



ROCCO VOLPE

Acting Fire Chief

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Mayor & Council
Town of Aurora & Newmarket

Subject: Ontario Skills Development Fund

In 2021, the Ontario government announced its investment of more than \$10 million to build new state-of-the-art training facilities and train thousands of firefighters for in-demand careers in fire and rescue services.

In October 2023, Central York Fire Services (CYFS) submitted a grant application to the Ministry of Labour, through the Skills Development Fund.

In June of 2024, CYFS was notified that their submission was approved, and a formal announcement was made by the Province.

The new training and infrastructure funding will be allocated as follows:

- **Town of Newmarket:** \$865,046 to support the construction of a new fire training facility in the town of Aurora (Station 4-5).
- This funding will support up to 49% of project costs with the remainder to be funded by the CYFS Reserve Fund.
- This secured funding represents phase 1 of a multi-phase/year project.
- Additional funding and planning will need to be secured for all future phases.

CYFS met with the Finance Departments from the TOA and TON to discuss a finance strategy for phase 1. We are confident that year end reserves will be sufficient to fund phase 1 of the project.

On October 3, 2024, in partnership with MPP Dawn Gallagher Murphy, CYFS will be hosting an echo-announcement at Station 4-5. Invites to follow.

Further conversations and updates regarding this project will be available through regular JCC meetings.

Sincerely,

Rocco Volpe

Rocco Volpe
Acting Fire Chief