

# **CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS**



**2009 - 2010**

**RESOLUTIONS**

## **BY-LAW PROVISIONS PERTINENT TO RESOLUTIONS**

### **Rule 1.5**

#### **Resolutions Committee**

##### 1.5.1

The Resolutions Committee shall:

- a. consider and study all the resolutions submitted by the members of the Association;
- b. be empowered to draft composite resolutions where more than one (1) resolution deals with the same subject;
- c. be empowered to amend any resolution so to make same more presentable, without changing its intent;
- d. hear any representation from delegates who may wish to discuss a resolution;
- e. make all resolutions available to the delegates on the day preceding the day on which they are presented to the delegates for decision;
- f. present and submit, with their recommendations, all resolutions to the Annual Meeting during the third business day after the opening of the Annual Meeting; and
- g. notwithstanding their recommendation, all resolutions will be presented to the Annual Meeting in the affirmative.

### **Rule 1.8**

#### **Rules of Order - Meetings**

##### 1.8.1

The Presiding Officer shall preserve and conduct impartially the business in Annual Meetings, taking no part in debates while presiding, and shall decide all points of order and procedure. subject to an appeal to the Annual Meeting assembled by any Active Member of the Association eligible to vote.

##### 1.8.2

A two-thirds (2/3) vote of Active Members present, eligible to vote and voting shall be necessary to reverse a decision of the Presiding Officer.

##### 1.8.3

Every member when they speak or offer a motion, shall rise in their place, respectfully address the Presiding Officer and give their name and department or organization they represent; and when finished they shall take their seat. No member shall speak twice on any question, except to answer a question asked of them, or until every other member has had an opportunity to speak to the question under discussion.

##### 1.8.4

When speaking, members shall confine themselves to the question under discussion and shall avoid all personalities or undignified language; and all motions shall be placed in writing if so requested.

##### 1.8.5

When two (2) or more members rise to speak, the Presiding Officer shall decide which one of them is entitled to the privilege of the floor.

##### 1.8.6

A member called to order shall at once take their seat until the point of order in question has been decided, following which decision they shall again be entitled to the floor.

##### 1.8.7

An amendment to an amendment shall be in order but further amendments shall not be entertained until the amendment to the amendment is decided.

- 1.8.8 A motion to conclude debate shall always be in order, except when a member is in possession of the floor, and must be put without debate. The motion, if supported by a majority of the Active Members present, eligible to vote and voting shall be declared carried and no further discussion or amendment shall be in order until the main motion, or amendment as the case may be, has been decided.
- 1.8.9 A motion to adjourn shall always be in order except when a member is in possession of the floor or when it has been decided by a previous motion or rule that a vote be taken at a specific time. A motion to adjourn is not debatable, but a motion to adjourn at a given time is debatable.
- 1.8.10 Consideration of amendments to the Constitution shall be during the Resolutions Committee Report.
- 1.8.11 Any question coming before the Annual Meeting for which no provision has been made in the Constitution shall be decided according to Robert's Rules of Order.

**Rule 1.9 Procedures Governing Resolutions**

- 1.9.1 The procedure for processing the resolutions received from the members shall be as follows:
- a. all resolutions to be considered at the Annual Meeting must be submitted to the CAO at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting;
  - b. all resolutions received by the CAO shall be forwarded by him/her to the members of the Resolutions Committee as they are received;
  - c. copies of all resolutions shall be provided to delegates at least one (1) day prior to presentation to the delegates meeting in session;
  - d. late resolutions may properly be considered if they are received prior to the opening of the Annual Meeting and are accepted by a vote of 2/3 of the Active Members present, eligible to vote and voting;
  - e. only resolutions considered by the President as "Emergency Resolutions shall be accepted by the Resolutions Committee after the opening of the Annual Meeting;
  - f. the sponsor of any resolution that is changed or recommended non-concurrence by the Resolutions Committee shall have the privilege of stating their case from the floor;
  - g. all resolutions adopted by the Annual Meeting shall be acted upon by the Board or by the Executive Committee as soon as reasonably practicable after the conclusion of the Annual Meeting; and
  - h. all members shall be advised by the CAO of the results of each resolution adopted by the Annual Meeting.

**Resolution #1**

**Subject: NFPA 1730**

**Submitted by: Division Chief Brian Maltby, Member CAFC Building and Fire Codes Committee**

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**WHEREAS:**

Currently, there is no mechanism to determine the appropriate fire prevention resources.

**AND WHEREAS:**

The International Association of Fire Chiefs' (IAFC) Fire and Life Safety Section (FLSS) has formally requested the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to establish a new document for the organization, operation, deployment and evaluation of code enforcement, public fire and life safety education and fire investigation operations.

**AND WHEREAS:**

The NFPA Standards Council had reviewed the IAFC FLSS' request and voted to publish a Notice of Receipt of the request and to solicit public comment on the need for the document and information of resources available on the subject matter.

**AND WHEREAS:**

The IAFC strongly urges the Fire Service to submit comments in support of this action.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

That the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs submit comments in support of this action and that the CAFC strongly urge its members to do likewise.

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<b>Resolutions Committee Recommendation:</b>	Concurrence	<u>  X  </u>
	Non-concurrence	_____
	Date	_____

<b>Annual Meeting Decision</b>	Concurrence	<u>  X  </u>
	Non-concurrence	_____
	Date	September 21, 2010

**Resolution #2**

**Subject: FUNDING FOR TRAINING OF AIRPORT INCIDENT RESPONSE**

**Submitted by: FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

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**WHEREAS:**

Regional and local airports are integral to the Canadian economy.

**AND WHEREAS:**

Local governments provide fire protection and rescue services to airports.

**AND WHEREAS:**

Aircraft and airport firefighting require training not normally associated with local fire departments.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

That the federal Minister of Transport be requested to provide advice and financial assistance to help with the training necessary to prepare firefighters responding to both on- and off-land and water airport incidents.

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<b>Resolutions Committee Recommendation:</b>	Concurrence	<u>  X  </u>
	Non-concurrence	_____
	Date	_____

<b>Annual Meeting Decision</b>	Concurrence	<u>  X  </u>
	Non-concurrence	_____
	Date	September 21, 2010

**Resolution #3**

**Subject: Financial Support for Canadian Fire Service**

**Submitted by: CAFC Government Relations Committee**

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**WHEREAS:**

The stated purpose of the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) is “to ensure a reasonably uniform emergency response to all types of emergencies from coast to coast.”

**AND WHEREAS:**

JEPP funding by Public Safety Canada is so inadequate that this stated purpose that this stated purpose cannot be achieved.

**AND WHEREAS:**

A survey of CAFC members conducted in mid-2010 showed that 98.1 per cent of respondents believe that the Government of Canada has a financial role to play in ensuring that all Canadians have the right to a basic level of protection against fire and other perils.

**AND WHEREAS:**

In September 2009, the Minister of Public Safety stated that “No job is more important than protecting the lives and safety of Canadians.”

**AND WHEREAS:**

The cost of ensuring that local fire departments are equipped with firefighting apparatus that permit them to protect the lives and safety of Canadians without needlessly exposing firefighting personnel to risk has become unaffordable in many municipalities.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

That the Minister of Public Safety assign a high level of priority to the Department and CAFC striking a working group to ensure that Canadian municipalities have the financial resources to ensure that their citizens have a basic level of protection against fire and other perils.

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<b>Resolutions Committee Recommendation:</b>	Concurrence	<u>  X  </u>
	Non-concurrence	_____
	Date	_____

<b>Annual Meeting Decision</b>	Concurrence	<u>  X  </u>
	Non-concurrence	_____
	Date	September 21, 2010

**Resolution #4**

**Subject: Approval of Contracts**  
**Submitted by: Executive Committee, CAFC**

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**WHEREAS:**

Article 1.17.1 (a) of CAFC By-law Number One provides that the Board of Directors is responsible for the direct management of the Association.

**AND WHEREAS:**

Article 1.12.1 of By-Law Number One provides that the Executive Committee shall be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Association when the Board of Directors is not in session.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

That all contracts, acts and proceedings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee made, done or taken since the Annual General Meeting held in Winnipeg, Manitoba in September 2009 be approved, sanctioned, ratified and confirmed.

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<b>Resolutions Committee Recommendation:</b>	Concurrence	<u>  X  </u>
	Non-concurrence	_____
	Date	_____

<b>Annual Meeting Decision:</b>	Concurrence	<u>  X  </u>
	Non-concurrence	_____
	Date	September 21, 2010

**Resolution #5**

**Subject: Ratification of Directors**  
**Submitted by: Executive Committee, CAFC**

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**WHEREAS:**

Article 1.11.4 of By-law Number One provides that the Directors “shall be ratified by resolution of the members at an Annual Meeting.”

**AND WHEREAS:**

Article 1.11.4 of By-law Number One also provides that “the term of office for Directors shall be a period of one year.”

**AND WHEREAS:**

Articles 1.11.1 and 1.11.2 of By-law Number One describe the make-up of the Board of Directors and their method of appointment.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

That the Directors for the year 2009-2011 are hereby ratified by the members assembled at the Annual Meeting in Saint John, New Brunswick, in September 2010.

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**Resolutions Committee  
Recommendation:**

Concurrence **X**  
Non-concurrence  
Date

**Annual Meeting Decision**

Concurrence **X**  
Non-concurrence  
Date September 21, 2010

**Resolution #6**

**Subject: National Labour Relations Strategy**  
**Submitted by: Deputy Chief Neil Johnson, Calgary Fire Department**

**WHEREAS:**

The direct costs of labour have a huge impact on operating budgets in the Fire Service. This is true for the management of volunteer, full-time and composite Fire Departments. The impact of labour costs is also not altered by whether or not a Department is unionized. Fire Departments from across Canada would benefit from collectively reviewing the implications and impacts of the direct costs of labour and working towards collaborative strategies and solutions to reduce or minimize labour costs

**AND WHEREAS:**

With labour associations able to organize both provincially and nationally, and increasingly capable of creating pattern bargaining within a region and throughout the country, it is essential that Fire Departments in Canada align in a labour relations strategy in order to minimize the effects of pattern bargaining.

**AND WHEREAS:**

Some regions within Canada (O AFC, Vancouver and Halifax) have aligned in an attempt to minimize pattern bargaining. However, smaller and newly-unionized Departments are most vulnerable to highly organized labour associations.

**AND WHEREAS:**

Creating and adopting a National Labour Relations Strategy will educate and resource Fire Service leaders to understand the impacts of their Collective Agreements and better prepare for collective bargaining and grievance handling.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

That the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) will research, adopt and implement a National Labour Relations Strategy with the intent of assisting Fire Service leaders through education and information resources.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That the CAFC will form a National Labour Relations Committee for the purpose of creating and overseeing the development of a National Labour Relations Strategy.

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**Resolutions Committee  
Recommendation:**

Concurrence  
Non-concurrence     X  
Date

**Annual Meeting Decision**

Concurrence  
Non-concurrence     X  
Date                     September 21, 2010

**Resolution #7**

**Subject: Emergency Communications Infrastructure Grants**  
**Submitted by: Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs**

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**WHEREAS:**

There is continuing pressure from Industry Canada to update radio systems across the province to digital.

**AND WHEREAS:**

As a result of 9/11 showing the strong needs for inter-operability between the emergency services.

**AND WHEREAS:**

Many municipalities, counties or regions are being faced with substantial costs to upgrade or change their emergency communications infrastructure.

**AND WHEREAS:**

Automatic Aid and Mutual Aid Agreements are now the norm in most municipalities.

**AND WHEREAS:**

There is a significant health and safety risk of not having proper communications on the fire ground.

**AND WHEREAS:**

There are a number of infrastructure programs already established, like Ostar, CSIF or Building Canada Fund that allow for infrastructure programs, however they do not include communications infrastructure.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

That CAFC develop a strategy for implementation, to approach the Government of Canada to provide funding, by way of grants, for the upgrading or replacing of Emergency Communications Systems.

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**Resolutions Committee  
Recommendation:**

Concurrence **X**  
Non-concurrence  
Date

**Annual Meeting Decision**

Concurrence **X**  
Non-concurrence  
Date **September 21, 2010**

**Resolution #8**

**Subject: CAFC/Provincial Chief Associations Blended Memberships**  
**Submitted by: Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs**

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**WHEREAS:**

Membership numbers for both Provincial Chief Associations and the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs are important as part of their advocacy work.

**AND WHEREAS:**

A blended membership may increase membership for both CAFC and the provincial associations.

**AND WHEREAS:**

There are potential administrative efficiencies and cost savings to the members , municipalities, CAFC and provincial Associations in a blended membership structure.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

That the CAFC Executive Committee form a working group to support a blended membership structure with provincial Fire Chief Associations.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That the CAFC Executive enter into negotiations with interested provincial Fire Chief Associations to establish a blended membership program.

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**Resolutions Committee  
Recommendation:**

Concurrence      **X**  
Non-concurrence  
Date

**Annual Meeting Decision**

Concurrence      **X**  
Non-concurrence  
Date                      September 21, 2010

**Resolution #9**

**Subject: Fire Underwriters Survey – Proposed Changes to Superior  
Tanker Shuttle Accreditation Criteria**  
**Submitted by: Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs**

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**WHEREAS:**

Many Canadian Fire Services have and/or are in the process of achieving the testing for attaining Superior Tanker Shuttle Accreditation.

**AND WHEREAS.**

Achieving the Superior Tanker Shuttle Accreditation has resulted in significant insurance premium savings to the property owners, businesses and industries of those municipalities.

**AND WHEREAS**

The Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS), an independent Canadian company which performs the testing, is proposing changes to the criteria, such as increased flow rates, reduced performance times and a mandatory requirement cycle for re-accreditation.

**AND WHEREAS:**

There has not been information found to indicate there is a requirement or proposal for change to the current standard criteria utilized throughout the United States and Canada for Superior Tanker Shuttle Accreditation by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) nor in the current ISO referenced document of NFPA 1142-2007 (Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting).

**AND WHEREAS:**

The Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs has conducted a review of research material utilized by FUS to substantiate the proposed change to the Superior Tanker Shuttle Accreditation.

**AND WHEREAS:**

The Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs has found the research to be unconvincing in supporting a change to the criteria.

**AND WHEREAS:**

The Canadian Fire Service is very concerned regarding the proposed changes to the criteria, testing and associated costs.

**AND WHEREAS:**

The proposed changes to the criteria and testing will have an impact on Fire Departments across Canada.

**Resolution #9 (cont.)**

**AND WHEREAS:**

Preliminary discussions with the Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC) have not indicated a required need for a change to this criteria and testing.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

That the proposed changes presented by FUS not be supported by CAFC.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That CAFC strike a task force with reasonable representation from across the country to examine the changes more closely including entering into discussions with FUS and the IBC and report back to the membership.

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**Resolutions Committee  
Recommendation:**

Concurrence            **X**  
Non-concurrence  
Date

**Annual Meeting Decision**

Concurrence            **X**  
Non-concurrence  
Date                      September 21, 2010

**Resolution #10**

**Subject: Board Representation: Aboriginal Firefighters Association of  
Canada**  
**Submitted by: CAFC Board of Directors**

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**WHEREAS:**

Article 1.11.2 of the CAFC By-laws provides for components of the Canadian Fire Service to appoint their designated representatives to the CAFC Board of Directors.

**AND WHEREAS:**

The Aboriginal Firefighters Association of Canada is an important component of the Canadian Fire Services.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

That Article 1.11.2 be amended through the addition of a new sub-section “g” to read as follows:

“ g. a member appointed by the Aboriginal Firefighters Association of Canada who is an Active Member of the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs.”

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**Resolutions Committee  
Recommendation:**

Concurrence **X**  
Non-concurrence  
Date

**Annual Meeting Decision**

Concurrence **X**  
Non-concurrence  
Date **September 21, 2010**

## **Resolution #11**

**Subject:** Canadian Police Research Centre  
**Submitted by:** CAFC Board of Directors

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### **WHEREAS:**

CAFC recognizes the importance of the Canadian Police Research Centre (CPRC) and its role as the key resource for science and technology for emergency responders

### **AND WHEREAS:**

CAFC mandates CPRC to work with the members of the Association to develop solutions to Science and Technology challenges impacting the Fire Service and other emergency responders.

### **AND WHEREAS:**

CAFC, through the CPRC Advisory Board, will work with the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and the Emergency Medical Services Chiefs of Canada to propose a new more inclusive name for the Centre

### **AND WHEREAS:**

CAFC will designate representatives to the CPRC Advisory Board and its Science and Technology Advisory Committee, and encourage members to collaborate in projects.

### **AND WHEREAS:**

CAFC will work with members to identify suitable candidates for liaison officer roles.

### **AND WHEREAS:**

CAFC will advocate on behalf of the program to obtain sufficient resources to address the priorities of the CAFC and other members of the emergency responder community

### **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

The CAFC expects CPRC:

- to establish its priorities in consultation with CAFC understanding that CPRC Advisory Board will ultimately order those priorities,
- to continue to work proactively and on a timely basis; through its own programs, in collaborations with other, national and international organizations to obtain the solutions to agreed upon priorities including the Communications Interoperability Technology Interest Group,
- to continue to provide research and publications that meet the quality standards required to demonstrate scientific integrity and maintain public confidence,
- to continue to act as a knowledge integrator and develop collaborative projects,

- to report on progress to CAFC annually or more often if required
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**Resolutions Committee  
Recommendation:**

Concurrence X  
Non Concurrence  
Date

**Annual Meeting Decision:**

Concurrence X  
Non Concurrence  
Date September 21, 2010

**Resolution #12**

**Subject:** Chancellery Issues  
**Submitted by:** Fire Chief William Stewart, Toronto Fire Services

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**WHEREAS:**

CAFC's invitation to the Governor General to become patron of the Canadian Fire Service was rejected by representatives of the Governor General's Chancellory

**AND WHEREAS:**

CAFC's request that the Governor General's Order of Merit be broadened to include the Canadian Fire Service has not been acted upon

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

That CAFC invite the new Governor General to become the patron of the Canadian Fire Service

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That CAFC's request a meeting with the Governor General at his convenience in the interest of fire life safety in Canada.

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**Resolutions Committee  
Recommendation:**

Concurrence X  
Non Concurrence  
Date

**Annual Meeting Decision:**

Concurrence X  
Non Concurrence  
Date September 21, 2010