

January 13, 2016

Public Services Health and Safety Association
and the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs
partner to provide improved training access,
centralized services and revised high hazard
curriculum for the fire service in Ontario.



ONTARIO
ASSOCIATION
OF FIRE CHIEFS

TORONTO - Public Services Health and Safety Association (PSHSA) is pleased to announce a partnership with the The Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (O AFC) to support the development of a regional training centre network and update the high hazard curriculum to NFPA standards.

Earlier this year, PSHSA developed a "New Initiatives" funding proposal for regionalized fire health and safety training. As a result, the Ministry of Labour approved funding to develop a regional training hub model. PSHSA is confident that this model can be scaled to reach across any sector when applied effectively. This model enables crucial health and safety training at any regional training facility. It will provide access in rural areas and allow various partners to leverage programs to adopt a revenue sharing approach.

Benefits of the new training model include:

- Cost reductions of high hazard health and safety training for not only the training provider, but for the fire service as a whole.
- Increased number of participants that can be trained across the various training centres in Ontario.
- Improved access, availability and convenience of training especially in more rural areas.
- Increased utilization of regional training facilities.

The O AFC is working with PSHSA on an implementation strategy for this model. The first step in this process is updating high hazard courses to NFPA standards. The O AFC is working alongside PSHSA to provide

subject matter expertise. Additional initiatives include developing a collective approach for delivering essential health and safety programs and networking training centres to a centralized calendar on the OAFC website. An information session for training centers will be held on February 18, 2016.

The OAFC is pleased to partner with PSHSA to provide improved training access, centralized services and a revised high hazard curriculum for the fire service in Ontario.

M.D. (Matt) Pegg
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