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**2026 Provincial Fire Liaison
Committee update.**

**Fort Hills Emergency Services
Departmental Priorities**



Provincial Fire Liaison Committee Update 2026

- **What is the Provincial Fire Liaison Committee?**
- **Background:**
 - Fire Service stakeholders raised concerns about **siloes work and lack of communication** across the stakeholder groups.
 - The creation of a Provincial Fire Liaison Committee (PFLC), led by Municipal Affairs, is intended to provide:
 - A platform to develop and share information
 - Create sub-working groups to tackle complex or emerging issues
 - Build capacity to allow for municipalities to support each other



Provincial Fire Liaison Committee Update 2026

- **Mandate of the PFLC**

- Provide support and advice (to government) based on its membership's knowledge and experiences.
- Be a province-wide table for collaboration, communication, and support for Alberta's fire service.
- Provide research, analysis, or other support to achieve objectives that support the Alberta fire service including through the creation of sub-working groups to address specific issues.
- The PFLC, as a liaison committee, does not have delegated authority and is not a decision-making body.
 - Recommendations brought forward by the PFLC will be considered by the Government of Alberta, and consensus made at the PFLC will not be considered formal ministry approval or support.

Work is reviewed for overlap with existing work by other agencies (ex. AFCA)



Provincial Fire Liaison Committee Update 2026

- **Objectives:** The PFLC will support work including, but not limited to:
 - Foster predictable, regular, and coordinated **communication and collaboration**
 - **Exploring key issues** affecting the local fire services, prioritizing issues based on local needs/community size/demographics
 - **Developing potential solutions** at the local level, and **investigating opportunities** for Government of Alberta support
 - Supporting provincial public education messages
 - **Establishing working groups focused on evolving issues and needs** to foster coordinated provincial solutions as required.



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- **Membership**

- The PFLC is comprised of fire service individuals from a **variety of fire department types** (career, composite, volunteer) and from a **variety of demographics and regions** to ensure the needs of Alberta fire services are heard.
- As such Alberta Industrial Fire & Emergency Management Association was invited to be a standing member.



Provincial Fire Liaison Committee Update 2026

- **Members are divided into two categories:**
 - Standing members
 - Advisory members
- **Standing members responsibilities are:**
 - Attend the PFLC meetings regularly
 - Provide specific input of fire service concerns and issues relative to their communities
 - Responsible for reporting back to their representative organizations for discussion and further input
 - Represent the needs and voice of comparable departments
 - Actively participate in the PFLC activities such as meetings, discussions, research, etc
 - Term of each member was one year but has been moved to two.
 - Further discussion to follow on this for continuity of working groups.



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- **Standing Members:**

- Fire Commissioner
- Assistant Fire Commissioner Alberta Fire Chiefs Association (AFCA)
- Alberta Professional Firefighters and Paramedics Association (APFFPA)
- **Alberta Industrial Fire and Emergency Management Association (AIFEMA) Representative (1)**
- First Nations Fire Service Representative (Treaty Six)
- First Nations Fire Service Representative (Treaty Seven – Stoney Nakoda-Tsuut'ina Tribal Council)
- First Nations Fire Service Representative (Treaty Seven – Blackfoot Confederacy)
- First Nations Fire Service Representative (Treaty Eight)
- Metis Settlements Fire Service Representative
- Alberta Municipalities Representative
- Rural Municipalities of Alberta Representative
- City of Edmonton Fire Service Representative
- City of Calgary Fire Service Representative
- NW Fire Service Representative (>15k Pop)
- NW Fire Service Representative (<15k Pop)
- NE Fire Service Representative (>15k Pop)
- NE Fire Service Representative (<15k Pop)
- SW Fire Service Representative (>15k Pop)
- SW Fire Service Representative (<15k Pop)
- SE Fire Service Representative (>15k Pop)
- SE Fire Service Representative (<15k Pop)



Provincial Fire Liaison Committee Update 2026

- Members are divided into two categories:
 - Standing members
 - Advisory members
- **Advisory members:**
 - Participate in the PFLC activities as invited by the Chair, including meetings, discussions, research, etc.
 - Provide the PFLC with technical advice based on their respective expertise
 - Support the Chair with advisory information related to their respective subject matter



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- **Advisory Members:**

- Public Safety and Emergency Services
- Forestry and Parks
- Jobs, Economy and Trade
- Hospital and Surgical Health Services
- Transportation and Economic Corridors
- Indigenous Relations
- Advanced Education
- Any other agency deemed necessary for technical expertise and knowledge sharing.
 - Examples:
 - Municipal Affairs
 - Regional Technical Advisor(s)
 - Policy
 - Accreditation & Certification
 - OHS
 - WCB
 - AFRRAC
 - RCMP



Provincial Fire Liaison Committee Update 2026

- **PLFC Activity to date:**
 - Main PFLC meetings occur quarterly, or more frequently at the discretion of the Chair
 - Meetings are held **virtually twice a year**, and **in person twice a year**. (Generally, 6-8 hours in length)
 - Main PFLC meetings commenced in June of 2025, followed up by 2025 fall and 2027 spring meetings
 - Sub-working group meetings are held as required (one per month per sub committee)
 - all are virtual. (Generally, 2-4 hours)
 - Work was focused on completion of a Terms of Reference, and open discussion to identify the first areas of actionable work on the part of the committee
 - Terms of reference are now completed
 - Actionable areas of now broken into **six working groups**, with 4-8 members from the PFLC attending as members with relevant government agencies.
 - The Six working groups are:
 - **Training**
 - **Level of Service**
 - Highway Traffic Safety
 - Public Education and Prevention
 - Recruitment and Retention
 - Recognition



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- **PLFC Activity to date: Level of Service working group:**
 - Provide clarity on the following:
 - **Level of Service document: What is it?**
 - How do you determine a Level of Service?
 - Municipal (Exec Leader) Roles & Responsibilities in a Level of Service document.
 - **Incorporate 'All-Hazards' response (implications)**
 - Define NFPA standards in layman's terms.
 - Glossary of common fire service terms as it relates to LOS
 - **Competency verses Certification as it relates to LOS.** (Relates to Competency Assured Positions)
- Goals: Create a draft Document/Guidebook resource library for MEO's, CAO's (Exec leaders) and Fire Chiefs.
- Sub working group teams are now being populated for each action item.



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- **PLFC Activity to date: Training working group Objectives:**
 - Mapping current training delivery programs
 - Identifying gaps related to certification
 - Providing recommendations to the PFLC that support municipalities with development of training standards **that align with levels of service**
 - Consider recommending the creation of a provincial training matrix or framework for Minister consideration.
 - Supporting the development of online and blended learning options.
 - Advising on the **integration of OHS requirements** into the training curriculum.
 - Creating an educational document to express the relationship and differences between **Certification and Competency** .
 - Outlining the differences between perishable skills training maintenance for **competency assured positions, and optional skills training.**
 - Supporting the alignment of training practices with evolving community risk profiles and operational demands
- Sub working group teams are now being populated for each action item.



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- PLFC Activity to date: Additional Discussions worthy of note.
 - Standardized templates for Mutual Aid agreements
 - Standardized templates for Levels of Service
 - Presumptive Cancer eligibility for Industry and professional fire service instructors
 - Interagency communications between industry and provincial services
 - Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System (AFRRCS) eligibility
 - OHS as it relates to fire service training verses response (distinguishing what exemptions don't exist, and responsibilities for competency. How do peer comparisons relate our training to others.
- Further discussion may lead to other working groups as deemed required.



QUESTIONS?



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Departmental Priorities**

