workshops are all free of charge with no pre-registration required.

Workshop – April 24, 2018

Held at the Dungannon Recreation Centre in L'Amable, Ontario. 7:00pm-9:00pm.

Workshop – April 25, 2018

Held at the Madoc Arts Centre in Tweed. 6:30pm-8:30pm.

Campaign Finance

More on campaign finance in the next issue. The opening day for declaring as a candidate is fast approaching: May 1st. We will also cover details on the provincial election which is scheduled for June 7th. You can get a head start by going to www.elections.on.ca.

Business News Around The Valley

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Documentary To Be Made For NRU

The NRU reactor will be no more, but it's legacy will be preserved thanks to a documentary being produced by SandBay Entertainment. C Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) announced the news on March 12 via their website. Filming has already begun at CNL and the film is anticipated to be completed later this year. For over 60 years, the reactor served Canadians and the world as a supplier of industrial and medical radioisotopes used for the diagnosis and treatment of life-threatening diseases and to provide engineering research and development support for Canada's fleet of nuclear power reactors.

John Leslie Earns 7th and 8th at Olympics

Arnprior's John Leslie has wrapped up the Pyeongchang Olympics with two Top-10 finishes. The 25-year-old finished

8th in the Men's Snowboard Cross SB-LL2 and 7th in the Men's Banked Slalom SB-LL2.

MRC Pontiac Finds Fraud

In August 2017, an employee of the MRC Pontiac's accounting department noticed irregularities in a bank account that was under the responsibility of a service provider, RPGL Avocats. At the request of the MRC, RPGL conducted an internal investigation and discovered an apparent fraud committed by one of their former employees. More than \$170,000 was embezzled from the payments of fines issued for municipal bylaw violations on MRC Pontiac territory since January 2012. RPGL took disciplinary action and filed a complaint with the Sûreté du Québec. In addition, RPGL reimbursed the MRC the total amount.

Ontario Supporting Sawmill in Killaloe

The government of Ontario is supporting Ben Hokum and Son Ltd. to upgrade and modernize its sawmill in Killaloe. One of

eastern Ontario's largest lumber producers, and the largest producer of red and white pine in Ontario, Hokum's lumber is used in flooring, framing, paneling, pallets and crafting material. Through the Jobs and Prosperity Fund, the company will increase efficiency by modernizing its infrastructure and purchasing new equipment. The project will maintain 101 existing jobs and create five new positions at the mill in Killaloe.

MLA Earns Lake Protections

After much negotiation with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, the Muskrat Lake Association has negotiated concessions regarding eliminating the bypasses of the proposed new Cobden Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP). The Lake Association had submitted a concern about the original Environmental Assessment in March 2017 that put a hold on the new treatment plant going forward. As of March 8, 2018, the Ministry indicated that it would design the plant to reduce and possibly eliminate bypasses (therefore total phosphorus) into Muskrat Lake. The concessions were enough for the Lake Association to rescind their concerns so the Water Pollution Control Plant could proceed.

Box of Possibilities

ANNUAL BOX LUNCH FUNDRAISER

Community Living is now taking orders for our annual Box of Possibilities lunch. This is a fundraiser for our agency where proceeds are dedicated to initiatives that support people with intellectual disabilities.

Lunch Options:

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- 2) Veggie (cucumber, cream cheese sprouts and tomato)
- 3) Ham & Swiss Ciabatta

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Fire Fighter Regs Continued

Initial concerns of rural departments are validated

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Coroner's Inquests

There was one other factor involved in the Table's decision making: a review of coroner's inquests, and two cases in particular.

One inquest involved a fire fighter who died in an icy, swift water rescue training course. The training was provided by a third-party trainer as it was not available through the Ontario Fire College. The training was voluntary and the accident was something the training officer said could not have been predicted or prevented. The course had run without incident in a previous year.

The fire chief in that case said the fire department felt pressure to have this training, although they have never had one successful rescue on that body of water. Laurentian Hills Fire Chief, Kevin Waito, says that kind of training is too dangerous for his department so they do not do it. But here's the thing: swift water rescue won't be covered by mandatory certification anyway.

The other inquest referenced a house in Whitby that burned due to a build up of lint in the dryer. It took the fire department 12 minutes to arrive on scene, but while individuals inside the house called 9-1-1, they did not leave the house. The investigation found no working smoke alarms on the main floor. There was some concern that 9-1-1 operators should have more training to help individuals who call for help. Among the main recommendations from the inquest were: more public education on smoke alarms, a system to flag properties that were previously inspected for fire code non-compliance and incorporating lessons learned in future learning materials.

"Being certified doesn't change response time," says Waito.

No representative from either fire department was at the Table.

The inquests have broad rec-

ommendations that all fire fighters should be trained to a certain standard. There is value in that, however, there was consensus that fire departments were mostly training to recognized standards now anyway. Fire departments have commitments under the Occupational Health and Safety Act to ensure fire fighters are trained, and that training is measured against National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards. The certification is the piece of paper that proves the fire department is actually doing what it tells the municipality it is doing.

"The ability of the fire fighter to do his duties will not be any different," says Jeri Ottley of the FFAO. "There will just be proof that there was training. The only difference is that now they will have that piece of paper."

The OPFFA agrees.

"The regulations ensure accountability and responsibility to the public," says Hyndman. "Why not ensure fire fighters are training to the level they say they are training to?"

So, are fire departments not doing their jobs across the province? Are they pulling the wool over the eyes of council members? Are they cashing those big fire fighting cheques and faking it? Ted Bryan doesn't think so.

"What community is not happy with their local fire department," says Ted Bryan. "Name one?"

Who Stands To Benefit?

And that brings us all the way back to the purpose of these regulations, and fear mongering or not, only one agency is 100 per cent behind the regulations: the association representing full-time fire fighters.

"It is the position of the OPFFA that if a department advertises that their fire services includes interior fire attack and rescue that they must have NFPA 1001/NFPA 1002 certified fire fighters to carry this out," the Association says on their website.

"We contend that without certified staff departments should not perform those operations until adequate certified personnel are

present.

Likewise, your OPFFA reps on the committee are pursuing a recommendation of professional qualifications for fire inspectors, fire communicators, training officers, and company officers. With all of this, we are recommending that municipalities be mandated to publicly state the level of service provided to the public and they support those levels with the human resources (trained and qualified FD staff) to do so."

It is difficult to see this issue any way other than how the rural fire chiefs see it: a move towards the mandate of the OPFFA, who also happens to be the Ontario Liberal government's 10th largest political donor. The regulations benefit full-time fire services; they don't benefit volunteer fire services. It is also not lost on any member of that Table, with the exception of the OPFFA, that the rush to make the regulations law coincides with a provincial election year. Nor is it lost on 211 fire departments that they were purposely not invited to participate in a discussion that impacts their communities.

The bottom line is this: the government should have been more inclusive of its provincial fire services at that Table if they truly wanted to help fire departments province-wide.

The people at that Table should have called the province on that decision. Now, the rural fire

It's A Fact

Canada Energy Production

58.9%

Hydro makes up 58.9% of Canada's electricity generation. (22.6% in Ontario)

15%

Nuclear makes up 15% of Canada's electricity generation. (58.8% in Ontario)

4%

Wind makes up 4% of Canada's electricity generation. (6% in Ontario)

1.4%

Biomass makes up 1.4% of Canada's electricity generation. (1% in Ontario)

9.3%

Natural gas makes up 9.3% of Canada's electricity generation. (9.7% in Ontario)

1.3%

Petroleum makes up 1.3% of Canada's electricity generation. (0.1% in Ontario)

0.5%

Solar makes up 0.5% of Canada's electricity generation. (1.8% in Ontario)

9.6%

Coal makes up 9.6% of Canada's electricity generation. (0% in Ontario)

0.4%

Other sources make up 0.4% of Canada's electricity generation

65%

Canada's electricity that comes from renewable sources

11%

Electricity produced in Canada and exported to the U.S.

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Tender Results Around The Region

News 10

How well do you know the news of the past few weeks? Answers on page 10.

1) The Ottawa International Airport set a new record for annual passenger traffic. How many passengers did they see in 2017?

2) The Canadian Forces will be deploying on a peacekeeping mission, after receiving a direct request from the United Nations. Where are they going?

3) Algonquin College is cancelling seven programs. Which one in Pembroke is being cancelled?

4) Doug Ford is the new leader of the Ontario Conservatives. He will face NDP's Andrea Howarth and Liberal Kathleen Wynne in the provincial election. What date is the election?

5) Last week the world lost this famous theoretical physicist who had Lou Gehrig's disease.

6) In Cape Town, South Africa, residents have been asked to reduce their water consumption to 50 litres per day as they enter their third year of drought. How many litres per day does the average Canadian use?

7) How many medals did Canada win at the Paralympic Games?

8) 25 per cent of this province's electricity now comes from wind power – the highest percentage of any jurisdiction in North America.

9) US President Donald Trump's new Economic Advisor is a believer in the free trade agreement with Canada. What is his name?

10) Ombudsman for Banking Services and Investments (OBSI) opened 370 banking-related investigations in 2017 to handle customer disputes compared to 290 a year ago. What was the main complaint?

Boilers and Pressure Vessels Regulations. Defence Construction Canada. Awarded to Architecture49 Inc. of Ottawa in the amount of \$15,698.96.

Interior Repairs at Building G-102. Defence Construction Canada. Awarded to John Mackay Painting and Flooring of Pembroke in the amount of \$83,020.

Install APU Monitoring System. Defence Construction Canada. Awarded to Frank's Electric of Pembroke in the amount of \$534,839.26.

DSS Support in the Demolition. Defence Construction Canada. Awarded to AMEC Foster Wheeler Env. of Cambridge in the amount of \$11,676.56.

Purchase and Maintenance of Plant Materials for Downtown BIA. Smiths Falls. There was only one bidder. Recommended award to Gemmill's Garden Centre in the amount of \$39,172.51.

Tractor Purchase. Town of Smiths Falls.
B&G Loughlin - \$37,142.40
Elliot Farm Equip. - \$37,697.21
Smiths Farm Equip. - \$37,699.83
Bobcat Gatineau - \$38,567.04
Recommended award to Elliot's.

Replace Oil Water Separators. Defence Construction Canada. Awarded to Architecture49 Inc. of Ottawa in the amount of \$141,075.

Contract PWO-2016-01 Supply and Delivery of Winter Salt - Extension. County of Renfrew. Recommended approval of an extension at the rate of \$95.61 per tonne for the 2018-19 and \$97.45 per tonne for the 2019-20 winter seasons with K+S Windsor Salt Ltd.

Tender PW02-2018 Purchase of 4WD Tractor Backhoe. Greater Madawaska.
Nortrax - \$124,480.80
J.R. Brisson - \$132,828.11
Reis Equipment - \$135,091.50
Toromont CAT - \$143,080
Bob Mark Sales - \$147,973.50
Recommended award to Nortrax of Ottawa.

Tender 01-2018 Hot Mix Asphalt Resurfacing Barryvale Road. Greater Madawaska. Recommended award to Thomas Cavanagh Construction in the amount of \$383,621.21.

Achray Road Reconstruction PW-03-2018. Petawawa and Laurentian Valley.
H&H Const. - \$977,226.93
RGT Clouthier - \$983,203.85
Eastway - \$1,115,029.68
Awarded to H&H Construction.

Extension of Contract WM-2015-01. Township of McNab/Braeside. Recommended extension of contract WM-2015-01 to Castleford Excavating by two years as permitted in the tender documents and that the cost per tonne shall be \$6.02 for Year 1 and \$6.14 for Year 2, and that all other conditions of the contract shall remain in effect.

Vehicle Decals. Madawaska Valley. Recommended that council approve the quote from Emagine Consulting Group for vehicle decals for the North Hall Tender Truck at a cost of \$1,327.75

Reconstruction of Mary Street Phase 2. PW-04-2018. Town of Petawawa.
Eastway - \$494,881.66
H&H Const. - \$408,465.30
Do-All - \$602,342.64
RGT Clouthier - \$495,000.00
Recommended award to H&H Construction.

2018-05 Screened Winter Sand. Whitewater Region.
Buchanan Sand - \$29,696.40
H&H Construction - \$79,461.60
B.R. Fulton - \$39,324.00
G.P. Splinter - \$29,154.00
Eastway - \$74,173.20
R.G.T. Clouthier - \$37,154.40
Recommended award to G.P. Splinter.

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Tender Results Continued

Conversion of Beachburg Street Light Proposal. White-water Region.

Recommended award to Ottawa River Energy Solutions in the amount of \$47,801.76

For active tenders, tender results, and tenders with results pending, please visit our website at: www.ovbusiness.com

2015 used 4 WD 1500 Series Truck. Greater Madawaska.

Recommended to sole source to Butler Chevrolet Pontiac Buick Cadillac at a cost of \$23,138.17.

Local Pastor Weighs In On Federal Summer Job Grant

Reverend Dustin Abbott of Emmanuel Lighthouse in Petawawa, took to Facebook to note his comments on the Canada Summer Jobs grant. This is what he had to say:

"I don't do a lot of political activism on social media. I don't consider this a platform where I want to create division or antagonize people. Right now, however, I feel compelled to use what influence I have for a greater good.

There is an issue in Canada right now of intense discrimination against those who hold to Biblical values in areas like valuing the lives of the unborn and the Biblical definition of marriage. I (and the church I pastor) have already been directly impacted by this, so this is not just another "internet-hype" issue that doesn't really exist. For years Emmanuel Lighthouse UPC has participated in the summer student work program and hired a student for the summer. We haven't been "indoctrinating" these students; we've just given them a job and an opportunity to earn some money, grow their skillsets, and start to build a resume for future employment.

This year that won't happen, as the current government has decided that it will only award funding to those who sign an "attestation clause" that we agree to and support the "government's" definition of women's rights (read: abortion) and embrace an LGBT agenda. This is a direct violation of a number of our charter rights and freedoms (as is thus illegal). Compelled

speech violates our long-held democratic rights that have existed before the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, have been reiterated in the Charter, and are recognized in the Canadian Human Rights Act. These include: freedom of religion; freedom of conscience; freedom of belief; freedom of opinion; freedom of thought; freedom of expression; and equality rights.

It should be noted that the Government of Canada has unilaterally changed the language of the Charter in this specific case without any parliamentary debate and certainly without input from the people of Canada. There is no law in Canada that details the "freedoms" that the government espouses (Canada has no abortion law pro or con, for example.) I am not interested in discrimination in a program like this (which is funded not by the "government" but by taxes from the people of Canada) of any group, whether they share my values or not, as the purpose of this program is to give students some work experience. The government is politicizing a work program to further their own agenda and using a pseudo-equality justification to actively discriminate against Christians, Muslims, Catholics, and others who just happen to not share the current government's view of these issues.

If we don't let our voice be heard, we have no right to complain when our fundamental rights are stripped away."

Rev. Dustin Abbott

Current Tenders

TENDERS

Reconstruction of Boundary Road - Phase 1	-----	Rehabilitation of County Road 1
Reconstruction of Dunlop Street	-----	Rehabilitation of County Road 64 and County Road 515
Installation of the Outlet 18 Storm Sewer Connection	-----	3/4 Ton Heavy Duty Pickup
Road Reconstruction	-----	Cargo Minivan
Elevator and Lift Inspections, Maintenance & Service	-----	2018 Two-Wheel Drive Pickup Trucks with Regular Cab
Terrace on the Tay Development - Phase 2	-----	Grass Cutting & Grounds Maintenance
Grass Cutting and Grounds Maintenance	-----	Rehabilitation/Reconstruction of Johnston Road
Old Barry's Bay Road Rehabilitation	-----	Track & Field Maintenance at Various Locations
2018 Multi-Purpose Sidewalk Tractor	-----	REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Asphalt Patching	-----	Canteen Operating Services
Asphalt Resurfacing	-----	Gasoline Truck with Plow Blade
Granular Materials	-----	Integrated Library Management System
Concrete Works	-----	FOR SALE
Double Surface Treatment Granular A 3/4"	-----	Land For Sale
Asphalt Scratch Coat Paving & Shoulder Gravelling	-----	Sale of 2001 J.C.B. 2015 Series Backhoe/Loader
Tandem Truck and Plow Unit and light Duty Pickup Trucks	-----	Sale of 2004 International Tandem Plow Truck
Corrugated Pipe Culverts	-----	<i>Tenders and results are posted online at: www.ovbusiness.com</i>



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Thanks For The Chat, Steve

Remembering a journalism colleague



MARKETING

By: Jennifer Layman
jenn@fwdthink.net

A Renfrew County Council meeting had just come to a close and those of us at the press desk were gathering our notepads and papers. That’s when Steve said, “Well Jenn, what do you think is the story of the day?” We spent the next 20 minutes sitting in the council chamber, just the two of us, talking about how journalism had changed and what we would each do if we had the magic wand to make it the way we wanted it to be. It’s not easy to find a colleague who will take a visionary journey with you, so when you do find someone like that, it writes a distinct memory in your soul.

That was the instant memory that came up when I found out that my visionary co-traveler, Steve Uhler, had passed away.

Facebook is full of tributes to Steve and his work with The Daily News, and The Daily Observer. It’s a tribute to the relationships he built – something that goes beyond the job require-

ments. His colleagues from other media outlets, past and present, have posted their own respectful words that even the best wordsmiths with decades of experience would struggle to write. And then there are his colleagues, the staff of the Observer, who are writing through their grief because they know the community needs to hear from them. It is an overwhelming demand of them, and yet, we are all making it, and they are rising to the challenge for our benefit.

Being a reporter is not an easy profession. The demand is significant. The accountability is high. The criticism is never absent. If you can make it through that, you become someone like Steve Uhler.

There’s a well-worn saying that reads: “You don’t know what you’ve got, til it’s gone.” A friend of mine once said to me that wasn’t really true. In his worlds, “You always knew what you had; you just didn’t think you would ever lose it.” We all knew we had a good friend and media colleague in Steve, and we never thought we would lose him age 51. Now, we need to take what he has left behind, his legacy, and make sure that lives on.

For me, that legacy is that 20 minute talk we had in council

chambers. There are not a lot of people who want to spend 20 minutes talking about “vision.” To move towards something one cannot see, well, it’s a hard ask of the human race these days. And yet, there we sat, feeding off each other’s ideas and strategies on how to make our community better. I like to think we both left council chambers with a bit of a smile on our faces that day. Of course, Steve always did. I admired that about him.

I like to believe that there are people who come into our lives to help us live up to our own potential. Steve was one of those people in my life. I will always be grateful for that.

Service Details

The Daily Observer has noted that a memorial service will be held for Steve on Saturday, March 24 at the Pembroke Legion, beginning at 11:00am. The community is welcome to attend. Please see The Daily Observer online and in the March 20 paper for their incredible work in honour of their colleague and friend.

Jennifer is the owner of Forward Thinking Marketing Agency. Her column appears every issue.



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April 3, 2018
Deadline: March 28, 2018

April 17, 2018
Deadline: April 10, 2018

May 1, 2018
Deadline: April 25, 2018

101 THINGS TO DO IN THE VALLEY

May-June Issue
Publishing: April 12, 2018
Deadline: April 10, 2018

July-August Issue
Publishing: June 14, 2018
Deadline: June 12, 2018

HEALTH MATTERS

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Spring/Summer 2018 Edition
Publishes: May 4, 2018
Deadline: April 13, 2018

TRAVEL OUR BACKYARD

Publishes: May 18, 2018
Deadline: April 27, 2018

Answers

Answers to the News 10 Quiz:

- 1) 4.84 million
- 2) Mali in West Africa
- 3) Motive Power Technician
- 4) June 7, 2018
- 5) Stephen Hawking
- 6) Canadians use 329 litres of water per person per day.
- 7) 28 Paralympic Games medals. 8 gold. 4 silver. 16 bronze. Their previous best was 19 in Vancouver and 16 in Sochi.
- 8) Prince Edward Island
- 9) Larry Kudlow. He is a former Wall Street analyst.
- 10) Credit cards (112 investigations) followed by mortgages (67 investigations) and personal accounts (61 investigations).