



# Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association

## 2009 LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

### Dear Brothers & Sisters:

We are currently in the planning stages for our annual Legislative Conference. Our 2009 Conference will be held from November 30 to December 3, 2009. The Courtyard Marriot will be the host hotel. This conference will follow the same format as in past years. The formula has proven to be successful for our members in being able to meet with their Members of Provincial Parliament (MPP) and have our issues discussed in a manner that reflects the professionalism of the OPFFA. We would strongly urge each and every local to send at least one representative to this very important conference. This is an opportunity for our members to meet with the MPP from their riding and make sure that those MPPs hear our concerns. The Legislative Conference and Lobby Day serves as the OPFFA's formal opportunity to educate provincial politicians on the views and issues of critical importance to full time professional fire fighters.

Our priority issues for 2009/10 will be: establishing within the Human Rights Code a Mandatory Retirement Age of 60 for employees of the fire service who engage in fire fighter suppression or training activities, the utilization of Ontario's fire services to improve Emergency Medical Response to Ontario's citizens, and allowing fire fighters access to Ontario Labour Relations Board in addressing Duty of Fair representation Complaints. Further information on these issues will be forwarded to each local prior to the conference.

The 2009 Legislative Conference Registration Fee will be **\$235.00** per Consultant providing that all paperwork for registration is received prior to Monday, November 2, 2009. This information may be mailed, faxed or emailed to the office. After this date a late fee will apply, and registration will be charged at \$285.00 per Consultant. All registration fees must be received by the OPFFA Office prior to the start of the event regardless if the local attends or not. The OPFFA shall only refund registration fees for delegates who do not attend an OPFFA event minus any cost associated with such absence.

Registration will commence at 4:00pm on Monday, November 30th 2009 and will continue until 6:00pm. Registration will be available on Tuesday morning from 8:00am to 9:00am. Lunch will be provided on Tuesday, December 1st. Room rates for the Courtyard Marriot will be **\$154.00** per night for a single or double plus additional charges for parking. Reservations for hotel rooms will be made through the OPFFA office. In order for us to finalize all the necessary arrangements, it is important that we have an idea of the number of delegates that will be attending, so please fill in the form on page 3 and return it as soon as possible. Updates regarding speakers, issues and fact sheets will follow in the next package and will also be available on the OPFFA Database at [www.opffa.org](http://www.opffa.org). Rooms are being held at the special rate of \$154.00 until November 3, 2009 so please get your registration form in promptly. Please note that we cannot guarantee the room rate after November 3, 2009.

### Important Dates:

November 2	Deadline for booking hotel accommodations through our office at the guaranteed rate of \$154.00
November 2	Deadline for registration for event
November 13	Notify OPFFA office of meetings with MPPs
November 30	Registration commences at 4:00pm
December 2	Lobby Day and MPP Reception

### What's Inside:

Letter	1
Meeting with your MPP	2
MPP Sample Letter	2
Registration Form	3
Hotel Information	4
Small Local Information	4
Hotel Map	4


## - THE FOLLOWING IS IMPERATIVE -

- a. Please Inform the OPFFA office if you **WILL** or **WILL NOT** be attending this year's Conference.
- b. Phone the MPPs that have been designated to your local to request a meeting time on Wednesday, December 2nd 2009.
- c. Once the contact has been made, please contact Julie at the OPFFA office by phone, fax or email (jchambers@opffa.org) with your appointment times. Appointments should be made and information relayed to the office by Friday, November 20, 2009 to allow the office staff to fill in the blanks of the MPP meeting schedule.
- d. While making your appointment, you can also notify your MPP that they will receive an invitation to our reception on Wednesday, December 2nd in the Lower Level Dining Room from 5:30pm to 8:00pm. Tell them that you will send a letter confirming your request to meet and the purpose of the meeting (see sample letter below).
- e. If you require any assistance with the appointment process, please do not hesitate to contact the OPFFA office.

**If you are attending and have not been assigned the name of an MPP to contact, please contact Exec. V/P Mark McKinnon at mmckinnon@opffa.org to make arrangements for a meeting.**

### SAMPLE MPP LETTER

To be faxed or mailed to the MPP's office on your local letterhead after you have made the initial contact by phone.

	<h2 style="margin: 0;">MY LOCAL LETTERHEAD</h2>
<p><i>(Be sure that your letter includes a return address and contact person)</i></p> <p><i>(Insert Date)</i></p> <p>Mr. or Mrs. <i>(Insert Name)</i>, MPP  <i>(Insert Name of Riding)</i>  <i>(Insert Address)</i></p> <p>Dear <i>(Insert MPP Name)</i>:</p> <p>As per our telephone conversation, I/we look forward to the opportunity to meet with you on Wednesday, December 2nd 2009 at <i>(Insert Time)</i> to discuss concerns of professional fire fighters in the Province of Ontario.</p> <p>We will be using this meeting as an opportunity to introduce our priority issues for 2009/10, namely establishing within the Human Rights Code a Mandatory Retirement Age of 60 for employees of the fire service who engage in fire fighter suppression or training activities, the utilization of Ontario's fire services to improve Emergency Medical Response to Ontario's citizens, and allowing fire fighters access to Ontario Labour Relations Board in addressing Duty of Fair representation Complaints.</p> <p>Our provincial office will be forwarding an invitation to our MPP reception on the evening of December 2nd 2009 to be held in the Main Legislative Building in the Lower Level Dining Room commencing at 5:30 p.m. If you have not received this invitation please contact our Event Coordinator, Julie Chambers at our provincial office at (905) 681-7111.</p> <p>We hope to gain your support for our issues and encourage you to take part in our hospitality.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p><i>(Insert President/Secretary)</i>  <i>(Insert Local)</i></p>	

Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association  
2009 LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

# REGISTRATION FORM

The participants named below will attend the 2009 Legislative Conference run by the OPFFA.

Monday November 30th to Thursday December 3rd 2009

## C O N F E R E N C E R E G I S T R A T I O N

LOCAL: CITY	NUMBER	Arriving on: <input type="radio"/> Mon Nov 30th <input type="radio"/> Tues Dec 1st
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1.

FIRST	LAST	
ADDRESS		
CITY	PROVINCE	POSTAL
PHONE	EMAIL	ROOMMATE

2.

FIRST	LAST	
ADDRESS		
CITY	PROVINCE	POSTAL
PHONE	EMAIL	ROOMMATE

3.

FIRST	LAST	
ADDRESS		
CITY	PROVINCE	POSTAL
PHONE	EMAIL	ROOMMATE

4.

FIRST	LAST	
ADDRESS		
CITY	PROVINCE	POSTAL
PHONE	EMAIL	ROOMMATE

5.

FIRST	LAST	
ADDRESS		
CITY	PROVINCE	POSTAL
PHONE	EMAIL	ROOMMATE



**Courtyard Marriott  
475 Yonge Street  
Toronto, Ontario**

## THE COURTYARD MARRIOTT

Arrangements have been made with The Courtyard Marriott Hotel, 475 Yonge Street in Toronto, ON for accommodations during the 2009 Legislative Conference.

The cost per room will be \$154.00 per night, single or double occupancy, plus all applicable taxes.

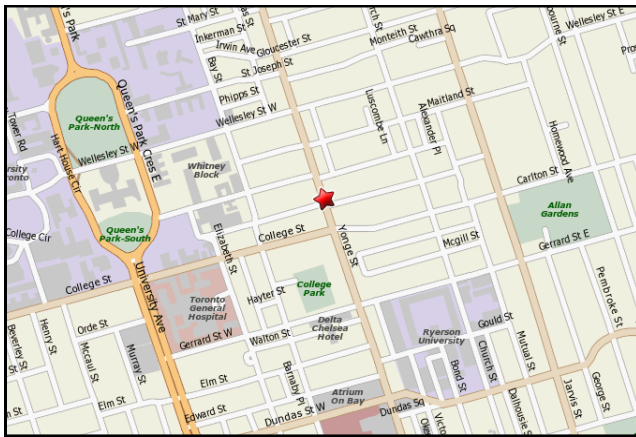
**PARKING:**

Valet service or self-parking is available. Please note the additional cost for parking (incl. tax):

- \$8.00 per hour
- \$25.00 per day, self
- \$30.00 per day, valet

Reservations must be received in the OPFFA office before Monday, November 2nd 2009 to receive the special rate. Any reservations after this date will be made based on available space and at the prevailing rate.

**As always, it is important that you book your room through the OPFFA office as soon as possible.**



## SMALL LOCALS

“Locals of twenty (20) members or less are entitled to be subsidized to allow for one (1) free registration and accommodation to the Labour Education Seminar. Such locals are entitled to a mileage allowance at 52 cents per km. up to a maximum of \$100.00; provided however, that the association’s dues structure conforms to the Ontario association’s policy on dues”.

As has been the practice in the past, accommodation is to be shared and only for Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

A request for this assistance must be submitted along with your Registration.

**ONTARIO PROFESSIONAL  
FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION**  
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Burlington, Ontario  
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Phone: 905-681-7111  
Fax: 905-681-1489  
E-mail: [jchambers@opffa.org](mailto:jchambers@opffa.org)  
[www.opffa.org](http://www.opffa.org)



**AN ASSOCIATION RUN FOR,  
AND BY, THE MEMBERSHIP.**