

Council Information Memo

To: Members of Council

From: Paul Boissonneault, Fire Chief

CC: Jane Clohecyc, CAO; Paul Damaso, Commissioner Community Services

Date: March 31, 2025

Subject: Simultaneous Notification April 1, 2025

With the conclusion of the provincial election and the swearing-in of the new Cabinet, the Ministry of the Solicitor General (SOLGEN) has now confirmed the inclusion of the Halton Region fire services into the simultaneous notification initiative. This critical initiative has been a long-standing objective in the Ontario Fire Service and is officially going live at the with the Oakville Fire Department through the Burlington Fire Communications Centre on **Tuesday, April 1, 2025.**

What is Simultaneous Notification?

This technology links Provincial Central Ambulance Communication Centres (CACC) with Municipal Fire Communication Centres through compatible Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) systems. It enables real-time, automated dispatching of fire departments to life-threatening medical emergencies, eliminating delays caused by manual telephony processes. The system is tailored to incident severity and continues to follow our Tiered Response Agreement (TRA) protocols.

Why It Matters

Quicker processing and response times save lives! Early adopter sites including Barrie, Guelph, Kitchener/Waterloo region, Peel region, and Toronto have demonstrated measurable improvements in response times and outcomes with this technology.

Next Steps

The OFD team has worked closely with the Office of the Fire Marshal and SOLGEN's Data and Information team to prepare for implementation. Final systems testing and workflow alignment are now complete, and we are ready for the **April 1 launch.**

Town of Oakville | 1225 Trafalgar Road, Oakville L6H 0H3 | 905-845-6601 | oakville.ca

Sincere thanks to the Ontario Professional Firefighters Association, the Oakville Professional Firefighters Association, and the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs for their strong advocacy and collaboration in bringing simultaneous notification to OFD and Halton Region. Initiated joint communications signed by the Mayors of respective Councils, region Fire Chiefs, and Association Local Presidents, provided the Solicitor General and the Premier of Ontario the necessary support to move this forward. Gratitude as well to the teams at the Ministry of the Solicitor General (SOLGEN) and the Ministry of Health (MOH) for their leadership in advancing this initiative. Additionally, we appreciate the work completed by the Burlington Fire Communications Centre team and Infrastructure Technology staff for their dedication and contributions to make this milestone possible.

On a personal note, simultaneous notification beyond early adopters/pilot locations have been an ongoing discussion and issue since I first became a fire chief in 2004 of a small municipality. Over the past 20 years I have advocated on behalf of my fire departments, County and Regions, and on behalf of the fire chiefs' associations provincially. The critical initiative finally reaching full implementation and taking place in Halton region as the first location in the province is very positive. Simultaneous Notification marks a service improvement that can save lives and enhance our OFD tiered response agreement in the Town of Oakville.

Regards,



Paul Boissonneault
Fire Chief
OAKVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT