

**Ministry of Community Safety  
and Correctional Services**

**Ministère de la Sécurité communautaire  
et des Services correctionnels**



Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

25 Grosvenor Street  
18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M7A 1Y6  
Tel: 416-325-0408  
MCSCS.Feedback@Ontario.ca

25, rue Grosvenor  
18<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto ON M7A 1Y6  
Tél.: 416-325-0408  
MCSCS.Feedback@Ontario.ca

October 5, 2018

On May 8, 2018, the previous government passed three regulations under the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997* related to firefighter certification, public reports, and community risk assessments. Over the past few months, I have heard substantial concerns about the mandatory certification regulation, which would come into force July 1, 2019. After hearing these concerns, our government has decided to repeal the Firefighter Certification regulation effective October 5, 2018. The community risk assessment and public reports regulations will come into force as scheduled.

We have heard from stakeholders that the certification regulation would present significant challenges for fire services and municipalities – in particular, small, rural, and northern municipalities with volunteer fire departments. Fire departments and municipalities across the province have voiced concern with the resources and supports that were anticipated to be required to be compliant with the certification requirements, as well as the potential longer-term impacts on the ability of volunteer fire services to recruit certified firefighters.

My goal remains to ensure both firefighter and public safety and to that end, I agree in principle with the certification of all firefighters. Moving forward, however, I want to ensure that any proposals concerning fire safety balance the interests of all stakeholders.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact [mcscsinput@ontario.ca](mailto:mcscsinput@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,

Michael Tibollo  
Minister