



## STAFF REPORT INFORMATION ONLY

### Toronto Fire Services Protocol For Fallen Military Staff

<b>Date:</b>	August 24, 2007
<b>To:</b>	Community Development and Recreation Committee
<b>From:</b>	Toronto Fire Services Fire Chief
<b>Wards:</b>	All Wards
<b>Reference Number:</b>	p:\2007\ClusterB\FIR\cd07018.doc

#### **SUMMARY**

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It is with deepest respect that Toronto Fire Services staff remember fallen Canadian Military personnel who served overseas and have died in the line of duty. The protocol assists with organizing Toronto Fire Services' tribute to the fallen in a respectful, consistent and safe manner on City streets.

#### **Financial Impact**

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

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#### **DECISION HISTORY**

At its meeting on July 16, 17, 18 and 19, 2007, City Council referred the item from the Scarborough Community Council meeting of June 26, 2007, requesting a report to the Community Development and Recreation Committee to explain why Fire Fighters in the East Command were denied an opportunity to recognize the funeral procession of three fallen Canadian soldiers.

#### **COMMENTS**

##### **Protocol for Tribute to Fallen Canadian Military Staff**

Whenever a Canadian Forces' member dies in the line of duty, the remains are brought from CFB Trenton to Toronto to the Centre of Forensic Sciences before they are returned home. In honouring the fallen soldiers and their families, Toronto Fire Services has developed a safe and respectful tribute to the soldiers' motorcade when they arrive in

Toronto. The Fire Fighters in the East command who arranged their own tribute, did not fall within the accepted safety protocol, did not seek authorization for a new protocol, and were therefore ordered off the bridge.

Placement of vehicles on bridges with emergency lights flashing has the potential to distract motorists. A clear protocol is required to maintain public safety on the roads in the City while we honour the dedicated fallen military staff. All of the men and women of the Toronto Fire Services will be represented by Pumper 313 and Squad 313 on the ramp in front of their station; Car 31 at the Chief's discretion; and Pumper 312 on the north side of Bloor St. on Bay St. These locations are located in the vicinity of the Centre of Forensic Sciences.

To allow everyone to participate in the memorial, each command – East, West, North and South – will be asked to provide a truck with a crew on a volunteer basis, to be positioned at the Coroner's Office. The placement of the trucks will be on a rotational basis.

All crews participating in the memorial will be in full dress uniform. The fire apparatus are to be moved on to the ramp/street with emergency lights in operation but without sirens.

To assist with vehicle safety, there will be no fire apparatus allowed on any bridges in the East, West, North, or South commands. The on-duty Platoon Chief in each command will ensure that the directive is followed in a consistent, safe manner.

All Toronto Fire Services' staff have been informed that there will be no deviation from the above-noted protocol unless approved by Toronto Fire Services' Administration based on future circumstances and direction.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**



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William A. Stewart  
Fire Chief