November 1, 2005

Workplace Safety and Insurance Board
200 Front Street West
Toronto, ON M5V 311

Dear Sirs/Madame:

Re: WSIB amendments to definition of “Volunteer Forces”

The Municipal Council of the Town of Tecumseh, at their regular meeting duly held on Tuesday, October 25, 2005 adopted the following resolution (RCM-422/05):

“WHEREAS the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board operational policy manual document entitled “Volunteer Forces” has been amended to include definitions of “full-time and part-time firefighters” and “municipal volunteer firefighters”;

AND WHEREAS this amendment provides that the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board considers firefighters to be full-time or part-time with a municipality if they are ruled eligible to be represented, or are represented, by a bargaining unit;

AND WHEREAS this amendment provides that Municipalities with firefighters classified as full-time or part-time firefighters submit full Workplace Safety and Insurance Board premiums;

AND WHEREAS the submission of full Workplace Safety Insurance Board premiums will result in an additional financial burden on Municipalities and their taxpayers;

AND WHEREAS this amendment will provide for further financial burden on Municipalities as they will be responsible for the return to work and re-employment of full/part-time firefighters;

AND WHEREAS no consultation with Municipalities affected by this amendment was considered prior to the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board operational policy manual document entitled “Volunteer Forces” 12-07-02 being amended;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Workplace Safety Insurance Board be advised that the Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh is opposed to the amendment to the Workplace Safety Insurance Board operational manual document titled “Volunteer Forces” 12-04-02 and requests the definition of “municipal volunteer firefighters” be amended to include any firefighter not organized under the Fire Prevention and Protection Act, R.S.O. 1997 Part 9;
AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Provincial Government, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Ontario Small Urban Municipalities, the Municipalities of Hamilton, Thorold, Welland, Hawkesbury, Belleville and Norfolk and our local MPP’s.

Your favourable consideration to the foregoing is earnestly requested.

Yours very truly,

TOWN OF TECUMSEH

[Signature]

Laura Moy, AMCT
Clerk

LM:df

c.c. The Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier
Mr. Bruce Crozier, MPP
Mr. Dwight Duncan, MPP
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Small Urban Municipalities
City of Hamilton
City of Thorold
City of Welland
Town of Hawkesbury
City of Belleville
County of Norfolk