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Via email: info@elliottlakeinquiry.ca

Elliot Lake Commission of Inquiry
1400 Blair Place
Ottawa, ON K1J 9B8
The Honourable Paul R. Belanger, Commissioner

Dear Honourable Mr. Justice Belanger:

Re: Application for Standing at the Elliot Lake Commission of Inquiry

I act as counsel for the Elliot Lake Professional Fire Fighter's Association, IAFF Local 1351, the Toronto Professional Fire Fighters Association, IAFF Local 3888, the Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association (OPFFA) and the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) with respect to this application for standing. For greater clarification, the OPFFA and the IAFF are the provincial and international associations to which the Elliot Lake and Toronto locals are affiliated. I have attached contact information for each of the associations.

On behalf of the four associations, we apply for standing at the Elliot Lake Commission of Inquiry. It was the Elliot Lake fire fighters who initially responded to the call to the collapse of of the Algo Centre Mall in Elliot Lake on June 23, 2012. In addition, it was members of the Toronto local, responding as Heavy Urban Search and Rescue (HUSAR) team members, who responded on June 23, 2012 and remained on scene for a number of days following.

As a result of this direct involvement, the fire fighters from both the Elliot Lake and Toronto locals (in their capacity as HUSAR members) have a substantial and direct interest in the Commission of Inquiry. In particular, point 2(a) of the Inquiry's mandate specifically addresses the fire fighters' interest where it states that the Commission shall inquire into "the emergency management and response by responsible bodies and individuals subsequent to the collapse".

Fire fighters are obviously the first line responders who respond to emergency situations in every Ontario community including fires, building collapses and rescue operations. The safety of the

community in general and, fire fighters in particular, are of paramount concern to the fire fighters. It is that unique perspective that fire fighters would bring to the inquiry.

Should the Commission deem it appropriate and/or necessary for the associations to make oral submissions in support of the motion for standing, please advise and we will be pleased to do so.

Please let me know if you require any additional information. Thank you for considering our request and we look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,



Sean McManus

Encl.

c.c. Scott Marks, IAFF Canadian Assistant to the General President
Fred LeBlanc, IAFF 13th District Vice-President
Mark McKinnon, OPFFA President
Darren Connors Elliot Lake Local 1351 President
Ed Kennedy, Toronto, IAFF Local 3888 President

International Association of Fire Fighters
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