

Resolution 6A

YOUTH FIREFIGHTER TRAINING PROGRAM (PASSED)

⇒ District of Lunenburg

WHEREAS volunteer firefighters are important emergency responders for many Nova Scotia communities; and

WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government both fill roles in supporting this essential community service; and

WHEREAS many fire departments are struggling to find youth volunteers to replace older retirees; and

WHEREAS a practical introduction to the fire service led by local firefighters, and based on NFPA guidelines, could be initiated in high schools;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UNSM urge the Provincial Office of the Fire Marshal to establish a high school Youth Firefighter Training Program similar to the existing program in Newfoundland; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the UNSM urge the Provincial Office of the Fire Marshal to work with volunteer fire departments across the province on a broader strategy to encourage more people to participate in the volunteer fire service.

Response from:
Office of the Fire Marshal

RESPONSE:

The OFM will continue to work with our colleagues to provide the framework and course outline for use of fire departments in Nova Scotia that are interested in establishing the youth firefighter program that is currently being utilized in Newfoundland. It would be the intent of the OFM to provide the details of the curriculum for the program to the Fire Service Association of Nova Scotia, who in turn would make the program to local fire services that have a desire and commitment to establish a youth firefighter program.