



TOWN OF MINTO

MEETING DATE: July 9, 2024
REPORT TO: Mayor Turton and Members of Council
SERVICE AREA: Fire
SUBJECT: Report #FIRE 2024-005 Community Risk Assessment

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT the Council of the Town of Minto hereby receives report FIRE 2024-005, prepared by the Deputy Chief, regarding the Community Risk Assessment, for information purposes.

BACKGROUND

The Fire Protection and Prevention Act 1997 was amended in 2018 with Ontario Regulation 378/18: Community Risk Assessments (O. reg 387/18) and came into effect on July 1st, 2019. It stated that all municipalities in Ontario had to complete a more thorough Community Risk Assessment utilizing the nine (9) mandatory profiles outlined by the Office of the Fire Marshal. Each municipality had until July 1st, 2024, to complete this document.

A few years later, the OFMEM came out with a companion document providing guidance on how to complete the Community Risk Assessment. Utilizing this guidebook, as well as plenty of other data, we were able to complete the Community Risk Assessment before the deadline.

COMMENTS:

The completion of the Community Risk Assessment finalizes the requirements laid out by O. reg 378/18. A great deal of data was used from various departments in the Town as well as the Office of the Fire Marshal and MPAC. The document looked at the entire Town and established the risks we at Minto Fire deal with or need to deal with in the future to help keep our community safe from fire related risks.

Completing the Community Risk Assessment will now lead us into updating the Master Fire Plan which was last updated in 2018. The Master Fire Plan will address the risks the Community Risk Assessment identified as well as look at our operations and all facets of the fire service to come up with an updated strategic plan for advancing the fire service in Minto while aligning with the new Strategic Plan adopted by the municipality.

The risks identified are summarized at the end of the document. Some of the highlights outlined in the document are that:

- The sustainability of the volunteer firefighter organizational model could be impacted if a large portion of firefighters are required to travel outside the region for employment
- The more densely developments become, the greater the fire risk as well as to exposures
- The large senior population in the Town can lead to increased risk of fire fatalities

There are many other risks documented in the overall assessment. The finalized Town of Minto Community Risk Assessment has been filed with the Office of the Fire Marshal and the Town of Minto is in compliance with the Regulation listed above. The Fire Management Team will come back to Council with an outline for the update of the Fire Master Plan.

The Town of Minto Fire Management Team completed the Minto Community Risk Assessment in-house while many of our neighbouring Municipalities used paid consultants.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

There is no financial impact associated with this report or the development and filing of the Community Risk Assessment with the Office of the Fire Marshall. The Fire Management Team had the in-house expertise to complete this assignment without requiring assistance from a third-party consulting agency.

STRATEGIC PLAN

- 5.3 Ensuring organizational capacity to support our growing community
- ii. Conduct a Service Review to ensure the Town is allocating resources effectively and efficiently.

PREPARED BY: Callise Loos, Deputy Director/Deputy Fire Chief

RECOMMENDED BY: Gregg Furtney, Chief Administrative Officer