

TO: Planning & Development Executive Committee

FROM: Tyler Moffitt, Fire Chief/CEMC

DATE: January 11, 2018

RE: Deputation S. Hoard re: – Wood Burning Health Hazards

With regards to our authority as a Fire and Rescue Service, there are no reasonable grounds to believe that the act of someone operating a wood burning appliance and having smoke emitting from a chimney poses an **Immediate Threat to Life**.

Currently, the process for a wood burning appliance is as follows:


- New Building Construction – a permit is required and if a wood burning appliance is installed as the heating source it is included within the permit and inspected accordingly.
- Existing buildings – a permit is required if a wood burning appliance is installed in an existing building.
- Altered/Replaced Appliances – a permit is required to make any changes or replacements to a wood burning appliance used as a source of heating.

After the Chief Building Officials role is completed and permits are signed off and closed. The authority for wood burning appliances falls to the Insurance Industry.

As well, the home owner's insurance company has the authority to request that that wood burning appliances meet WETT Certification Standards before the company will insure the building(s).

Since October 29, 2013, the Fort Frances Fire & Rescue Service has been completely satisfied with the current operation of the wood burning appliance at 1211 Elizabeth Street East; the owners have been in complete compliance, and have operated their wood burning appliance within the parameters of all Town of Fort Frances By-Laws, Building Code, and NFPA 211 Standard.

Respectfully submitted,



Tyler Moffitt
Fire Chief/CEMC
Fort Frances Fire & Rescue Service