



## The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

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December 19, 2023

By Email: [Justin.Trudeau@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Justin.Trudeau@parl.gc.ca)

By Email: [Irek.Kusmierczyk@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Irek.Kusmierczyk@parl.gc.ca)

**The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau**

Office of the Prime Minister  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A2

**Irek Kusmierczyk, MP**

House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6

### **Re: Support for Increasing Tax Credits for Volunteer Firefighters**

The Council of the Town of Tecumseh, at its regular meeting held Tuesday, November 28, 2023, gave consideration to Resolution No. RC23265 passed by the Council for the Municipality of Wawa, dated November 7, 2023. The Municipality of Wawa has requested support regarding their said Resolution, a copy of which is enclosed.

At their meeting, Tecumseh Council passed the following resolution:

**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 given some funding to cover expenses, but they do not draw a living wage from firefighting; 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 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 Town of Tecumseh supports the Municipality of Wawa and calls upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact 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, Association of Municipalities, and all area municipalities.

Please consider this letter as confirmation of the Town of Tecumseh's support of the Resolution.

Yours very truly,



Robert Auger, LLB  
Director Legislative Services & Clerk

RA/ka  
Attachment

1. Municipality of Wawa Resolution No. RC23265 dated November 7, 2023

cc. Municipality of Wawa  
County of Essex  
Town of Amherstburg  
Municipality of Lakeshore  
Municipality of Leamington  
Town of LaSalle  
Town of Essex  
Fire Chiefs of Ontario  
Association of Municipalities