

**PROPOSED LOCAL SERVICES BOARD – FIRE PROTECTION ONLY
PELLATT, GIDLEY, UMBACH, PELICAN TOWNSHIPS**

OVERVIEW

The Pellatt United Firefighters (PUFF) was established in 1984 and provides fire protection and emergency medical first response services to the unincorporated townships of Pellatt, Gidley, Umbach and Pelican. It also provides mutual aid to adjoining fire departments. PUFF is a charitable corporation run as a not for profit organization by an elected Board of Directors. It provides the services through a dedicated team of unpaid volunteer fire fighters and community members who sit on the board. The fire team practices every Tuesday year round.

OUR PROBLEM

- Voluntary contributions, revenue earned by the fire team and fund-raising activities currently finance our operations.
- An estimated 1000 properties are protected and mailed a request for a contribution annually. Approximately 30-40% of these property owners are currently contributing.
- Fund-raising activities take up a considerable amount of volunteer fire fighter and board time. This time could be better spent on the fire department's operational issues.

SOLUTION

We must generate funds in an equitable manner from all those who benefit to ensure the survival of the Pellatt United Firefighters. A Local Services Board, with the power to deliver fire protection services only, provides a mechanism to maintain and upgrade fire protection services. It also provides for the collection of fees on behalf of the LSB by the Minister of Finance such that the financial burden would be shared by all property owners who benefit from the services. The formation of a Local Services Board, which would be managed by elected area residents, would also provide a means to apply for government grants to assist with capital improvements. All meetings of the LSB may be attended by interested area residents and any decisions made by the LSB would require a majority vote by those in attendance. An annual audit is required, which would be presented at a properly called public meeting along with the proposed budget and levy for fire protection services.

IMPORTANT DATES

A communication campaign culminating in public information meetings held on Wednesday, June 16 and Saturday, July 17 at the Pellatt Community Centre has been conducted. Information is available by contacting Barry Baltessen at 543-3621 or bbaltessen@gmail.com.

Vote: Saturday, August 14, Pellatt Community Centre, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

If you support fire protection in our four townships, please come out and vote **“YES”** to form a Local Services Board.