

**The Town of Saugeen Shores  
Committee of the Whole Report  
August 12, 2024**

**Present:** Mayor Luke Charbonneau  
Deputy Mayor Diane Huber  
Vice Deputy Mayor Mike Myatt  
Councillor John Divinski  
Councillor Cheryl Grace  
Councillor Bud Halpin  
Councillor Dave Myette

**Absent:** Councillor Justin Duhaime  
Councillor Rachel Stack

To the Mayor and Members of Council:

We, your Committee, wish to recommend the following:

Whereas paramedics, firefighters, and police officers are our frontline heroes, regularly putting their health and safety at risk to help others in need; and

Whereas the Ontario Fire Services Long Service Medal was created in 1971 to honour firefighters who have served the public for 25 years or more and the Governor General's Fire Services Exemplary Service Medal was created in 1985 and 'honours members of a recognized Canadian fire service who have completed 20 years of service, ten years of which have been served in the performance of duties involving potential risks; and

Whereas the non-OPP Police Service has similar local long-service medals within their forces, but there is not a province-wide long-service medal for non-OPP police officers; and

Whereas the Governor General's Emergency Medical Services Exemplary Service Medal, created in 1994, recognizes 'professionals in the provision of pre-hospital emergency medical services to the public who completed 20 years of exemplary service, including at least 10 years in the performance of duties involving potential risk; and

Whereas there is no province-wide long-service medal for paramedics in Ontario.

Now Therefore Be It resolved that The Corporation of the Town of Saugeen Shores Council endorse the creation of a province-wide long-service medal for police and paramedics, modelled after the existing such award for firefighters; and

Further That the Mayor write to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Health Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General Michael Kerzner, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism Michael Ford, and MPP Lisa Thompson urging them to work collaboratively to create such awards.

The letter from the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury is attached for background information.

All of Which is Respectfully Submitted  
by Chair Mayor Luke Charbonneau