



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee

From: Kathryn McLeod, Accessibility Coordinator

Meeting Date: March 4, 2015

Subject: Report AAC15-006
Presentation from Peterborough Fire Services on the
Vulnerable Occupancy Legislation

Purpose

A report to introduce a presentation on vulnerable occupancy legislation by the Deputy Fire Chief and Public Educator from Peterborough Fire Services.

Recommendation

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee approve the recommendation outlined in Report AAC15-006 dated March 4, 2015, of the Accessibility Coordinator as follows:

That the presentation by the Deputy Fire Chief and Public Educator from Peterborough Fire Services be received for information.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budgetary or financial implications associated with the recommendation.

Background

Effective January 1, 2014, Ontario increased fire safety regulations to protect vulnerable people from the effects of fire. These regulations harmonized Ontario Building and Fire Codes by defining criteria for vulnerable occupants in buildings and increasing minimum fire safety standards.

Owners and operators of care occupancies, care and treatment occupancies and retirement homes regulated under the Retirement Homes Act, 2010 now have increased fire safety responsibilities including; supervisory duties for staff that includes the evacuation of residents in fire safety plans; Annual fire drill that includes occupant evacuations; Annual Fire Safety Inspection; Mandatory Training for owner / operators; and increased fire safety items including smoke alarms in suites, self closing devices on suite doors and mandatory sprinklers. Implementation time lines are also included in the legislation.

Peterborough Fire Service also has increased responsibilities to support the regulations. These new responsibilities include; approve and observe the annual fire drills, conduct annual fire safety inspections; upload inspection and fire drill information in a Provincial database; and approve fire safety plans.

Definitions provided by the Ministry of Community Safety & Correctional Services are as follows:

Care occupancy means an occupancy in which persons receive special or supervisory care because of cognitive or physical limitations, but does not include a dwelling unit.

Care and treatment occupancy means an occupancy in which persons receive special care and treatment.

Submitted by,

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