

REVIEW DRAFT JUNE 2009
Appendix E: OFM Public Fire Safety Guidelines

Public Fire Safety Guidelines		Subject Coding PFSG 04-06-13		
Section Optimizing Public Fire Safety		Date January 1998		
Subject Codes, Standards, Acts, Regulations, Best Practices		Page		
Policy side of service delivery				
Acts, Codes, Regulations, Standards, Models/Best Practices	Example(s) of Application	Why?	Consequences	Alternatives
ISO	Regular evaluation of practices to accepted standards	Accepted International method of accreditation	Ensure consistent application of established policies and procedures	Other accepted methods
Comprehensive Fire Safety Effectiveness Model	Conceptual re organization of methods & priorities of providing public safety	To assess all major inputs impacting on public safety	Prioritized allocation of resources both internal and external	Vary the emphasis on which components of the model are applied
IAO	Prioritization of service delivery, i.e. emphasis on property and/or life risk	Know the ability of the fire department to provide for property and/or life safety	Determine the ability to provide for both or emphasize one or the other	Place dependence on industry to self protect as much as possible
Administration				
Acts, Codes, Regulations, Standards, Models/Best Practices	Example(s) of Application	Why?	Consequences	Alternatives
Ontario Standard for Fire Chiefs	Professional designation as Fire Chief	To ensure qualified and competent leadership	Motivation of staff to full potential	Professional designation is not mandatory
AMCT OMMI	Certifications such as CMM1, CMM2, AMCT(A) etc.	Familiarity with municipal administration and management concepts	Improved understanding of total municipal picture	Ignore and risk being left behind
FDMP	Successful completion of initial program and ongoing participation	Build a network of contacts and resources	Broader base of available information	Ignore and risk being left behind
OFC Technology Program - management program	Successful completion of program	First step in management training	Knowledge of basic management concepts	Generic programs at community colleges
NFPA	Standards for officers	Recognized international organization	Generic expectations of officer(s)	Use specific - i.e. Ontario Standards
IAFC	Self-assessment of administration function	Comprehensive approach to peer and self-evaluation	Can lead to accreditation	Have outside organization conduct self-evaluation

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ISO	Twice annual evaluation of administration/record keeping function	To ensure consistent application of desired practices	Have a method of regular evaluations	Evaluation by outside organization
Municipal Affairs	Reporting requirements for financial data, pension plans	Meet mandated requirements	Compliance	None
Information Management Systems	Develop comprehensive data re fire and emergency response patterns	Long range planning and initiatives	Efficient and effective use of resources	Reactive management

Communications

Acts, Codes, Regulations, Standards, Models/Best Practices	Example(s) of Application	Why?	Consequences	Alternatives
NFPA	Performance based standard for call receipt and dispatch times	Assess staffing and other requirements	Efficient and effective use of resources	Contract for services from another agency
IAO	System requirements	IAO sets insurance rates	A reliable system	Contract for services
MOE	Report the status and provide ongoing communications during certain emergencies	Mandatory requirement	Proper persons or agencies deal with environmental issues	None
Industry Canada	Licensing, allowable output wattage, etc.	Mandatory	Co-ordinate system infrastructure	None
Ontario Standards for Communicators	Training to curriculum	Method of providing for standardization	Common practices among participating communicators	Not mandatory

Fire Prevention & Public Education

Acts, Codes, Regulations, Standards, Models/Best Practices	Example(s) of Application	Why?	Consequences	Alternatives
OBC	Standards for new construction	Fire department input and involvement in a building for which they will ultimately be responsible under the O.F.C.	Balanced application of the code	Need to issue Fire Marshal's Order(s) to correct deficiencies missed or ignored during planning and construction
OFC	Maintenance of required building components	To assist the building owner with compliance through the approval process	Improved public safety and education	None
NFPA	Maintenance standards for building	Mandated requirements under the O.F.C.	Improved public safety	None

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	components such as commercial cooking equipment			
Gasoline Handling Act & Code/ Propane Act and Code / (Medical Gas)/ Gas Utilization Code	Inspection of equipment and installations	Certain mandatory requirements	Improved public and environmental safety	None
MOE standards	Installation of berms around hazardous materials storage site; water supply issues	Certain mandatory requirements	Improved environmental safety	None
MOL standards	Education regarding safety components in buildings	To assist the owner with compliance (compliance issues around O.F.C.)	Improved worker safety	Owner provided
Municipal standards by-law	Manufacture or storage of explosives	Municipality has option to make more stringent standards	Improved safety	Rely on basic standards
Planning standards	Site approval process	Provide for fire department access	Improved public safety	Rely on OBC
Comprehensive Fire Prevention Effectiveness Model	Selection of appropriate prevention and education programs for community	To assess all major inputs impacting on delivery of programs	Prioritize allocation of fire department resources	Vary the emphasis on which components of the model are applied
Ontario Standards for Prevention Officers	Training to curriculum	Method of providing for standardization	Common practices among participating prevention officers	Not mandatory
OFM Investigators standard	Training of staff to standard	Method of providing for standardization	Common practices among participating investigators	NFPA 921
Day Care, Homes for the Aged, Schools, Hospital inspections	Inspections re licensing requirements	Owner is faced with mandatory inspection requirements	Improved public safety	Fees for service

Stations, Fleet & Equipment

Acts, Codes, Regulations, Standards, Models/Best Practices	Example(s) of Application	Why?	Consequences	Alternatives
MOT standards	Testing and certification issues	Mandatory	Improved worker and public safety	None
MOL	Safety issues including guidelines issued	Mandatory	Improved worker and public safety	None
NFPA	Testing criteria for various equipment	Make use of recognized existing standards	Improved firefighter and public safety	Transfer of liability via leasing of equipment

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ULC	Design standards for fire fighting vehicles	To obtain accreditation for vehicle	Vehicle meets minimum requirements	Use of other standards
CSA/ NIOSH/ OSHA	Standards for design & maintenance of equipment such as pure breathing air compressor & breathing apparatus	Mandated requirements	Improved worker safety	None
Ontario Building Code	Design considerations for fire stations	Mandatory	Code compliance	None
Ontario Fire Code	Maintenance considerations for fire stations	Mandatory	Code compliance	None
Electrical Safety Code	Design and maintenance considerations for fire stations	Mandatory	Code compliance	None
Emergency Operations				
Acts, Codes, Regulations, Standards, Models/Best Practices	Example(s) of Application	Why?	Consequences	Alternatives
Dallas, Ottawa, OFM, NFPA, IAFC, ICM, IAO, CAFF (pending)	Staffing recommendations re number of firefighters	To determine appropriate staffing levels for a community	Efficient and effective deployment of resources	Automatic aid to supplement internal resources
Ontario Standards for Firefighters	Training to curriculum	Method of providing for standardization	Common practices among participating firefighters	Local initiative
MOL	Protective clothing standards	Mandatory	Compliance with regulations	None
MOH	Response standard protocol for CPR, de-fib programs	Meet minimum response criteria	Improved public safety	Do not provide the service
Internal SOGs	Response guidelines for risks such as senior citizens' complexes	Mandatory requirement (MOL)	Consistent approach	None
Mutual Aid Plan	Possibility of mandated requirements for membership re equipment and staff	May be mandatory participation criteria	Improved public safety	Provide internal capability
Highway Traffic Act	Training in special applications of act to firefighters	Mandatory	Properly trained staff	None
OBC/ OFC/ Electrical Code	In-service inspection program issues	To make better use of suppression staff	Improved public safety	Total dependence on prevention staff

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Water Supply				
Acts, Codes, Regulations, Standards, Models/Best Practices	Example(s) of Application	Why?	Consequences	Alternatives
IAO standards	Identify deficiencies in water supply system	Recognized evaluation agency	Reliable water supply	Use other standards
NFPA	Standards for urban and rural water supply	Recognized standards setting organization	Reliable water supply	Use other standards
MOE	Ability to take adequate water from municipal water system for internal suppression system requirements	MOE controls some water supply systems	Reliable water supply	None
OBC	Internal supply system requirements for particular occupancies	Mandatory	Compliance	None
OFM Guideline - Communiqué 96-022	Determining water supply requirements	Cooperatively developed by stakeholders	Appropriate water supplies for emergencies	Use other standards
Training & Education				
Acts, Codes, Regulations, Standards, Models/Best Practices	Example(s) of Application	Why?	Consequences	Alternatives
Ontario Standards for suppression forces	Training to curriculum	Method of providing for standardization	Common practices among participating firefighters	Not mandatory
Ontario Standards for support services	Training to curriculum	Method of providing for standardization	Common practices among participants	Not mandatory
OBC	Construction issues re training complex	Mandatory	Compliance	None
MOE	Environmental issues re training complex	Mandatory	Compliance	None
MOL	Safety issues re training complex	Mandatory	Compliance	None
Support Services				
Acts, Codes, Regulations, Standards, Models/Best Practices	Example(s) of Application	Why?	Consequences	Alternatives
Pay Equity,	Human resources	Mandatory	Compliance	None

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Employment Equity, Human Rights Code, Charter of Rights and Freedoms	issues			
Financial	Determination of ability to pay and comparisons to other communities (arbitration)	Mandatory	Compliance	None

Codes, Standards and Best Practices:

Codes, Standards, and Best Practices resources available to assist in establishing local policy on this assessment are available at <http://www.ofm.gov.on.ca>. Please feel free to copy and distribute this document. We ask that the document not be altered in any way, that the Office of the Fire Marshal be credited and that the documents be used for non-commercial purposes only.