



## PORT COLBORNE

Legislative Services

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December 12, 2023

Bonfield Township  
Office of the Deputy Clerk – via email to: [deputyclerk@bonfieldtownship.com](mailto:deputyclerk@bonfieldtownship.com)  
365 Highway 531  
Bonfield ON  
P0H 1E0

Town of Gore Bay  
Office of the City Clerk – via email to: [scarr@gorebay.ca](mailto:scarr@gorebay.ca)  
15 Water Street  
Gore Bay, ON  
P0P 1H0

Dear Sir or Madam:

**Re: Bonfield Township and Town of Gore Bay - Support Tax Credit Increase Volunteer Firefighters**

Please be advised that, at its meeting of November 28, 2023 the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne resolved as follows:

That the correspondence from Bonfield Township and Town of Gore Bay regarding Support Tax Credit Increase Volunteer Firefighters, be supported.

A copy of the above noted resolution is enclosed for your reference.

Sincerely,

*S. Tufail*

Saima Tufail  
Acting City Clerk

cc. Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario  
Nipissing Mutual Aid Association  
Manitoulin Fire Mutual Aid Association  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario



**BONFIELD TOWNSHIP  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CLERK**

365 HIGHWAY 531

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RESOLUTION OF COUNCIL

November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

No. 15

Moved by Councillor Clark

Seconded by Councillor Featherstone

WHEREAS Canada has 90,000 volunteer firefighters who provide fire and all hazard emergency services to their communities; in addition, approximately 8,000 essential search and rescue volunteers respond to thousands of incidents every year; and WHEREAS many of these individuals receive some form of pay on call, an honorarium, or are given some funding to cover expenses, but they do not draw a living wage from firefighting; and; WHEREAS without volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers, thousands of communities in Canada would have no fire and emergency response coverage; and; WHEREAS in 2013, the federal government initiated a tax credit recognizing these individuals, and calling on the federal government to increase this tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and; WHEREAS volunteer firefighters account for 71 % of Canada's total firefighting essential first responders;

- The tax code of Canada currently allows volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers to claim a \$3,000 tax credit if 200 hours of volunteer services were completed in a calendar year;
- This works out to a mere \$450 per year, which we allow these essential volunteers to keep of their own income from their regular jobs, \$2.25 an hour;
- If they volunteer more than 200 hours, which many do, this tax credit becomes even less;
- These essential volunteers not only put their lives on the line and give their time, training and efforts to Canadians, but they also allow cities and municipalities to keep property taxes lower than if paid services were required;
- It would also help retain these volunteers in a time when volunteerism is decreasing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Bonfield call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and FURTHERMORE THAT a copy of the resolution be shared with the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Nipissing Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried Jason Corbett

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of Resolution No. 15 of the Township of Bonfield's Regular Council Meeting of November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and which Resolution is in full force and effect.

Andrée Gagné  
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer



15650

*Moved by Dan Osborne*

*Seconded by Ken Blodgett*

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT Gore Bay Council supports the Municipality of Wawa regarding requesting the Government of Canada to amend subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 of the Income Tax Act to increase the amount of tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000;***

***FURTHER, this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Manitoulin Fire Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Ontario municipalities.***

*Carried*