

November 8, 2013

To: The Elliot Lake Commission of Inquiry/The Honourable Paul K. Belanger, Commissioner

Recommendations to Part II of the Inquiry on behalf of the International Association of Fire Fighters, Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association and the Elliot Lake Professional Fire Fighters Association, IAFF Local 1351 and the Toronto Professional Fire Fighters Association, IAFF Local 3888

On behalf of the above fire fighter associations, we propose the following recommendations to the Commission of Inquiry:

1. That the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) funding be restored by the Federal Government to the levels received prior to their termination. Should the Federal Government fail to provide this funding, that the Ontario Government provide the necessary funding for Task Force 3 (TF3) to operate as a heavy urban search and rescue operation for Ontarians.
2. That the Commission recommend that TF3 be a required entity for the emergency response expected by Ontarians for heavy urban search and rescue when the need arises.
3. That the Commission recommend that TF3 be the lead organization when jointly deployed with the Ontario Provincial Police Urban Search and Rescue Team.
4. That the Commission recommend that funding be made available to Ontario Provincial Police Urban Search and Rescue and to TF3 to conduct joint annual training exercises.
5. That the Commission recommend that the Incident Management System (IMS) be made mandatory for all Municipalities.
6. That the Commission recommend, pursuant to the IMS, that the incident action plan not be required to be in writing prior to the deployment of resources by the Incident Commander.
7. That the Commission recommend that note taking not be made mandatory for first responders.

All of which is respectfully submitted this 8th day of November, 2013 by Ernie Thorne on behalf of the Fire Fighter Association's granted standing at the Commission of Inquiry.