

Committee Memo



To JSSLAC
Service Area Public Services
Date Wednesday, October 8, 2025
Subject **Ontario Big City Mayor's Resolution on
Paramedic Safety / Violence Against
Paramedics**

Mayor Guthrie requested that this item be added to the JSSLAC agenda, following discussion and resolution at the August 17, 2025 meeting of the Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM). At that meeting, the following motion was passed:

WHEREAS across Ontario there is an increasing number of incidents involving violence against persons who provide health services and first responders, including paramedics;

and WHEREAS municipalities and regions across Ontario want to ensure the protection of all health services and first responders including paramedics.

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario (MARCO) and Ontario's Big City Mayors (OBCM) support the Regional Municipality of Halton Resolution MO-10-25 - External Violence Against Paramedics;

And that this includes a request that the Government of Canada reintroduce and adopt legislation amending the Criminal Code to:

- a) Explicitly include paramedics and first responders under Section 423.2 protections; and
- b) Increase penalties and maximum terms of imprisonment for aggravated assault against paramedics, firefighters, and other first responders to align with those for peace officers;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this motion be sent to:

- The Right Hon. Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada
- The Hon. Sean Fraser, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
- Rebecca Bligh, President, FCM and Councillor, City of Vancouver
- Robin Jones, President, AMO and Mayor of Westport

Should the JSSLAC be interested in passing similar motions, suggested wording would be as follows:

1. That the Joint Social Services and Land Ambulance Committee request that Guelph City Council and Wellington County Council each formally call on the Government of Canada to reintroduce and adopt legislation amending the Criminal Code to explicitly include paramedics and first responders under Section 423.2 protections, and increase penalties and maximum terms of imprisonment for aggravated assault against paramedics, firefighters, and other first responders to align with those for peace officers.
2. That Guelph City Council and Wellington County Council each forward this resolution, once ratified, to The Prime Minister of Canada, The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Local Members of Parliament, the Guelph Police Services, the Ontario Provincial Police Wellington County detachment, the Ontario Big City Mayors' Caucus, The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) for advocacy and adoption as FCM policy, and The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

Attachments

Attachment-1 OBCM Motion Supporting Halton Region Resolution on Paramedic Safety, August 17 2025

This memo was approved by:

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