



OPFFA

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ONTARIO PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

January 9, 2009

Attention All OPFFA Members

Dear Brothers & Sisters:

On October 3, 2008 the OPFFA launched a fundraising initiative to restore the Queen's Park Fallen Fire Fighters memorial which was vandalized in May of this year.

This cowardly act has left a beautiful tribute to our brave colleagues who made the ultimate sacrifice in a damaged state of vulnerability. The OPFFA has worked with other fire service stakeholders, namely the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs and the Fire Fighters Association of Ontario, as well as the Ontario government to establish a broad effort to support this fundraiser.

Our \$500,000 goal is based on a budget to replace the existing walls and the Maltese cross which forms the base of the memorial. The Ontario government 'kick started' our campaign with a generous \$100,000 donation. You have no doubt seen and heard of my challenge to all OPFFA members to meet and exceed the government's donation (a minimum \$10/member donation is required to meet this challenge).

The OPFFA has developed a poster that will assist our local leaders inspire our membership to support this initiative. "Restoring Respect" is the motto of our campaign and provides a succinct description of what our goal truly is.

We will be providing a supply of posters to each local for your worksites. We encourage you to have these posters hung in a prominent location in each workplace until we meet our fundraising goal. Many local associations, volunteer fire companies, fire service suppliers, and individual donors have already stepped forward. Their generosity has allowed us to begin the process to restore the memorial.

Throughout 2009 reconstruction efforts will begin with the replacement the memorial walls. I want to ensure all members that each name on the walls currently will be re-inscribed on the new walls as part of our efforts.

It is our hope that we will complete our fundraising goal by the spring of 2009 which will allow us to complete the restoration and properly rededicate this tribute during the October 4, 2009 memorial service.

We appreciate any and all efforts towards this goal.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this effort please contact the OPFFA office at 905-681-7111 or 1-800-387-4418 or you can visit our website at www.opffa.org.

Fraternally,

Fred LeBlanc,
President

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