



Township of Wainfleet

"Wainfleet - find your country side!"

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release – December 4, 2017

Wainfleet Welcomes New Fire Chief

Wainfleet, ON -- Following several changes in the past year, the Wainfleet Volunteer Fire Department continued to move forward today as they welcome their new Fire Chief, Mr. Lee Smith. Joining the Niagara Falls Fire Department in 1988 as a firefighter, Lee also held the roles of Fire Prevention Officer and Captain and was promoted to Assistant Chief in 1998. He was appointed Fire Chief from 2007 to 2016, when he retired. Since that time, Lee has worked as a consultant, primarily within Niagara, before joining Wainfleet.

At its regular meeting of Council on December 5th, Council will appoint Lee Smith as the new Fire Chief. "Chief Smith will continue to move the fire service forward. The volunteer firefighters have been working extremely hard to improve all aspects of the fire service and are looking forward to the training and knowledge he brings to the department," said Mayor April Jeffs.

"I am excited to meet staff and begin working to help enhance fire safety and response in Wainfleet." said Chief Smith. "This is a great opportunity and I look forward to digging in and being part of this very positive transformation taking place here in the Township."

The Wainfleet Fire Department operates four fire stations to provide the Township with fire protection and emergency services. The volunteer Department has a complement of approximately 40 firefighters and is currently recruiting new volunteers. Interested recruits should contact Tara McLachlan, Administrative Assistant to Protective Services at 905-899-3463 X 221 or by email: tmclachlan@wainfleet.ca.

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For more Information, contact:

Lee Smith, Fire Chief 905-899-3463 ext. 274
Township of Wainfleet

Mayor April Jeffs 905-658-7890

BACKGROUND

Lee Smith
Fire Chief



Lee Smith joined the Niagara Falls Fire Department in 1988 as a firefighter. He also held the roles of Fire Prevention Officer and Captain and was promoted to Assistant Chief in 1998 and appointed Fire Chief from 2007 to 2016 when he retired. Since that time, Lee has worked as a consultant, primarily within Niagara, before joining Wainfleet.

Lee holds a Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree from Brock University, a Supervisory Studies Certificate from Mohawk College, an Advanced Fire Prevention Technology Diploma from the Ontario Fire College, is a Certified Engineering Technologist (CET), Certified Municipal Manager (CMM III) with Fire Service Executive endorsement from the Ontario Municipal Management Institute, achieved the Chief Fire Officer (CFO) designation from the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs and attained the Executive Fire Officer (EFO) designation from the National Fire Academy division of the Department of Homeland Security in the USA.

Lee held positions as Community Emergency Management Coordinator for Niagara Falls, Assistant Regional Fire Coordinator for the Niagara Region, sat on the Provincial Emergency Management Community Coordinating Committee for Emergency Management Ontario and is a qualified instructor for the Provincial Incident Management System course.

Lee's experience includes participation on various committees for the Niagara Regional Fire Chiefs, Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs, Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs, as well as cross-border committees to facilitate international emergencies. He is the recipient of the 2012 George Burwash Langford Memorial Award from the Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists for distinguished service in fire prevention and commitment to public safety.

Lee holds numerous titles in the Firefighter Combat Challenge competition including placing in the top 5 at the World Combat Challenge Championships in the Over 40 relay and Chief categories. Lee and his wife Charmaine enjoy sailing and living near the beach on Lake Erie.

