

Proposed Amendments to Municipal By-laws for Open Air Burning

Presentation to the Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee

December 15, 2020

Overview

- Open Air Burning
- Approach
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Open Air Burning in the City of Toronto

Under the Ontario Fire Code (2.4.4.4), open air burning is not permitted in the City of Toronto unless approved by the Chief Fire Official.

To facilitate the approval process and ensure that any proposed fires can be done safely in the City, Toronto Fire Services (TFS) has an application process.

TFS receives approximately 80 applications for open air burning approval each year.

A user fee of \$260.59 is charged for the application process which includes a site visit by a Fire Inspector to review safety plans and precautions in place to ensure that the burn does not pose a risk to any individuals or nearby buildings.

Approach



Proposed Changes to Toronto Municipal Code

TFS is proposing an amendment to the Municipal Code Chapters 441 and 442 to create a second category for Open Air Burning - Cultural Fire Authorizations to respect the important role that fire plays for many cultures and the Indigenous Community. This second category would not have a user fee attached to it.

Next Steps

Approvals

- Scheduled for Economic and Community Development Committee in March 2021.
- City Council - Early April 2021.

Implementation

- Early Q2 finalization of the new form once the by-law is approved and implemented.

Input / Feedback

Thank you

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