



## Memorandum

**To:** Port Colborne City Council  
**From:** Scott Lawson, Fire Chief  
**Date:** March 17, 2023  
**Re:** Update – Automatic Aid Agreement with Wainfleet

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In November 2021, Port Colborne City Council approved a two-year trial for an automatic aid agreement between Port Colborne and the Township of Wainfleet for fire service coverage. This memorandum is to provide Council with an update on how the agreement is progressing. The agreement covered the following.

Wainfleet Fire & Emergency Services will agree to respond to Port Colborne automatically:

1. On a confirmed structure fire, an Engine staffed with at least four firefighters will automatically be dispatched to respond to Port Colborne. Port Colborne's command staff will direct the Wainfleet Engine to either respond to the fire hall in Port Colborne for standby or proceed to the fire incident for manpower.
2. A tanker will respond for water supply for any confirmed structure fire in the rural area of Port Colborne.

Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services will agree to respond to Wainfleet automatically:

1. On a confirmed structure fire or motor vehicle collision, Engine No. 1 staff will automatically be dispatched and respond for the initial fire attack along with Rescue No. 1 and Tanker No. 1 to the area agreed to.
2. On a confirmed structure fire, Tanker No. 1 will automatically be dispatched to the agreed-upon area for water supply.
3. Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services will be dispatched to all 911 calls to 20101 and 20102 Barrick Road (expediting response time).

The aid agreement was finalized and went live on February 22, 2022. A breakdown of 2022 responses is as follows:

Port Colborne responses to Wainfleet:

- 4 responses for water supply
- 4 motor vehicle accidents (MVC)
- 3 fire-related calls.

Wainfleet responded to Port Colborne:

- 20 fire-related calls.

Port Colborne staff have seen the benefits of the automatic aid agreement for our city and our neighbors to the west. It has provided the needed depth for the department. Staff will continue to monitor the agreement and adjust where needed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly.

Scott Lawson,  
Fire Chief