

**City Council Meeting
Additional Information**

Tuesday, February 3, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium

Pages

***1. Special Committee of the Whole - Open Session - February 3, 2026**

***1.1 Amendment - Establishment of Special Committee of the Whole - Closed Session - February 3, 2026**

The following resolution is presented to amend the purpose of the February 3, 2026 Special Committee of the Whole - Closed Session meeting:

WITH RESPECT to the resolution to establish the Tuesday, February 3, 2026 Committee of the Whole – Closed Session, we recommend that the following reasons be added:

(i) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization;

AND THAT the following reasons be removed:

(c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board; and

(j) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the municipality or local board and has monetary value or potential monetary value.

6. Minutes of Previous Special Committee of the Whole (Approval of the 2026 Operating Budget)

***6.1 Minutes of Previous Special Committee of the Whole (Approval of the 2026 Operating Budget)**

5 - 13

The Minutes of the following Meeting of Special Committee of the Whole, be confirmed:

1. Special Committee of the Whole - Long Term Financial Overview held on January 22, 2026; **(Distributed separately on Friday, January 30, 2026)**

2. Special Committee of the Whole - Operating Budget Review held on January 26, 2026. **(Distributed separately on Friday, January 30, 2026)**

***6.1.1 Minutes of Previous Special Committee of the Whole (Approval of the 2026 Operating Budget)**

14 - 21

The Minutes of the following Meeting of Special Committee of the Whole, be confirmed:

3. Special Committee of the Whole - Operating Budget Review held on January 28, 2026. **(Distributed Separately on Monday, February 2, 2026)**

***6.1.2 Proposed 2026 Operating Budget Engagement**

22 - 34

Memorandum from Policy & Research Analyst Kristyn Lovato-Day, dated January 30, 2026, containing an update relative to the 2026 Operating Budget Public Engagement, for information. **(Distributed Separately on Monday, February 2, 2026)**

8. Consent Agenda

8.3 Quality of Life Standing Committee Minutes

***8.3.1 Quality of Life Standing Committee Minutes**

35 - 39

Minutes from Quality of Life Standing Committee, held on January 27, 2026, for information. **(Distributed separately on Friday, January 30, 2026)**

8.4 Growth Standing Committee Minutes

***8.4.1 Growth Standing Committee Minutes**

40 - 41

Minutes from Growth Standing Committee, held on January 27, 2026, for information. **(Distributed separately on Friday, January 30, 2026)**

8.10 311 Implementation Authorization

***8.10.1 311 Implementation Authorization**

42 - 46

At the January 27, 2026 Quality of Life Standing Committee, Report 045-2026-City Manager's Office-Customer Service was presented. A resolution was passed endorsing the implementation of a 311 service for the City of Thunder Bay in accordance with the Canadian N11 Notification &

Implementation Guideline.

Report 046-2026-City Manager's Office-Customer Service recommending that Administration proceed with the implementation of a 311 service for the City of Thunder Bay in accordance with the Canadian N11 Notification & Implementation Guideline.(Distributed Separately on Friday, January 30, 2026)

8.15 Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing and Regulating By-law Report

***8.15.1 Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing & Regulating Bylaw – Repeal and Replace Report**

47 - 64

At the January 27, 2026 Quality of Life Standing Committee, Report 025-2026-Infrastructure & Operations-Thunder Bay Fire Rescue was presented. A resolution was passed endorsing the updated Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing and Regulating By-law which aligns with legislation, operational practices and Council approved service levels.

Report 066-2026-Infrastructure & Operations-Thunder Bay Fire Rescue recommending that By-law 50-1984, as amended, be repealed and replaced as outlined in this report. (Distributed Separately on Monday, February 2, 2026)

11. By-laws and By-law Resolution

11.1 By-law 028-2026-Thunder Bay Fire Rescue and Establishing and Regulating By-law

***11.1.1 By-law 28-2026 – A by-law to Establish and Regulate the Thunder Bay Fire Rescue and to repeal By-law 50-1984 and Chapter 890 of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code.**

A By-law to establish and regulate Thunder Bay Fire Rescue and to repeal By-law 50-1984, as amended and to repeal Chapter 890 of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code. (Distributed Separately on Monday, February 2, 2026)

65 - 77

12. New Business

***12.1 Establishment of Special Committee of the Whole - Closed Session - Tuesday, February 17, 2026**

THAT a Special Committee of the Whole – Closed Session meeting be scheduled for Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in order to receive information pursuant to the Municipal Act (Section 239 (2)) relative to:

(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal

or local board employees;

(c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board;

(j) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the municipality or local board and has monetary value or potential monetary value;

(k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria, or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board.



Committee of the Whole – 2026 Proposed Operating Budget Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 22, 2026, 6:33 p.m.

S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium

Present: Mayor Ken Boshcoff
Councillor Rajni Agarwal
Councillor Albert Aiello
Councillor Mark Bentz
Councillor Shelby Ch'ng
Councillor Kasey Etreni
Councillor Andrew Foulds
Councillor Trevor Giertuga
Councillor Brian Hamilton
Councillor Greg Johnsen
Councillor Kristen Oliver
Councillor Dominic Pasqualino
Councillor Michael Zussino

Officials: Krista Power, Director-Legislative Services & City Clerk
John Collin, City Manager
Keri Greaves, Commissioner - Corporate Services & City Treasurer
Andrea Morrison, Director-Finance
Tafadzwa Mukubvu, Manager – Budgets & Financial Planning
Kristin Lovato-Day, Policy & Research Analyst
Katie Piché, Council & Committee Clerk

1. Open Session in the S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium at 6:30 p.m.

Long Range Financial Plan and Long Term Financial Overview
Chair: Councillor Mark Bentz

Committee of the Whole - 2026 Proposed Operating Budget –
Thursday, January 22, 2026

2. Land Acknowledgement

Councillor Mark Bentz provided a land acknowledgement.

3. Disclosures of Interest

4. Confirmation of Agenda

MOVED BY: Councillor Albert Aiello

SECONDED BY: Councillor Trevor Giertuga

WITH RESPECT to the January 22, 2026 Special Committee of the Whole - 2026 Operating Budget meeting, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

5. Reports of Municipal Officers

5.1 Long Range Financial Plan

At the December 9, 2025 Finance and Administration Standing Committee meeting, Report 354-2025 Corporate Services - Finance was presented and a resolution was passed deferring the report to the January 22, 2026 Special Committee of the Whole-2026 Proposed Operating Budget meeting.

Report 006-2026-Corporate Services-Finance recommending that the Long-Range Financial Plan be adopted.

MOVED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton

SECONDED BY: Councillor Greg Johnsen

WITH RESPECT to Report 006-2026-Corporate Services we recommend that the Long-Range Financial Plan be adopted as presented;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

CARRIED

Committee of the Whole - 2026 Proposed Operating Budget –
Thursday, January 22, 2026

A revote was requested.

MOVED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton
SECONDED BY: Councillor Greg Johnsen

WITH RESPECT to Report 006-2026-Corporate Services we recommend
that the Long-Range Financial Plan be adopted as presented;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for
ratification.

CARRIED

6. Long Term Financial Overview

PowerPoint presentation relative to the Long Term Financial Overview was
distributed separately on Thursday, January 22, 2026.

Commissioner-Corporate Services and City Treasurer Keri Greaves provided a
PowerPoint presentation and responded to questions.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.



Committee of the Whole – 2026 Proposed Operating Budget Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 26, 2026, 5:03 p.m.

S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium

Present:

Mayor Ken Boshcoff
Councillor Rajni Agarwal
Councillor Albert Aiello
Councillor Mark Bentz
Councillor Kasey Etreni
Councillor Andrew Foulds
Councillor Trevor Giertuga
Councillor Brian Hamilton
Councillor Greg Johnsen
Councillor Kristen Oliver
Councillor Dominic Pasqualino
Councillor Michael Zussino

Officials:

Krista Power, Director - Legislative Services & City Clerk
John Collin, City Manager
Patty Robinet, City Solicitor
Kayla Dixon, Commissioner - Infrastructure & Operations
Keri Greaves, Commissioner - Corporate Services & City Treasurer
Kerri Marshall, Commissioner - Growth
Kelly Robertson, Commissioner - Community Services
Cynthia Olsen, Director - Strategy & Engagement
Kerri Bernardi, Acting Director - Human Resources
Dana Earle, Director – Customer Service
Andrea Morrison, Director – Finance
Joel DePeuter, Director – Development Services
Leah Prentice, Director – Recreation & Culture
Shane Muir, Chief of EMS

Committee of the Whole-2026 Proposed Operating Budget –
Monday, January 26, 2026

Brad Loroff, Manager – Transit
Franco Marchese, Manager – Facilities Services
Chantal Harris, Manager – Revenue
Michelle Williams, Manager - Communications & Public Relations
Tafadzwa Mukubvu, Manager – Budgets & Financial Planning
Sean Malcolm, Acting Manager – Fleet Services
Jonathan Paske, Supervisor – Municipal Parking Services
Kristin Lovato-Day, Policy & Research Analyst
Rachel Labate, Accountant – Revenue
Katie Piché, Council & Committee Clerk

1. Open Session in the S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium

Chair: Councillor Mark Bentz

2. Land Acknowledgement

Councillor Trevor Giertuga provided a land acknowledgement.

3. Disclosures of Interest

4. Confirmation of Agenda

MOVED BY: Mayor Ken Boshcoff
SECONDED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton

WITH RESPECT to the January 26, 2026 Special Committee of the Whole - 2026 Proposed Operating Budget meeting, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

5. Reports of Municipal Officers

5.1 2026 Proposed Operating Budget

Report 001-2026-Corporate Services-Finance recommending that the proposed 2026 Operating Budget for tax and rate-supported operations be approved as outlined in this Report.

Committee of the Whole-2026 Proposed Operating Budget –
Monday, January 26, 2026

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds
SECONDED BY: Councillor Kristen Oliver

WITH RESPECT to Report 001-2026-Corporate Services-Finance, we recommend that the proposed 2026 Operating Budget for tax and rate-supported operations be approved as outlined in this Report;

AND THAT the 2026 Tax-Supported Operating Budget of \$412,198,500 be approved as outlined in this Report;

AND THAT the 2026 Municipal Taxes raised to support the Tax-Supported Operating Budget, including Assessment Growth, be approved at \$228,484,400 as outlined in this Report;

AND THAT when combined, the total 2026 Municipal Taxes to be raised to support the Tax-Supported Operating and Capital Budget, including Assessment Growth, be approved at \$251,527,800 as outlined in this Report;

AND THAT with respect to the Tax-Supported Operating Budget, contributions to reserves and reserve funds from operations totalling up to \$13,491,200 and transfers from reserves and reserve funds totalling up to \$3,002,600 be approved as outlined in this Report;

AND THAT the Victoria Avenue Business Improvement Area levy of \$71,700 be approved;

AND THAT the Waterfront District Business Improvement Area levy of \$120,400 be approved;

AND THAT the 2026 Solid Waste (Landfill) Operating Budget be approved at \$4,417,900 gross expenditure and \$2,570,400 net income, with a contribution to the Solid Waste – Landfill Reserve Fund to result in \$0 net income;

AND THAT the 2026 Waterworks Operating Budget be approved at \$27,545,300 gross expenditure and \$10,797,300 net income, with a contribution to the Waterworks Reserve Fund to result in \$0 net income;

AND THAT the 2026 Wastewater (Sewer) Operating Budget be approved at \$22,655,300 gross expenditure and \$7,300,100 net income, with a contribution to the Wastewater Reserve Fund to result in \$0 net income;

AND THAT the 2026 Prince Arthur's Landing – Boater Services Operating Budget be approved at \$483,700 gross expenditure and \$221,900 net

Committee of the Whole-2026 Proposed Operating Budget –
Monday, January 26, 2026

income, with a contribution to the Boater Services Capital Reserve Fund to result in \$0 net income;

AND THAT the 2026 Parking Operating Budget be approved at \$2,799,600 gross expenditure and \$0 net income;

AND THAT the User Fees as outlined in Appendix 4 of the Proposed 2026 Operating Budget be approved effective April 1, 2026;

AND THAT reconciliation adjustments for the Budget presentation in accordance with Ontario Regulation 284/09 and Public Sector Accounting Board Standards be approved as outlined in this Report;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

6. Budget Summaries

6.1 City Council

6.2 City Manager's Office

6.2.1 Amendment - FTE Adjustment - Human Resources

Memorandum from Commissioner-Corporate Services and City Treasurer Keri Greaves, dated January 26, 2026, containing a recommendation relative to an FTE adjustment for Human Resources was distributed separately on Friday, January 23, 2026.

MOVED BY: Mayor Ken Boshcoff

SECONDED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds

WITH RESPECT to the Memorandum from Keri Greaves, Commissioner – Corporate Services & City Treasurer, dated January 20, 2026, we recommend that 2 full-time equivalent staff positions be added to the Human Resources Division budget with no additional financial impact;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

CARRIED

6.3 Corporate Services

6.4 Recess

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds
SECONDED BY: Mayor Ken Boshcoff

THAT the Committee of the Whole meeting recess until called to order by the Chair.

CARRIED

6.5 Community Services

6.5.1 Amendment - 2026 User Fees Adjustment

Memorandum from Commissioner-Corporate Services and City Treasurer Keri Greaves, dated January 15, 2026, containing a recommendation relative to 2026 User Fee Adjustments was distributed separately on Wednesday, January 21, 2026.

MOVED BY: Mayor Ken Boshcoff
SECONDED BY: Councillor Kristen Oliver

WITH RESPECT to the Memorandum from Keri Greaves, Commissioner – Corporate Services & City Treasurer, dated January 15, 2026, we recommend that the updated proposed user fees be approved as provided in Revised Schedule E, Revised Schedule I, and Revised Schedule P;

AND THAT any necessary By-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

CARRIED

6.6 Growth

6.6.1 Recess

During the Growth Budget Summary overview, due to technical difficulties, the following resolution was passed:

Committee of the Whole-2026 Proposed Operating Budget –
Monday, January 26, 2026

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds
SECONDED BY: Councillor Kasey Etreni

WITH RESPECT to the January 26, 2026 Committee of the Whole meeting and due to technical difficulties with Microsoft Teams, we recommend that the meeting be recessed at 8:13 p.m.

CARRIED

At 8:18 p.m. Committee of the Whole reconvened.

The Growth Budget overview continued.

7. Recess

MOVED BY: Councillor Dominic Pasqualino
SECONDED BY: Councillor Albert Aiello

THAT Committee of the Whole-2026 Proposed Operating Budget meeting recess at 8:46 p.m. until Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

CARRIED



Committee of the Whole – 2026 Proposed Operating Budget Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 28, 2026, 5:03 p.m.

S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium

Present: Mayor Ken Boshcoff
Councillor Rajni Agarwal
Councillor Albert Aiello
Councillor Mark Bentz
Councillor Shelby Ch'ng
Councillor Kasey Etreni
Councillor Andrew Foulds
Councillor Trevor Giertuga
Councillor Brian Hamilton
Councillor Greg Johnsen
Councillor Kristen Oliver
Councillor Dominic Pasqualino
Councillor Michael Zussino

Officials: Jeff Walters, Manager – Legislative Services & Deputy City Clerk
John Collin, City Manager
Patty Robinet, City Solicitor
Kayla Dixon, Commissioner - Infrastructure & Operations
Keri Greaves, Commissioner - Corporate Services & City Treasurer
Kerri Marshall, Commissioner - Growth
Kelly Robertson, Commissioner - Community Services
Cynthia Olsen, Director - Strategy & Engagement
Kerri Bernardi, Acting Director - Human Resources
Andrea Morrison, Director – Finance
Matthew Miedema, Director – Engineering
Dave Paxton, Fire Chief
Tafadzwa Mukubvu, Manager – Budgets & Financial Planning

Special Committee of the Whole – 2026 Proposed Operating Budget -
Wednesday, January 28, 2026

Cory Halvorsen, Manager – Parks & Open Spaces
Jason Sherband, Manager – Solid Waste & Recycling Services
Ian Spoljarich, Manager – Roads
Kelvin Jankowski, Manager – Capital Facilities Construction
Aaron Ward, Manager - Engineering
Vanessa DeGiacomo-Zwaresh, Energy Analyst
Katie Piché, Council & Committee Clerk

1. Open Session in the S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium

Chair: Councillor Mark Bentz

2. Land Acknowledgement

Councillor Kristen Oliver provided a land acknowledgement.

3. Disclosures of Interest

4. Confirmation of Agenda

MOVED BY: Councillor Greg Johnsen
SECONDED BY: Councillor Kristen Oliver

WITH RESPECT to the January 28, 2026 Special Committee of the Whole - 2026 Proposed Operating Budget meeting, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

5. Unfinished Business

Unfinished business from the January 26, 2026 Committee of the Whole - 2026 Proposed Operating Budget meeting.

6. Reports of Municipal Officers

6.1 2026 Proposed Operating Budget

Report 001-2026-Corporate Services-Finance relative to the Proposed 2026 Operating Budget was printed in the January 26, 2026 Special Committee of the Whole-Budget agenda.

Downtown Community Safety Ambassador Pilot Program

Memorandum from Director - Strategy & Engagement Cynthia Olsen, dated January 28, 2026, containing follow up information and letters of support relative to the Ambassador Pilot Program, for information.

7. Budget Summaries

7.1 Infrastructure & Operations

7.2 Outside Boards:

Community Economic Development Commission

CEO- Community Economic Development Commission Jamie Taylor appeared before Committee and responded to questions.

Thunder Bay Public Library

CEO- Thunder Bay Public Library Richard Togman appeared before Committee via MS Teams and responded to questions.

Victoria Avenue BIA

Victoria Avenue BIA Board Member Aldo Ruberto and BIA Coordinator Raechel Reed responded to questions.

Recess

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds
SECONDED BY: Councillor Greg Johnsen

Special Committee of the Whole – 2026 Proposed Operating Budget -
Wednesday, January 28, 2026

THAT the Committee of the Whole meeting recess until called to order by the Chair.

CARRIED

Committee of the Whole reconvened at 7:01 p.m.

Waterfront District BIA

Executive Director Kara Pratt and Waterfront BIA Board Chair John Murray appeared before Committee and responded to questions.

The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board

Lakehead Region Conservation Authority

CAO-Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Tammy Cook and Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Finance Manager Mark Ambrose appeared before Committee and responded to questions.

Thunder Bay District Health Unit

Medical Officer of Health Dr. Janet DeMille appeared before Committee and responded to questions.

Thunder Bay Police Service Board and Thunder Bay Police Service

Chief Darcy Fleury appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint presentation and responded to questions.

Director- Finance & Facilities-Thunder Bay Police Service Tom Kane appeared before Committee and responded to questions.

Chair-Thunder Bay Police Service Board Karen Machado appeared before Committee and responded to questions.

Amendment - Request for Reduction - Thunder Bay Police Service Budget

MOVED BY: Councillor Trevor Giertuga
SECONDED BY: Mayor Ken Boshcoff

WITH RESPECT to Report 001-2026-Corporate Services-Finance, the proposed 2026 Operating Budget for tax and rate-supported operations, we recommend that a request for further reductions be directed to the Thunder Bay Police Services Board for their consideration;

AND THAT the Chief of Police be requested to provide further information and/or potential reductions, cost savings and/or adjustments to the Thunder Bay Police Service's 2026 Operating submission to the Commissioner of Corporate Services/City Treasurer by Monday, February, 9, 2026;

AND THAT a Special Committee of the Whole – Budget meeting be established to precede the City Council meeting on Tuesday, February 10, 2026 to consider this information and approve potential changes;

AND THAT ratification of the proposed 2026 Operating Budget for tax and rate-supported operations be deferred to Tuesday, February 17, 2026;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

LOST

A revote was requested on the above noted resolution.

Amendment – Request for Reduction – Thunder Bay Police Service Budget

MOVED BY: Councillor Trevor Giertuga
SECONDED BY: Mayor Ken Boshcoff

WITH RESPECT to Report 001-2026-Corporate Services-Finance, the proposed 2026 Operating Budget for tax and rate-supported operations, we recommend that a request for further reductions be directed to the Thunder Bay Police Services Board for their consideration;

Special Committee of the Whole – 2026 Proposed Operating Budget -
Wednesday, January 28, 2026

AND THAT the Chief of Police be requested to provide further information and/or potential reductions, cost savings and/or adjustments to the Thunder Bay Police Service's 2026 Operating submission to the Commissioner of Corporate Services/City Treasurer by Monday, February, 2026;

AND THAT a Special Committee of the Whole – Budget meeting be established to precede the City Council meeting on Tuesday, February 10, 2026 to consider this information and approve potential changes;

AND THAT ratification of the proposed 2026 Operating Budget for tax and rate-supported operations be deferred to Tuesday, February 17, 2026;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

LOST

8. 2026 Proposed Operating Budget - Original Resolution

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds
SECONDED BY: Councillor Greg Johnsen

WITH RESPECT to Report 001-2026-Corporate Services-Finance, we recommend that the proposed 2026 Operating Budget for tax and rate-supported operations be approved as outlined in this Report;

AND THAT the 2026 Tax-Supported Operating Budget of \$412,198,500 be approved as outlined in this Report;

AND THAT the 2026 Municipal Taxes raised to support the Tax-Supported Operating Budget, including Assessment Growth, be approved at \$228,484,400 as outlined in this Report;

AND THAT when combined, the total 2026 Municipal Taxes to be raised to support the Tax-Supported Operating and Capital Budget, including Assessment Growth, be approved at \$251,527,800 as outlined in this Report;

AND THAT with respect to the Tax-Supported Operating Budget, contributions to reserves and reserve funds from operations totalling up to \$13,491,200 and transfers from reserves and reserve funds totalling up to \$3,002,600 be approved

Special Committee of the Whole – 2026 Proposed Operating Budget -
Wednesday, January 28, 2026

as outlined in this Report;

AND THAT the Victoria Avenue Business Improvement Area levy of \$71,700 be approved;

AND THAT the Waterfront District Business Improvement Area levy of \$120,400 be approved;

AND THAT the 2026 Solid Waste (Landfill) Operating Budget be approved at \$4,417,900 gross expenditure and \$2,570,400 net income, with a contribution to the Solid Waste – Landfill Reserve Fund to result in \$0 net income;

AND THAT the 2026 Waterworks Operating Budget be approved at \$27,545,300 gross expenditure and \$10,797,300 net income, with a contribution to the Waterworks Reserve Fund to result in \$0 net income;

AND THAT the 2026 Wastewater (Sewer) Operating Budget be approved at \$22,655,300 gross expenditure and \$7,300,100 net income, with a contribution to the Wastewater Reserve Fund to result in \$0 net income;

AND THAT the 2026 Prince Arthur's Landing – Boater Services Operating Budget be approved at \$483,700 gross expenditure and \$221,900 net income, with a contribution to the Boater Services Capital Reserve Fund to result in \$0 net income;

AND THAT the 2026 Parking Operating Budget be approved at \$2,799,600 gross expenditure and \$0 net income;

AND THAT the User Fees as outlined in Appendix 4 of the Proposed 2026 Operating Budget be approved effective April 1, 2026;

AND THAT reconciliation adjustments for the Budget presentation in accordance with Ontario Regulation 284/09 and Public Sector Accounting Board Standards be approved as outlined in this Report;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

CARRIED

Special Committee of the Whole – 2026 Proposed Operating Budget -
Wednesday, January 28, 2026

Councillor Trevor Giertuga requested to be recorded as opposed to the resolution relative to the above noted.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:36 p.m.



Corporate Services Department

Memorandum

TO: Krista Power, Director – Legislative Services & City Clerk **FILE:**

FROM: Kristyn Lovato-Day, Policy & Research Analyst
Corporate Services

DATE: 01/30/2026 (mm/dd/yyyy)

SUBJECT: Proposed 2026 Operating Budget Engagement Update

MEETING & DATE: City Council - 02/03/2026 (mm/dd/yyyy)

The Proposed 2026 Operating Budget was presented at the Special Committee of the Whole (Annual Operating Budget) meetings on January 26 and 28, 2026, and was made public on the City's website on January 16, 2026, as part of the meeting agenda.

In previous years, in-person engagement was limited to a single Informal Q&A event, where staff from all Divisions were in attendance. During the Q&A for the 2025 Operating Budget, participation was lower than anticipated, with only 16 attendees. In response, Administration intentionally shifted its approach in 2025–2026 to include integration with Thunder Bay Talks and pop-up engagement opportunities, allowing residents to participate in settings they already frequent. Administration was available to answer questions and brought the Community Handbook and a dot voting activity to identify service priorities. While these pop-up engagements did not include representation from all Divisions, representatives from the Finance Division were able to engage directly with residents to discuss budget priorities and gather input.

At Thunder Bay Talks on October 22, 2025, 20 people participated in the dot voting to identify their top three priorities for municipal spending. On January 17, 2026, 37 people participated in voting at the Country Market. On January 25, 2026, 7 people participated in voting at the Winter Fundays at Marina Park.

Collectively, these efforts resulted in more than 60 in-person engagement touch points, representing an increase of approximately 300% over the prior year. Administration will continue to explore opportunities to hold additional pop-up engagements throughout the year at a broader range of community events to further improve reach and accessibility.

A survey was also distributed to gather public feedback, pursuant to Corporate Report 216-2025-Corporate Services-Finance – 2026 Budget Direction and Calendar, approved on August 11, 2025. The survey focused on ease of understanding budget content, and overall impression of the proposed budget. It was open for responses from noon on January 16, 2026, to midnight on January 29, 2026.

The survey received 140 responses on the Get Involved electronic platform, and two submitted on paper. The Get Involved platform expects an average response rate of one completed survey in every ten visits; the Proposed 2026 Operating Budget Survey had 342 visits and 140 submissions, for a rate of 4.1 surveys completed for every ten visits to the platform.

Administration increased advertising for 2026 - the survey and pop-up events were advertised at Thunder Bay Talks, as well as through the following avenues:

- A segment on The Minutes Podcast;
- With posters at all City facilities;
- Television, print, and radio media interviews;
- Radio and web ads;
- Webpage banner ads;
- Boosted social media posts and sponsored ads (combined, garnered over 57,000 views);
- Media release upon publication of the Operating Budget;
- Posted on the front page of the Get Involved platform; and
- On the City of Thunder Bay website – on the home page and the Budget page.

The 2026 survey saw an 80% increase in participation compared to the 2025 Operating Budget Survey, where 79 responses were received.

A new email address was also advertised as another point of contact this year. The new your.budget@thunderbay.ca email collected four comments and two sets of questions that Administration was able to answer. These emails have been summarized in Attachment A along with 70 comments collected from budget-related social media posts and ads.

It should be noted that the public engagement activities for 2026 were not random samples, and the samples collected are not large enough to be representative of the entire population of the City of Thunder Bay, therefore they are not considered statistically significant. However, the responses still provide valuable feedback from select residents. Administration will continue to explore opportunities to increase engagement with the public and gather feedback.

The attached report describes the public engagement activities for the Proposed 2026 Operating Budget and is being presented for information to assist in the Operating Budget discussions.

Attachments

Attachment A – Proposed 2026 Operating Budget Engagement Results



Proposed 2026 Operating Budget Engagement Results

Prepared by:

Kristyn Lovato-Day, Policy & Research Analyst

Corporate Services Department

January 30, 2026

Executive Summary

Beginning in October 2025, the Corporate Services Department conducted various public engagement activities to collect feedback about the Proposed 2026 Capital and Operating Budgets, including pop-up events and surveys.

Three pop-up events were held between October 2025 and January 2026, where members of Administration were available to answer questions, and collect information from the public on service priorities through a dot voting activity. Approximately 64 people participated in this activity, providing their opinion on spending priorities.

The Proposed 2026 Operating Budget survey was open to the public beginning January 17, 2026, and was distributed electronically through the City's Get Involved engagement site and on paper. 142 responses were received. In this short survey, respondents were asked about their high-level opinions of the budget as proposed, and where they thought changes should be made.

Of note, the survey identified that the public's understanding of the budget process has increased. The survey also highlighted the public's opinion that the Agencies, Boards and Commissions (ABCs) should decrease their budgets to help with decreasing the tax levy.

The survey questions will be used in subsequent years to gauge how changes to the budget documents and process impact public opinion. It is important to note that this is difficult to measure without a representative sample, and any future comparison must be used with caution.

Method

Pop-Ups and Dot Voting

City Administration held pop-up booths at three local events during the course of the budget period: Thunder Bay Talks on October 22, 2025, the Country Market on January 17, 2026, and at Winter Fundays at Marina Park on January 25, 2026.

At these events, City staff were available to answer questions, and administered a dot voting exercise, where participants placed stickers on a poster board to represent their top three priority service areas.

Participants were offered up to three stickers: green for first priority, yellow for second priority, and red for third priority. A poster board listing service categories was set up for participants to place their dots on their first, second, and third priorities.

Not all participants chose to place three dots; some placed only one.

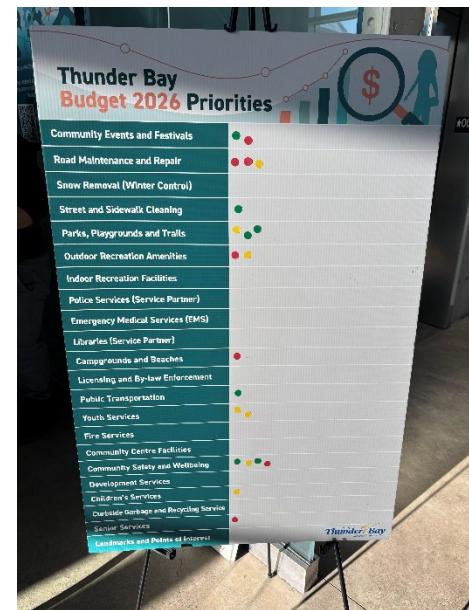


Photo taken at the January 25, 2026, pop-up

Participants may have attended all three events and would have had the opportunity to participate in more than one activity, therefore the participant counts for the dot voting do not represent a unique count of individuals.

Survey

In January 2026, the Finance Division of the Corporate Services Department distributed a survey for the Proposed 2026 Operating Budget using the City of Thunder Bay's Get Involved public engagement platform. Paper surveys were also made available in the Community Handbook, and at each of the Thunder Bay Public Library branches, the 55+ Centre, and City Hall. The survey was published at noon on January 16, 2026, and closed just before midnight on January 29, 2026.

The survey was announced with the Proposed 2026 Operating Budget at a media event, along with a media release. It was also advertised:

- In a segment on The Minutes Podcast;
- With posters at all City facilities;
- On the City Hall lobby screens;
- In television, print, and radio media interviews;
- In radio and web ads;
- With webpage banner ads;
- In boosted social media posts and sponsored ads (combined, these posts were viewed over 57,000 times);
- On the front page of the Get Involved platform; and
- On the City of Thunder Bay website –home page and Budget page.

The sample was not random and likely includes more people who are engaged with the City or have a particular interest in the budget (homeowners who pay property taxes).

Statistical Significance

Dot Voting

The study was not conducted as a random sample of the population, and there were opportunities for people to participate at multiple locations, therefore, the approximate count of 64 total participants is not a unique count of individuals.

This activity should be considered as a feedback mechanism and not a representation of the opinion of the greater population.

Survey

The study was not conducted as a random sample of the population, but as a self-directed survey and should be considered as a feedback mechanism and not a representation of the opinion of the greater population.

The survey received 142 responses from the public – 140 electronic and two paper surveys. As the sample is quite small, the results cannot be extrapolated to the entire population of the City of

Thunder Bay without a large margin of error and must be referred to as the opinions of the respondents of this survey.

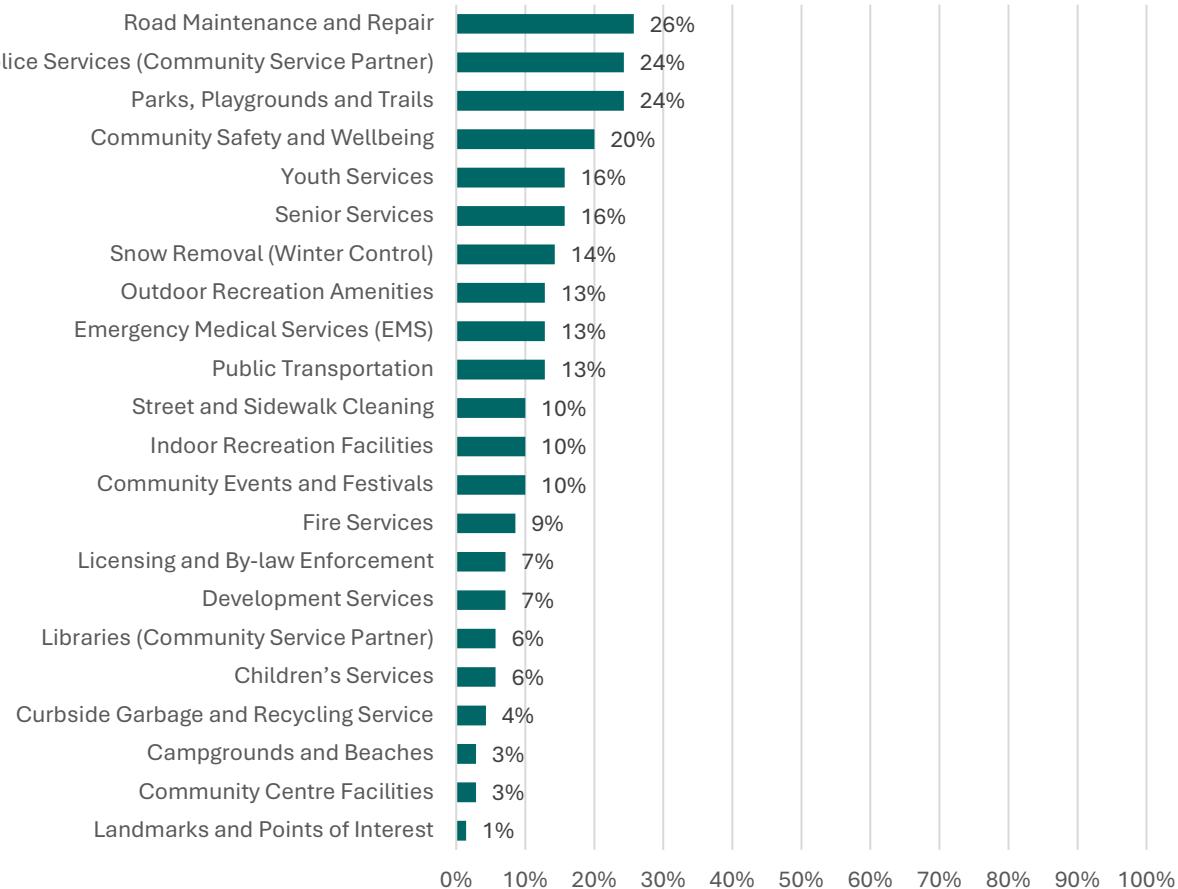
It should be noted that while not statistically significant, the feedback is still important to a transparent and thorough public budget process. Survey results in this situation should be treated as a sample and not a reflection of all opinions, and interpretation should be done with caution.

Results

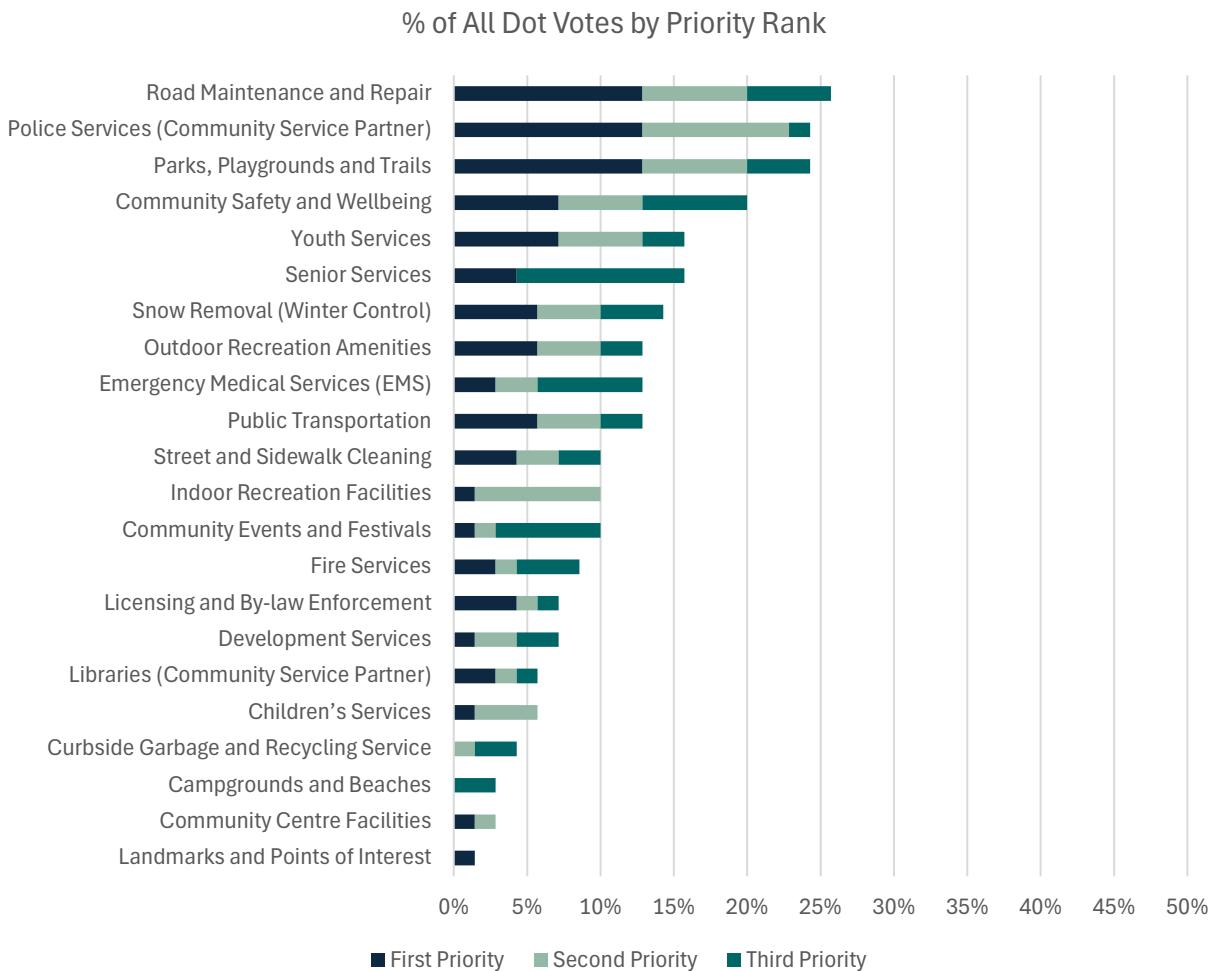
Dot Voting

Approximately 64 people participated in three different dot voting prioritization exercises. Participants were provided with a list of service categories and asked to place dots on their first, second, and third priorities. Road Maintenance and Repair was the service category with the most votes, with 26% of participants. Parks, Playgrounds, and Trails, and Police Services were second with 24% of participants each.

Service Categories by % of Respondents



When broken down by priority ranking, when all responses are rolled together, the top three priorities are Road Maintenance and Repair, Parks, Playgrounds and Trails, and Police Services each with 13% of the total first priority votes.



The top three priorities differed depending on the event attended:

| Event | First Priority | Second Priority | Third Priority |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| Thunder Bay Talks October 22, 2025 | Road Maintenance and Repair | Parks, Playgrounds and Trails | Licensing and By-law Enforcement/Snow Removal (Winter Control) (tie) |
| Country Market January 17, 2026 | Police Services (Community Service Partner) | Road Maintenance and Repair | Parks, Playgrounds and Trails |
| Winter Fundays January 25, 2026 | Community Safety and Wellbeing | Parks, Playgrounds and Trails | Road Maintenance and Repair |

Road Maintenance and Repair and Parks, Playgrounds and Trails were in the top three for each event. It should be noted that the pop-up booths were intentionally distributed to different events in the community in order to gather feedback from a more diverse sample. People who attend

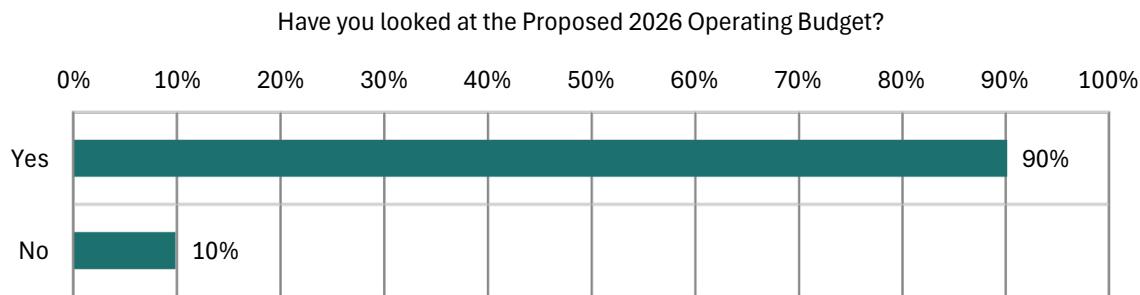
Thunder Bay Talks are likely more engaged in civic matters, while people at Winter Fundays may be families and residents looking for a free activity.

Administration will continue to explore opportunities to engage with more diverse population groups to follow trends in prioritization responses.

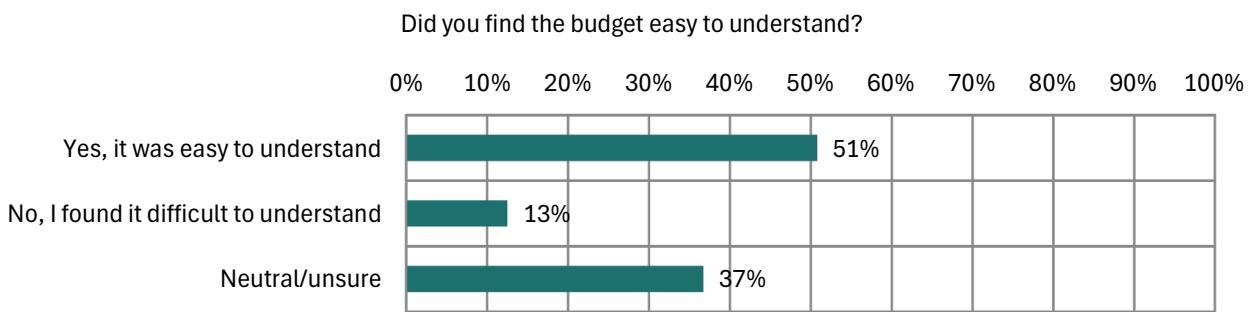
Survey

Questions Regarding Ease of Understanding

Respondents were provided a link to the Proposed 2026 Operating Budget and the Community Handbook summary at the beginning of the survey. The survey began with a mandatory question asking if they had an opportunity to review it. 90% of respondents answered that they did review the budget.



If a respondent chose yes to the first question, a supplemental question was provided, asking if they found the budget easy to understand. Of the people who were provided this question, 51% answered positively, that it was easy to understand, with 37% neutral/don't know, and 13% stating it is difficult to understand.



This reflects an increase in understanding from 2025, where 16% stated it was too complicated, and 49% of respondents thought it was easy to understand.

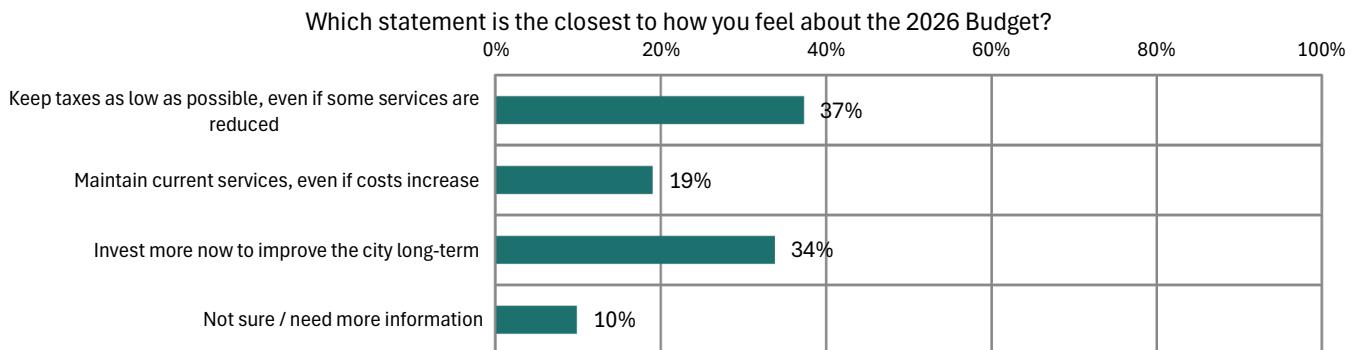
If the respondent said that it was difficult to understand, a short answer question asked what would make it easier. 13 respondents provided feedback or suggestions in response to this question.

- 31% said it should be simpler (4 people).
- 15% requested more summaries (2 people).
- 15% responded that it should be shorter (2 people).

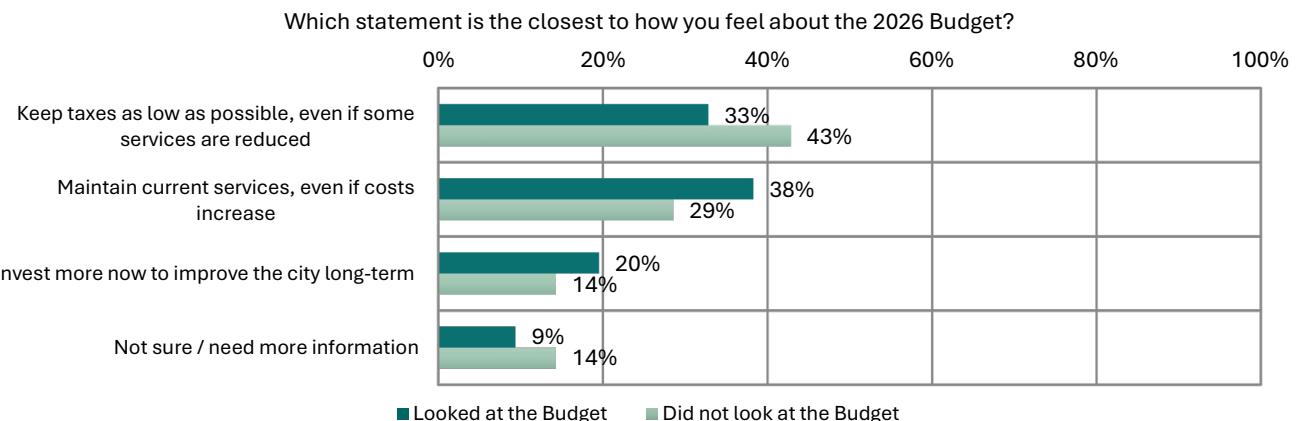
- 15% wanted to return to the detailed tables (2 people).
- 15% asked for detailed explanations and definitions for programs and services (2 people).
- 8% requested interactive graphs and tables (1 person).

Questions Regarding Budget Content

Respondents were asked to choose a statement that was the closest to how they felt about the budget. 37% of respondents chose “keep taxes as low as possible, even if some services are reduced,” while 34% chose “invest more now to improve the city long-term.”



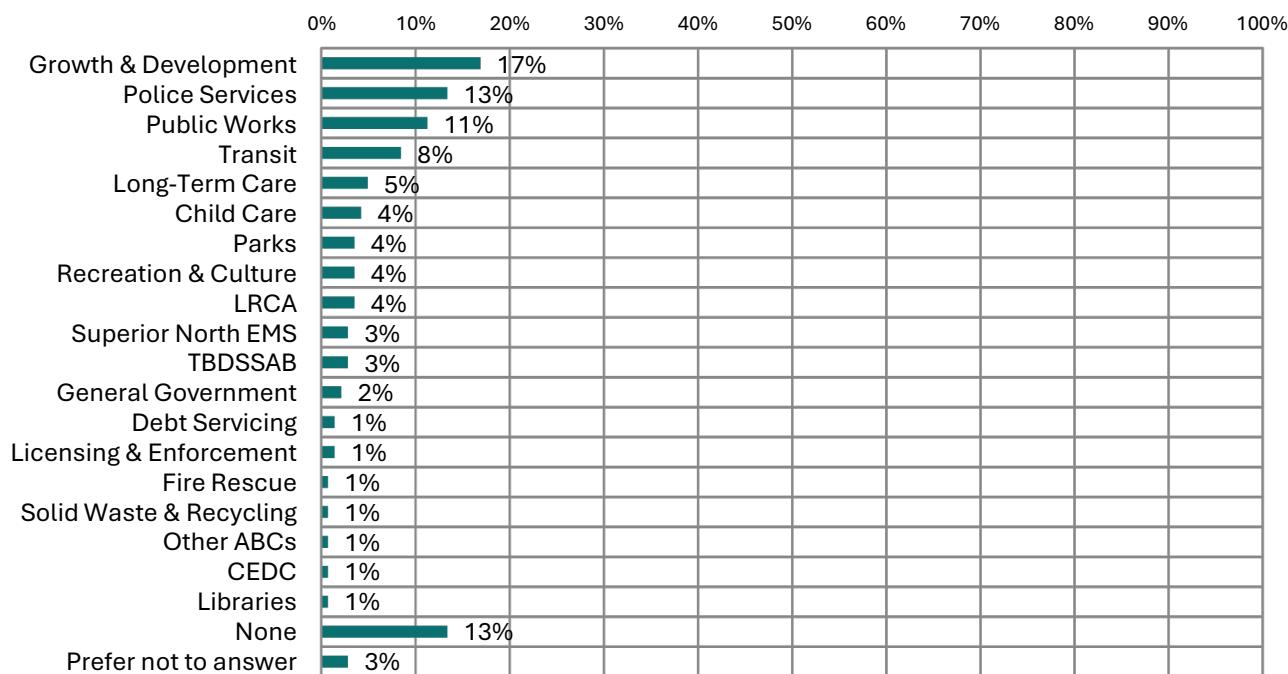
When isolating for respondents who did not look at the budget document, 43% chose “invest more now to improve the city long-term,” and 29% wanted to keep taxes as low possible, even if some services are reduced.



Respondents were asked to choose one thing they would like the City to spend more money on. 17% of respondents chose Growth & Development. The responses are outlined in the graph below.

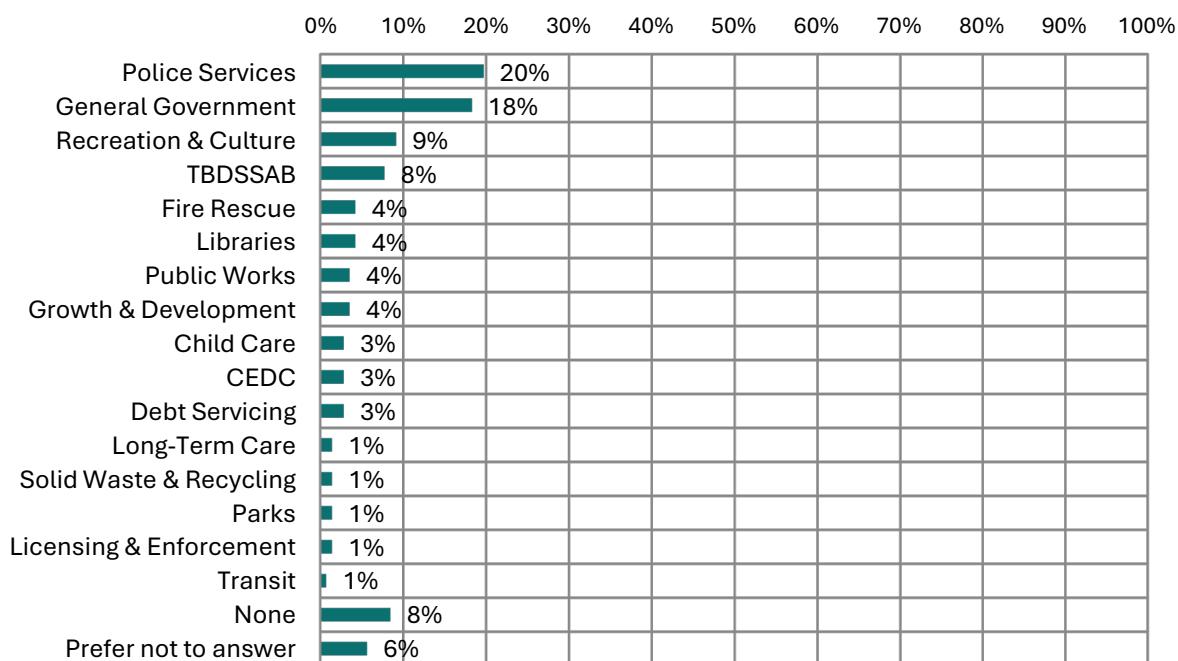
It is noted that Transit has decreased as a top priority for more funding (8% in 2026 compared to 23% in 2025) and has been replaced with Police. These trends remain the same between those who looked at the budget document and those who did not.

What is one thing you would like the City to spend more on?

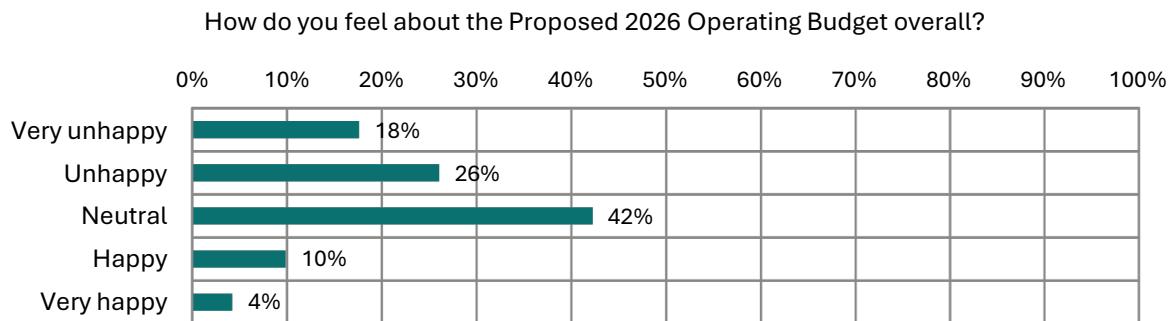


When asked for one thing they would like the City to spend less money on, the majority of respondents chose Police Services (20%, or 28 responses). This is stable from 2025, where 27 people (35% of respondents) reported wanting less money spent on Police Services. These trends remain the same between those who looked at the budget document and those who did not.

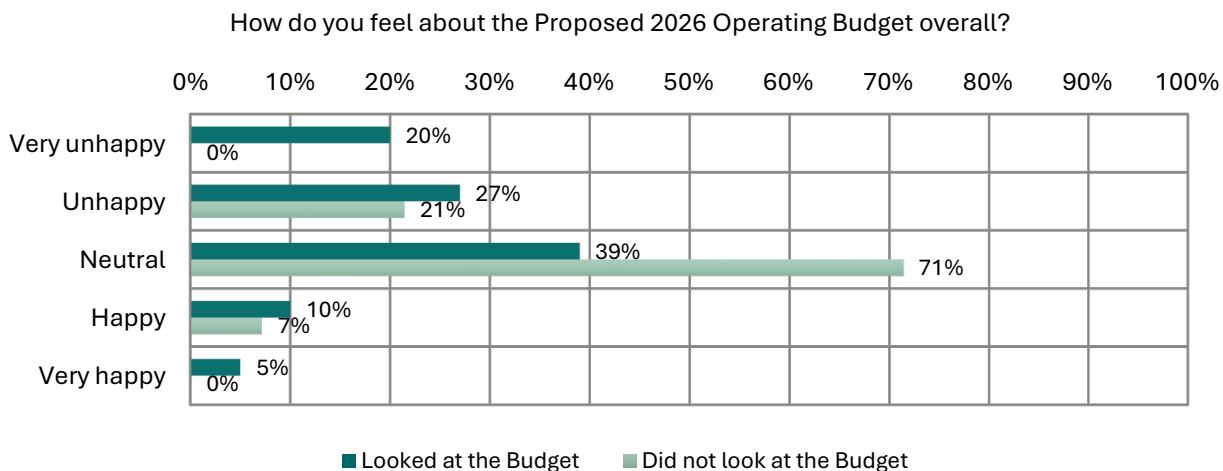
What is one thing you would like the City to spend less on?



When asked how participants felt overall about the Proposed 2026 Operating Budget, the majority of responses were negative (44%). 14% of responses were positive, while 42% were neutral. This represents a shift in opinion to neutral from 2025, as 57% of responses were negative, and 25% were positive last year.



The majority of respondents who did not read the budget document reported feeling neutral about the overall Proposed 2026 Operating Budget (71%), and had less extreme opinions about the content, as no respondents reported feeling very happy or very unhappy about the proposed budget.



Comments

There was an opportunity to provide a free text comment at the end of the survey. 94 comments were left (66% of respondents). Major themes to survey comments received include:

- 28% of comments mentioned that taxes are too high or that the 2.6% target was the highest they were expecting the tax rate to rise (26 people).
- 19% of comments said that the police increase is too high (18 people).
- 13% of comments provided possible options for efficiencies/reductions (12 people). Of these, half mentioned general government as a suggestion for reductions.
- 11% of comments mentioned wanting more funding for specific services (10 people). Of these, half mentioned more support for Transit.
- 9% of comments provided compliments for the budget (8 people).

- 9% of comments noted the there is a need for increased funding for social service interventions to homelessness and substance use in the community (8 people).
- 9% of comments wanted the ABCs to find more efficiencies in their budgets (8 people).
- 6% of comments noted that they would like to see an increase in services and opportunities for youth and young families (6 people).
- 5% of comments were against providing additional funding to projects that are not viable on their own (5 people).
- 4% of comments requested more investment to bring businesses to Thunder Bay (4 people).
- Two respondents wanted to see more plans to increase active transportation.
- One respondent requested plebiscites for large projects.
- One respondent suggested a flat rate for taxes rather than using MPAC assessments.

Residents also provided feedback through email, telephone, and social media. Major themes found in the 74 comments received include:

- 23% mentioned wanting to improve the state of roads.
- 19% noted the there is a need for increased funding for social service interventions to homelessness and substance use in the community.
- 11% mentioned that taxes are too high or that the 2.6% target was the highest they were expecting the tax rate to rise.
- 9% suggested reductions in general government and administration.
- 9% suggested that the SNEMS is low compared to the other emergency services.
- 9% requested increases and increased support for Transit
- 8% requested that funds be focused on upkeeping the infrastructure and services in place, and not new.

Other comments included mentioning the Police budget is too high, requesting increased snow removal, and a request to plant more trees. It should be noted that the individuals who submitted email and social media comments may be the same people who submitted surveys.

Conclusion

The results of the Proposed 2026 Operating Budget survey identified that the changes to the budget documentation over the last two years have increased public understanding of the City's budget process.

The survey highlighted the respondents' opinion that the ABCs should look for efficiencies to decrease their budgets. It also noted that the public would like to see work on roads, and changes to Transit services.

Some of the survey questions will be used in subsequent years to gauge how changes to the budget documents and process impact public opinion. It is important to note that this is difficult to measure without a representative sample, and any future comparison must be used with caution.



Quality of Life Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 27, 2026, 4:31 p.m.

S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium

Present: Mayor Ken Boshcoff
Councillor Shelby Ch'ng
Councillor Andrew Foulds
Councillor Greg Johnsen
Councillor Kristen Oliver

Officials: Jeff Walters, Deputy City Clerk
John Collin, City Manager
Brendan Hardick, Solicitor II
Kayla Dixon, Commissioner - Infrastructure & Operations
Keri Greaves, Commissioner - Corporate Services & City Treasurer
Kerri Marshall, Commissioner - Growth
Kelly Robertson, Commissioner - Community Services
Dana Earle, Director – Customer Service
Cynthia Olsen, Director - Strategy & Engagement
Dave Paxton, Fire Chief
Dave Tarini, Deputy Fire Chief
Kieran McMonagle, Manager – Indigenous Relations
Danielle Slongo, Climate Action Specialist
Yvonne Opoku, Council & Committee Clerk
Flo-Ann Track, Council & Committee Clerk

1. **Quality of Life Standing Committee in the S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium (Council Chambers)**

Chair: Councillor Kristen Oliver

2. Land Acknowledgement

Councillor Shelby Ch'ng provided a land acknowledgement.

3. Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Kristen Oliver declared a conflict with respect to Report 011-2026-Growth-Strategy & Engagement, Community Efficiency Financing Design Study as their employer delivers funding to support program delivery.

4. Confirmation of Agenda

MOVED BY: Mayor Ken Boshcoff

SECONDED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds

WITH RESPECT to the January 27, 2026 Quality of Life Standing Committee meeting, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

5. Deputations

5.1 HART Hub

Correspondence received on January 6, 2026 from Ashley McEwan - Norwest Community Health Centres, requesting to provide a deputation relative to the Thunder Bay HART Hub.

CEO, NorWest Community Health Centres Juanita Lawson and Director, Mental Health & Substance Use Programs Brittany D'Angelo appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint Presentation, and responded to questions.

6. Minutes of Previous Meetings

6.1 Quality of Life Standing Committee Minutes

Minutes from the Quality of Life Standing Committee, held on December 16, 2025, for information.

7. Reports of Administration

7.1 311 Implementation

Report 045-2026-City Manager's Office-Customer Service providing information relating to the implementation of a 311 service for the City of Thunder Bay in accordance with the Canadian N11 Notification & Implementation Guideline and requesting endorsement of the Quality of Life Standing Committee to forward the recommendation to City Council for approval.

MOVED BY: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng

SECONDED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds

WITH RESPECT to Report 045-2026-City Manager's Office-Customer Service Division, we request endorsement of the Standing Committee to forward the following recommendation to City Council:

WE RECOMMEND THAT Administration be authorized to proceed with the implementation of a 311 service for the City of Thunder Bay in accordance with the Canadian N11 Notification & Implementation Guideline;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

CARRIED

7.2 Community Efficiency Financing Design Study

Report 044-2026-Growth-Strategy & Engagement requesting feedback and endorsement from the Quality of Life Standing Committee on a Home Efficiency Improvement Loan Program, as outlined in the Community Efficiency Financing Design Study.

At the request of the Chair, Councillor Shelby Ch'ng assumed the Chair.

Councillor Kristen Oliver declared a conflict and refrained from discussing or voting on the following resolution.

Climate Action Specialist Danielle Slongo appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint Presentation, and responded to questions.

Senior Consultant - Dunskey Energy Climate Advisors Janice Ashworth appeared before Committee via MS Teams and responded to questions.

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds
SECONDED BY: Mayor Ken Boshcoff

WITH RESPECT to Report 044-2026-Growth-Strategy & Engagement, we request endorsement from the Standing Committee to forward the following recommendation to City Council:

WE RECOMMEND THAT Administration be directed to pursue funding to support the creation of a Home Energy Improvement Loan Program in the City of Thunder Bay;

AND THAT the City continue to explore opportunities to collaborate on a regional third-party financing program with other municipalities in Northern Ontario;

AND THAT any necessary By-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

CARRIED

7.3 2025 Indigenous Relations Annual Report

Report 070-2026- Growth-Strategy & Engagement providing an annual update on Indigenous Relation activities and outcomes, including progress on the Seven Youth Inquest recommendations, for information.

Councillor Kristen Oliver resumed the Chair.

Manager, Indigenous Relations Kieran McMonagle appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint Presentation, and responded to questions.

7.4 Revised Emergency Response Plan

Report 025-2026-Infrastructure & Operations-Thunder Bay Fire Rescue was distributed separately on Thursday, January 22, 2026.

The Deputy City Clerk advised that Report 025-2026-Infrastructure & Operations has been withdrawn from the agenda by Administration, to be re-scheduled at a future date.

7.5 Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing and Regulating By-law Report

Report 025-2026-Infrastructure & Operations-Thunder Bay Fire Rescue seeking endorsement of the updated Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing and Regulating

Quality of Life Standing Committee

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

By-law which aligns with legislation, operational practices and Council approved service levels. Distributed separately on Thursday, January 22, 2026.

MOVED BY: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng

SECONDED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds

WITH RESPECT to Report 027-2026-Infrastructure & Operations-Thunder Bay Fire Rescue, we request endorsement of the Quality of Life Standing Committee to forward the following recommendations to City Council:

WE RECOMMEND THAT City Council approve the Draft Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing and Regulating By-law as attached to this report (Attachment A) to establish and regulate the Fire Department, its mandated services, authority structure, and fees for additional emergency services;

AND THAT By-law 50-1984, as amended be repealed;

AND THAT Chapter 890, titled Fire Service – Regulation of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code be repealed;

AND THAT City Council enacts the new Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing and Regulating By-law;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

CARRIED

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.



Growth Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 27, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium

Present: Mayor Ken Boshcoff
Councillor Rajni Agarwal
Councillor Kasey Etreni
Councillor Trevor Giertuga
Councillor Dominic Pasqualino

Officials: Jeff Walters, Deputy City Clerk
John Collin, City Manager
Cynthia Cline, Deputy City Solicitor
Kayla Dixon, Commissioner - Infrastructure & Operations
Keri Greaves, Commissioner - Corporate Services & City
Treasurer
Kerri Marshall, Commissioner - Growth
Kelly Robertson, Commissioner - Community Services
Joel DePeuter, Director – Development Services
Flo-Ann Track, Council & Committee Clerk

1. Growth Standing Committee in the S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium (Council Chambers)

Chair: Councillor Trevor Giertuga

2. Land Acknowledgement

Councillor Dominic Pasqualino provided a land acknowledgement.

3. Disclosures of Interest

4. Confirmation of Agenda

MOVED BY: Councillor Dominic Pasqualino
SECONDED BY: Councillor Rajni Agarwal

WITH RESPECT to the January 27, 2026 Growth Standing Committee meeting, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

5. Presentations

5.1 2025 Development Highlights

Director, Development Services Joel DePeuter appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint Presentation, and responded to questions.

6. Minutes of Previous Meetings

6.1 Growth Standing Committee Minutes

Minutes from the Growth Standing Committee, held on December 1, 2025, for information.

7. Petitions and Communications

7.1 Pool 6 Visioning

Memorandum dated January 19, 2026 from Brent Bigford, Acting Project Manager - Growth-Development Services-Planning Services providing an update on the Visioning of the Pool 6 Lands.

Director, Development Services Joel DePeuter appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint Presentation, and responded to questions.

Architect, Cal Brook - Brook McIlroy (BMc) appeared before Committee via MS Teams, and responded to questions.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.



City Council Report

REPORT NUMBER 046-2026-City Manager's Office-Customer Service Division

DATE

PREPARED December 18, 2025

FILE

CITY COUNCIL February 3, 2026

MEETING DATE

SUBJECT 311 Implementation Authorization

RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL

WITH RESPECT to Report 046-2026-City Manager's Office-Customer Service Division, we authorize Administration to proceed with the implementation of a 311 service for the City of Thunder Bay in accordance with the Canadian N11 Notification & Implementation Guideline;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek City Council authorization to proceed with the implementation of 311 as the dedicated non-emergency telephone number for municipal services.

311 is a nationally recognized service, approved by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) under Telecom Decision 2004-71, that provides residents and businesses with a simple, easy-to-remember point of access to non-emergency municipal information and services. Implementation of 311 is governed by the Canadian N11 Notification & Implementation Guideline, which requires formal authorization by the municipal governing body prior to issuance of an implementation notice and coordination with Telecommunications Service Providers (TSPs).

The City's proposed 311 service will be delivered through the City's new centralized Customer Service Division, scheduled to launch in December 2026. The 311 service will provide centralized intake, triage, and resolution of non-emergency service requests, improve consistency of service delivery, enhance accountability, and support improved customer experience across telephone, in-person, and digital channels.

Subject to City Council approval, Administration will issue a 311 Implementation Notice and Plan to the Canadian Numbering Administrator and all TSPs operating in the proposed service area in accordance with national guidelines.

Council authorization at this stage is to permit the City to act as the N11 Service Provider for 311 within the City of Thunder Bay and to issue the required Implementation Notice.

DISCUSSION

Regulatory and Governance Requirements

Implementation of 311 is subject to the CRTC, its decisions and guidelines, including the Canadian N11 Notification & Implementation Guideline. The Guideline requires evidence of authorization from impacted regional governments, meaning jurisdictions that will receive 311 call routing or be operationally affected by the proposed service area or routing design.

The Guideline requires that the municipality, as the N11 Service Provider:

- obtain formal authorization from City Council;
- notify and consult with all TSPs operating in the proposed service area;
- provide an approved 311 Implementation Notice and supporting documentation to the Canadian Numbering Administrator; and
- develop a detailed 311 Implementation Plan in collaboration with participating TSPs.

Council approval is therefore a mandatory prerequisite to proceeding with implementation of 311.

Service Delivery Model

311 will function as the primary telephone 'front-door' for non-emergency municipal services and information. Calls will be handled by trained Customer Service Representatives within the City's centralized Customer Service Division using standardized service inventories, workflows, and escalation protocols. Emergency calls will continue to be handled through 911 and will not be replaced by 311.

Service Area and Call Routing

The proposed 311 service area is limited to the municipal boundary of the City of Thunder Bay. The City will act solely as the N11 Service Provider for services delivered within its jurisdiction.

Administration recognizes that telecommunications exchange boundaries and wireless service areas may extend beyond municipal boundaries. These overlaps do not constitute an

extension of 311 service into neighbouring municipalities and do not create a service obligation beyond the City's jurisdiction.

Consistent with Telecom Decision CRTC 2004-71, call routing will be based on existing exchange boundaries. Where misdirected calls originate outside the City's jurisdiction due to exchange boundary limitations, operational protocols will be applied to redirect callers appropriately without assuming service responsibility or cost liability.

Alignment with Corporate Initiatives

The implementation of 311 is a foundational component of the City's broader customer service modernization initiative and directly supports the launch of the Customer Service Division. It complements ongoing work related to service inventory development, service standards, customer relationship management (CRM) procurement, and multi-channel service delivery.

N11 Notification and Implementation Process

Subject to City Council approval, Administration will undertake the following consultation activities in accordance with the Canadian N11 Notification & Implementation Guideline:

- formal notification to the Canadian Numbering Administrator and all Telecommunications Service Providers operating in the proposed service area;
- participation in an initial implementation conference call with TSPs to establish an N11 Implementation Planning Committee; and
- ongoing coordination meetings to finalize the 311 Implementation Plan, testing, and launch activities.

Notice of the City's intention to implement 311 services will be provided to neighbouring municipalities (Shuniah, Neebing and Oliver Paipoonge) and Fort William First Nation.

Public communication and awareness activities will be developed and implemented closer to the public launch date to ensure residents understand the purpose and appropriate use of 311.

CONSULTATION

Report 45-2026-City Manager's Office-Customer Service was presented to the Standing Committee – Quality of Life on January 27, 2026. At Standing Committee, there was discussion relative to implementation costs, access and service delivery models.

All costs related to routing requirements of the telephone service providers shall be borne by those providers as per CRTC Telecom Decision 2004-71. Costs related to set-up within the

Division have been included in the 2026 operating budget. While 311 will be available by landline or mobile phone within city limits, a non-local number will be available for anyone requiring the service who are beyond city limits. Lastly, service delivery models for the centralized Customer Service Division are under development as part of the broader implementation work. Details will be brought forward to Council at the appropriate time once decisions have been finalized.

Standing Committee endorsed the recommendation as presented. The recommendation is now presented to City Council for approval.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

There are no immediate financial impacts associated with the issuance of the 311 Implementation Notice or the authorization requested through this report.

Under CRTC Telecom Decision 2004-71, Telecommunications Service Providers are responsible for the incremental costs associated with basic switch modifications and network changes required to implement 311. Any costs associated with special routing arrangements, should they be requested, would be subject to negotiation. None are planned at this time.

Operational costs related to staffing, systems, public awareness, and ongoing service delivery for 311 are being addressed through the Customer Service Division implementation and included in the 2026 and 2027 Operating Budgets for Council's consideration.

BACKGROUND

In November 2004, the CRTC approved 311 as the national non-emergency number for municipal government services. Since that time, municipalities across Canada, including several Ontario municipalities, have implemented 311 to improve access to services and streamline customer contact.

The City of Thunder Bay is establishing a centralized Customer Service Division to modernize how residents and businesses interact with municipal services. The introduction of 311 is a critical enabling component of this model and supports the City's objectives of improving accessibility, consistency, and service quality.

The Canadian N11 Notification & Implementation Guideline establishes a structured process for 311 implementation, including mandatory Council authorization, formal notification, and coordinated planning with TSPs. This report fulfills the governance requirement necessary to advance the City's 311 implementation in compliance with national standards.

REFERENCE MATERIAL ATTACHED

None.

REPORT PREPARED BY

Dana Earle, Director – Customer Service (project implementation)

REPORT SIGNED AND VERIFIED BY

John Collin, City Manager

01/29/2026 (MM/DD/YEAR)

REPORT NUMBER 066-2026-Infrastructure & Operations-Thunder Bay Fire Rescue

DATE

PREPARED January 19, 2026

FILE

CITY COUNCIL February 3, 2026

MEETING DATE

SUBJECT Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing & Regulating Bylaw –
Repeal and Replace Report

RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL

WITH RESPECT to Report 066-2026-Infrastructure & Operations-Thunder Bay Fire Rescue, we recommend that By-law 50-1984, as amended, be repealed and replaced as outlined in this report;

THAT Chapter 890 of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code, titled Fire Service – Regulation be repealed;

AND THAT a new Fire Establishing and Regulating By-law as outlined in this report be presented to City Council for ratification;

AND THAT any other necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On January 27, 2026, the Quality of Life Standing Committee reviewed Report 066-2026-Infrastructure & Operations-Thunder Bay Fire Rescue and endorsed the enactment of the new Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing and Regulating By-law, and repeal of By-law 50-1984, as amended.

The City of Thunder Bay's current Fire Department Establishing and Regulating By-law (50-1984) no longer reflects modern legislative requirements under the Fire Protection and Prevention Act (FPPA) or current operational practices, service levels, and organizational structure of Thunder Bay Fire Rescue (TBFR).

A comprehensive update has been completed to:

- Align the by-law with the FPPA, Municipal Act, and current regulatory requirements;
- Clearly define TBFR's Divisional structure, roles, and responsibilities;

- Set out mandated core services as required by legislation;
- Establish clear authority for the Fire Chief to manage and administer Fire Protection Services;
- Introduce provisions for recovery of costs when Additional Resources are deployed.

Administration recommends repeal of the antiquated 1984 by-law and adoption of the new 2025 Establishing and Regulating By-law.

DISCUSSION

The Establishing and Regulating Fire By-law is the primary legislative instrument governing the organization, authority, and delivery of fire protection services in the City of Thunder Bay. The existing by-law (By-law 50-1984, as amended) was enacted over forty years ago and reflects an operational, organizational, and legislative environment that has changed significantly since its adoption. While the by-law has been amended over time, its structure and content no longer align with current legislation, service delivery models, or Council-approved strategic direction.

In August 2020, City Council received and accepted the **Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Strategic Master Fire Plan (SMFP)** and subsequently approved its Implementation Plan in December 2020. The SMFP identified the need to update and modernize the Establishing and Regulating Fire By-law as a foundational recommendation, noting that the existing by-law did not accurately reflect current services, governance structure, or legislative requirements under the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act* (FPPA). The SMFP specifically recommended that an updated by-law be developed and presented to Council for approval to support modern, risk-based fire protection services.

In parallel, Thunder Bay Fire Rescue completed a **Community Risk Assessment (CRA)** in accordance with *Ontario Regulation 378/18*. The CRA identifies local risks across mandatory profiles, including building stock, demographics, geographic characteristics, infrastructure, and historical incident data. These findings confirm the expanded and evolving role of TBFR beyond traditional fire suppression, including specialized rescue, emergency medical response, public education, inspections, and emergency management. Aligning the Establishing and Regulating Fire By-law with the CRA ensures that the City's legislative framework accurately supports the risk-based delivery of fire protection services.

Further supporting this work, the **Level of Service Survey conducted by the Asset Management Section in late 2024** gathered public input on awareness, satisfaction, response time expectations, professionalism, preparedness, and future service priorities related to Thunder Bay Fire Rescue. Survey results demonstrate strong community awareness of TBFR's broad service mandate and reinforce public expectations for effective emergency response, adequate staffing, modern equipment, and ongoing investment in training and facilities. These findings underscore the importance of a clear and contemporary by-law that defines and authorizes the services currently being delivered on behalf of Council to the community.

Key Changes

The proposed Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing and Regulating By-law repeals and replaces By-law 50-1984 and introduces the following substantive changes to modernize the City's legislative framework for fire protection services.

Legislative Alignment and Authority

The By-law updates all legislative references to align with the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997* and the *Municipal Act, 2001*, replacing outdated references to predecessor legislation contained in the 1984 by-law. The Fire Chief is clearly established as the statutory authority responsible to Council for the administration, operation, and delivery of fire protection services, consistent with current provincial legislation. It clarifies Council's role in establishing service levels and approving budgets, while confirming the Fire Chief's operational independence within those approved parameters.

Modernized Organizational Structure

The By-law presents a modern divisional framework that reflects current Thunder Bay Fire Rescue operations with contemporary divisions such as Fire Prevention and Investigation, Training, Apparatus and Equipment, Administration, and Operations, rather than the outdated 1984 structure focused primarily on suppression and mechanical functions. It also provides flexibility for the Fire Chief to reorganize, establish, or eliminate divisions as operational needs evolve, subject to City policies and collective agreements.

Defined Fire Protection Services and Programs

“Fire Protection Services” are clearly identified in the by-law, reflecting the full scope of services currently delivered, including fire suppression, rescue services, emergency medical response, hazardous materials response, inspections and enforcement, public education, training, and emergency management. These programs and services align the By-law with the Strategic Master Fire Plan and the most recent Community Risk Assessment.

Risk-Based and Service-Level Approach

The By-law introduces provisions acknowledging that service levels may be limited due to factors such as simultaneous incidents, geography, staff training, environmental conditions, and infrastructure limitations, consistent with modern risk-based fire protection planning.

Expanded and Clarified Fire Chief Authorities

The By-law consolidates and modernizes the Fire Chief's authority to issue general orders, policies, procedures, and rules governing operations, training, discipline, staffing, and

deployment. It explicitly authorizes the Fire Chief to prepare and implement Community Risk Assessments, Strategic Master Fire Plans, and related planning documents on behalf of Council and identifies the Fire Chief's reporting function to Council.

Cost Recovery for Extraordinary Responses

The By-law introduces new authority for the City to recover costs associated with the use of Additional Resources during extraordinary emergency responses, where permitted by legislation.

Streamlined Compliance and Enforcement Provisions

The By-law updates offence, interference, and enforcement provisions to align with current Provincial Offences Act and Municipal Act penalty frameworks. It also removes obsolete operational prohibitions and replaces them with enforceable, contemporary provisions focused on public safety and operational effectiveness.

CONSULTATION

On January 27, 2026, the Quality of Life Standing Committee reviewed Report 027-2026-Infrastructure & Operations-Thunder Bay Fire Rescue and endorsed the new draft Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing & Regulating By-law 028-2026 with no further recommendations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

There is no direct financial impact associated with the adoption of the updated Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing and Regulating By-law. The proposed by-law does not introduce new services, alter existing service levels, or change current operational practices. All services and authorities outlined in the by-law reflect activities already being delivered within approved Council service levels and existing operating and capital budgets.

The purpose of this update is administrative and legislative in nature, bringing the Establishing and Regulating By-law into alignment with current legislation, organizational structure, and modern fire protection practices, without resulting in additional financial pressures.

BACKGROUND

On June 20, 2022, City Council approved the Strategic Master Fire Plan with Report No. R105/2022 - Strategic Master Fire Plan Administrative Update 2022.

Corporate Report 066-2026-Infrastructure & Operations-Thunder Bay Fire Rescue

On December 12, 2020, City Council approved the Implementation Plan for the with Report No. R146/2020.

The Strategic Master Fire Plan 2020 was received by City Council on August 24, 2020 with Report No. R102/2020.

Chapter 890, titled Fire Service – Regulation of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code was approved by City Council on November 12, 1996.

The City of Thunder Bay's current Fire Department Establishing and Regulating By-law, By-law 50-1984 was enacted in 1984.

REFERENCE MATERIAL ATTACHED

Attachment A – By-law 028-2026 – Draft Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing & Regulating By-Law

Attachment B – Schedule A to Thunder Bay Fire Rescue By-Law 28-2026

REPORT PREPARED BY

Dave Tarini, Acting Fire Chief – Thunder Bay Fire Rescue

REPORT SIGNED AND VERIFIED BY

Kayla Dixon, Commissioner – Infrastructure & Operations

January 30, 2026



Memorandum

Corporate By-law Number: 028-2026-Infrastructure & Operations - Thunder Bay Fire Rescue

TO: Office of the City Clerk

FROM: Dave Paxton, Fire Chief
Thunder Bay Fire Rescue

DATE PREPARED: December 8, 2025

SUBJECT: By-law 28-2026 – A by-law to Establish and Regulate the Thunder Bay Fire Rescue and to repeal By-law 50-1984 and Chapter 890 of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code.

MEETING DATE: City Council – February 3, 2026

By-law Description: A By-law to establish and regulate Thunder Bay Fire Rescue and to repeal By-law 50-1984, as amended and to repeal Chapter 890 of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code.

Authorization: Report 066-2026 (Infrastructure & Operations – Thunder Bay Fire Rescue) – City Council – February 3, 2026

By-law Explanation: The purpose of this by-law is to repeal the outdated 1984 by-law and adopt the new Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing & Regulating By-law, ensuring alignment with legislation, operational practices, and Council-approved service levels. This by-law will also repeal Chapter 890 – Fire Service – Regulation, of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code.

Schedules and Attachments:

Schedule "A" - Fire Protection Services and Programs

Amended/Repealed By-law Number(s):



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF THUNDER BAY
BY-LAW NUMBER 028-2026

A By-law to establish and regulate Thunder Bay Fire
Rescue and to repeal Chapter 890 of the City of
Thunder Bay Municipal Code and to repeal
By-law 50-1984, as amended

Recitals

1. Subsection 2(1) of the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997*, S.O. 1997, c 4, as amended (the "FPPA"), requires every municipality to establish a program in the municipality which must include public education with respect to fire safety and certain components of fire prevention and the provision of fire protection services as it determines may be necessary in accordance with its needs and circumstances;
2. Subsection 2(2)(b) of the FPPA permits a municipality, in discharging the responsibilities under subsection 2(1), to establish a Fire Department;
3. Subsection 5(0.1) of the FPPA permits a Council of a municipality to establish, maintain and operate a Fire Department for all or any part of the municipality;
4. Subsection 5(1) of the FPPA requires a Fire Department to provide fire suppression services and permits the Fire Department to provide other Fire Protection Services in the municipality;
5. Subsection 8(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended ("*Municipal Act, 2001*"), provides that the powers of a municipality shall be interpreted broadly so as to confer broad authority on municipalities to enable them to govern their affairs as they consider appropriate, and to enhance their ability to respond to municipal issues;
6. Subsection 10(2) 6. of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality may pass by-laws for the health, safety and well being of persons;
7. Section 227 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that it is the role of officers and employees of the municipality to implement Council decisions and establish practices and procedures to implement those decisions; and
8. Subsection 391(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality may impose a fee or a charge for services provided by it.
9. City Council approved By-law 50-1984, to establish and regulate the City of Thunder Bay Fire Department on March 13, 1984.
10. By-law 50-1984 was subsequently adopted as Chapter 890 of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code, titled Fire Service – Regulation on November 12, 1996.

ACCORDINGLY, THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF THUNDER BAY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. General

1.1 Short Title: This By-law may be cited as "Thunder Bay Fire Rescue By-law".

1.2 Definitions:

- a) "Additional Expenses" means the cost to the City of any Additional Resources, including any applicable taxes and administrative fees;
- b) "Additional Resources" includes the use of:
 - (i) a private contractor,
 - (ii) special equipment that is rented or contracted by Thunder Bay Fire Rescue,
 - (iii) consumable materials not normally carried on a fire vehicle, or
 - (iv) consumable materials that are used in addition to the amount of those consumable materials normally carried on a fire vehicle;
- c) "City" means The Corporation of the City of Thunder Bay;
- d) "Confined Space" means any space that has limited or restricted means for entry or exit (e.g. tanks, vessels, silos, storage bin, hoppers, vaults, trenches, excavations and pits) and that is not designed for continuous human occupancy;
- e) "Council" means the Council of The Corporation of the City of Thunder Bay;
- f) "Deputy Fire Chief" means the person appointed by the Fire Chief who acts on behalf of the Fire Chief in the case of an absence or a vacancy of the Fire Chief; "Division" means a Division of the Thunder Bay Fire Rescue as provided for in this By-law;
- g) "Fire Chief" means the person appointed by Council to act as Fire Chief for the City and who is ultimately responsible to Council for the delivery of Fire Protection Services;
- h) "Fire Department" means Thunder Bay Fire Rescue ("TBFR");

- i) "FPPA" means the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act*, 1997, S.O., c 4, as may be amended from time to time, or any successor legislation, and any regulation made thereunder.
- j) "Fire Protection Services" includes fire suppression, rescue and emergency services response, fire and life safety code inspection and enforcement, fire investigation, fire and life safety public education, the management and maintenance of facilities, apparatus and equipment, and the training and professional development of persons involved in the provision of Fire Protection Services;
- k) "Hazmat" means Hazardous Materials;
- l) "High Angle" means an environment in which the load is predominately supported by a rope rescue system;
- m) "Limited Services" means a reduced number of fire fighters and/or equipment and/or apparatus, or a delay in response.
- n) "Member" means any person employed in or appointed to TBFR and assigned to undertake Fire Protection Services; and
- o) "Officer" includes the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chiefs, Division Chiefs, Platoon Chiefs, and all other supervisory positions within the Fire Department.
- p) "Trench" means Trench Rescue.
- q) "USAR" means Urban Search and Rescue.

2. Establishment and Composition

- 2.1 The Fire Department is continued under this By-law to provide Fire Protection Services for the City and shall continue to be known as Thunder Bay Fire Rescue ("TBFR").
- 2.2 The Fire Department shall consist of the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chiefs, Division Chiefs, Platoon Chiefs, other Officers, Members and operational staff, administrative support staff and any other person as may be approved by Council for the Fire Department to perform fire, rescue and other emergency protection services.

3. Organization and Core Services

- 3.1 TBFR shall be organized into the following Divisions:
 - a) Operations Division – Suppression which provides fire fighting and emergency response.

- b) Fire Prevention and Investigation which also provides public education.
- c) Training
- d) Apparatus and Equipment.
- e) Administration.

3.2 The Divisions set out in Section 3.1 shall provide the programs and services as prescribed at Schedule "A", which forms part of this By-law.

4. Levels of Service

- 4.1 The Fire Department will provide all properties within the City Limits with an equal level of response of both equipment and firefighter personnel.
- 4.2 Limited Service may be provided by the Fire Department. Limited Service may result from those conditions such as responding to multiple emergencies, travel distance, training levels of personnel, limited water supply, environmental conditions, and structural integrity.

5. Authority and Responsibilities of the Fire Chief

- 5.1 The Fire Chief shall be the head of the Fire Department and is responsible to Council for the effective operation and administration of TBFR.
- 5.2 The Fire Chief is ultimately responsible to Council for the effective delivery of Fire Protection Services.
- 5.3 The Fire Chief, may re-organize or eliminate Divisions or establish other Divisions or may do all or any of these things or any combination of them as may be required to ensure the proper administration and efficient operation of the Fire Department and the effective management of Fire Protection Services for the City, subject to City hiring practices, policies, procedures, by-laws, and collective agreements.
- 5.4 The Fire Chief may assign or re-assign such members to a Division as required for the effective operation and administration of that Division.
- 5.5 The Fire Chief shall be authorized to make such general orders, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations and to take such other measures as the Fire Chief may consider necessary for the proper administration and efficient operation of the Fire Department and the effective management of the Fire Protection Services for the City and for the prevention, control and extinguishment of fires, the protection of life and property and the management of emergencies.

5.6 Without restricting the generality of subsection 5.5 the Fire Chief shall be authorized to make such general orders, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations and to take such other measures as the Fire Chief may consider necessary for the following:

- a) For the care and protection of all property belonging to the Fire Department;
- b) For arranging for the provision of necessary and proper facilities, apparatus, equipment, materials, services, and supplies for the Fire Department;
- c) For determining and establishing the qualifications and criteria for employment or appointment to all positions within the Fire Department, subject to City hiring practices, policies, procedures, by-laws, and collective agreements, and in accordance with provincial certification standards;
- d) For determining and establishing the duties of all Members and administrative support staff of the Fire Department;
- e) For determining the number and assignment of staff required for operating the Fire Department in an efficient manner taking into consideration the level of core services and annual operating budget as determined by Council.
- f) For the conduct and the discipline of Members and administrative support staff of the Fire Department.
- g) For the preparation of Community Risk Assessment and Community Risk Reduction Plan, as required pursuant to O. Reg. 378/18, as amended.
- h) For preparing and upon approval by Council, implementing and maintaining such Fire Department strategic plans and Master Fire Plans as may be required by Council, on behalf of the City.
- i) For reporting to the appropriate crown attorney or other prosecutor or law enforcement officer or other officer the facts based on the evidence in any case in which there is reason to believe that a fire has been the result of criminal intent or negligence or in which there is reason to believe an offence has been committed under the FPPA;
- j) For keeping an accurate record, in convenient form for reference, of all fires, rescues and emergencies responded to by the Fire Department;
- k) For keeping such other records as may be required by Council and the FPPA;

- i) For preparing and presenting the reports of the Fire Department to Council;
 - m) For preparing and presenting the annual operating and capital budget of the Fire Department to Committee of the Whole and City Council; and
 - (n) For exercising control over the budget approved by Council for the Fire Department, provided that such general orders, policies, procedures, rules, regulations, and other measures do not conflict with the provisions of this By-law or any other By-law of the City, including without limitation those requiring the prior approval of or prior notice to Council or the satisfaction of certain conditions, general or otherwise, specified by Council before such measures can be implemented, or with the provisions of the FPPA or with the provisions of any collective agreement or other written agreement that may be applicable.
- 5.7 The Fire Chief shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of this By-law and all general orders, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations made under this By-law and for the enforcement of any other City by-law respecting Fire Protection Services.
- 5.8 The Fire Chief shall periodically review the general orders, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations made under this By-law, and shall periodically review any City by-law respecting Fire Protection Services, including this By-law, and may for the purpose of any review establish an advisory committee consisting of such Members and other persons, including members of the general public as the Fire Chief may determine are necessary to assist him in the discharge of this duty.
- 5.9 The Fire Chief may recommend by-law amendments to Council that the Fire Chief considers appropriate after the completion of a review as set out in subsection 5.8.
- 5.10 The Fire Chief may revise or delete any general orders, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations made under this By-law that the Fire Chief considers appropriate after the completion of a review as set out in subsection 5.8.
- 5.11 The Fire Chief shall have all powers, rights and duties assigned to a Fire Chief under the FPPA including without limitation the authority to enforce compliance with the *Fire Code*.
- 5.12 The Fire Chief may liaise with the Office of the Fire Marshal of Ontario and any other office or organization as required by Council or as considered necessary or advisable by the Fire Chief for the proper administration and efficient operation of the Fire Department and the effective management of Fire Protection Services for the City.

5.13 The Fire Chief may, from time to time, utilize such Members and administrative support staff of the Fire Department as the Fire Chief considers appropriate to assist in the performance of the Fire Chief's duties.

6. Deputy Fire Chiefs

6.1 The Deputy Fire Chiefs shall be the second ranking Officers of the Fire Department and shall be subject to and shall obey all orders of the Fire Chief and shall perform such duties as are assigned to them by the Fire Chief.

6.2 Where the Fire Chief is absent one of the Deputy Fire Chiefs, as decided upon by the Fire Chief in advance, shall act on the Fire Chief's behalf.

6.3 Where the Fire Chief is absent and has not appointed one of the Deputies to act on his or her behalf, or there is a vacancy in the office of the Fire Chief, one of the Deputy Fire Chiefs shall be appointed as acting Fire Chief by the Commissioner with the responsibility over the Fire Department.

6.4 Where a Deputy Chief is acting as the Fire Chief, the Deputy Chief has all the powers and responsibilities as the Fire Chief provided under any City by-law, including this By-law, and any provincial statute or regulation.

7. Members and Administrative Support Staff

7.1 The Members and administrative support staff of the Fire Department while on duty shall be under the direction and control of the Fire Chief or the highest ranking Officer present in any place.

7.2 Every Member and administrative support staff person shall conduct themselves in accordance with general orders, policies, procedures, rules and regulations made by the Fire Chief and shall give their whole and undivided attention while on duty to the efficient operation of the Fire Department and shall perform the duties assigned to them to the best of their ability in accordance with the FPPA and any collective agreement or other written agreement that may be applicable.

7.3 No person, other than duly appointed Members and administrative support staff of the Fire Department, shall obtain, carry, wear, or use any Fire Department uniform clothing in a manner that would lead any reasonable member of the public to identify the person as a member of the Fire Department.

7.4 No person, other than duly appointed Members and administrative support staff of the Fire Department, shall in any way identify themselves as being a member of the Fire Department.

8. Use of Fire Department Property

- 8.1 No person shall use or permit to be used any apparatus, equipment, or other property of the Fire Department for any personal or private use, without the prior approval of the Fire Chief.
- 8.2 No person shall willfully damage or render ineffective or inoperative any apparatus, equipment or other property belonging to or used by the Fire Department.

9. Fire Suppression and Other Emergencies

- 9.1 The Fire Department may respond to and suppress any fire by extinguishing the fire and by taking any other reasonable action required to respond to the fire, and, for these purposes, may enter private property, if necessary, to do so.
- 9.2 For the purposes of this section "fire" shall include, with any necessary modifications, an emergency, rescue, or hazardous condition.
- 9.3 The Fire Department may pull down or demolish any building or structure when considered necessary to prevent the spread of fire.
- 9.4 Despite any other section of this By-law, no person present at a fire, shall refuse to leave the immediate vicinity when required to do so by the Fire Department.
- 9.5 During a fire, and for the time that is required to complete the operations, no person shall remove the equipment of the Fire Department
- 9.6 During a fire, and for the time that is required to complete the operations and render the location and vicinity safe, from fire, no person, either on foot or with a vehicle of any kind, shall enter or remain upon or within:
 - a) The portion of any street or lane upon which the site of the fire abuts or upon any street or lane for a distance of fifteen (15) metres on each site of the property damaged by fire; and
 - b) Any additional street or lane or part of a street or lane or any additional limits in the vicinity of the fire, as may be prescribed by the Fire Chief or the highest ranking Officer present at the fire.
- 9.7 The provisions of subsections 9.5 (a) and (b) shall not apply to a resident of any street or lane or within any prescribed additional limit or to any person so authorized to enter or remain by an Officer or by a police officer.

10. Emergency Responses Outside the Limits of the Municipality

10.1 The Fire Department shall not respond to a call with respect to a fire emergency, rescue or hazardous condition outside the territorial limits of the City except with respect to a fire or emergency:

- a) That, in the opinion of the Fire Chief, threatens property in the territorial limits of the City or property situated outside the territorial limits of the City that is owned or occupied by the City.
- b) In a municipality with which an approved automatic aid or mutual aid agreement has been entered into to provide Fire Protection Services.
- c) On property with which an approved agreement has been entered into with any person or corporation to provide Fire Protection Services.
- d) At the discretion of the Fire Chief, to a municipality authorized to participate in any regional mutual aid plan established by a fire coordinator appointed by the Fire Marshal or any other similar reciprocal plan or program.
- e) On property beyond the territorial limits of the City where the Fire Chief determines that immediate action is necessary to preserve life or property and the appropriate fire department is notified to respond and assume command or establish alternative measures, acceptable to the Fire Chief.
- f) At the discretion of the Fire Chief, to an unincorporated area of Ontario that is not already protected by a fire service and where the City is entitled to reimbursement for the response from the Province.

11. Recovery of Additional Expenses

11.1 If, as a result of the Fire Department's response to a fire or other emergency, rescue or hazardous condition, the Fire Chief determines that it is necessary to use Additional Resources in order to suppress or extinguish a fire, preserve property, carry out required investigations, prevent a fire from spreading, control and eliminate an emergency, carry out or prevent damage to equipment owned by the City or otherwise carry out the duties and functions of the Fire Department, the owner of the property or motor vehicle requiring or causing the need for the Additional Resources shall be liable to pay the Additional Expenses to the City.

11.2 Any Additional Expenses shall be considered a fee or charge imposed for services provided or done by or on behalf of the City under the *Municipal Act, 2001* and shall be billed as a fee for services to the owner of the property or vehicle as the case may be.

- 11.3 The Additional Expenses shall constitute a debt of the owner to the City.
- 11.4 The City may take such action as it considers necessary and as is permitted by law to collect the Additional Expenses.
- 11.5 The owner shall be liable to pay to the City any costs incurred by the City in collecting the Additional Expenses and these costs shall be deemed to be Additional Expenses under this section;
- 11.6 Without restricting the generality of the foregoing where the Additional Expenses, or any portion of them remain unpaid, for a period in excess of 90 days, the Additional Expenses, or any portion of them that are unpaid shall be added to the tax roll for any real property within the territorial limits of the City owned by the owner referred to subsection 11.1 and shall be collected in a like manner as municipal taxes.

12. Interference

- 12.1 No person shall impede, interfere with, hinder, or attempt to impede, interfere with, or hinder any Officer or Member of the Fire Department in the performance of their duties under this Bylaw.
- 12.2 No person shall prevent, obstruct, or interfere in any manner whatsoever with the communication of a fire alarm to the Fire Department or with the Fire Department responding to a fire alarm that has been activated.

13. Offences

- 13.1 Every person who contravenes any provision of this By-law or fails to comply with an order or directive issued under this By-law, is guilty of an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding the maximum fines set out on the *Municipal Act*, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, and to such other penalties, as provided for in the *Provincial Offences Act*, R. S. 0. 1990, c. P.33, as amended.
- 13.2 Where a person has been convicted of an offence under this by-law, the court in which the conviction is entered and any court competent jurisdiction thereafter may make an order prohibiting the continuation or repetition of the offence by the person convicted.

14. Conflict and Severability

- 14.1 If this By-law conflicts with any other City by-law, this By-law shall supersede and prevail over the other by-law to the extent of the conflict.
- 14.2 Should any provision of this By-law be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall not affect the validity of the By-law as

a whole or any part thereof, other than the part which was declared to be invalid.

15. Repeal and Enactment

- 15.1 Chapter 890 of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code, titled Fire Service – Regulation is repealed.
- 15.2 By-law 50-1984, as amended, is hereby repealed.
- 15.3 This By-law shall come into effect upon the day it is passed.

Enacted and passed this 3rd day of February, A.D. 2026 as witnessed by the Seal of the Corporation and the hands of its proper Officers.

Andrew Foulds
Speaker

Krista Power
City Clerk

Thunder Bay Fire Rescue By-law Schedule “A”

The following Fire Protection Services and programs are prescribed for the purposes of Section 3.2 of this By-Law:

Operations

- Fire Suppression (Firefighting)
- Emergency Rescue
- Tiered Medical Response
- Hazardous Materials Response
- Wildland/Brush Firefighting
- Urban Search and Rescue
- Trench Rescue
- Confined Space Rescue

Fire Prevention Division, Investigation and Public Education

- Providing fire and life safety education to the public
- Enforcement of fire safety regulations and related fire codes
- Fire cause determination efforts including the preservation of evidence involving incendiary fires

Training and Professional Development

- Ensuring ongoing safety and compliance training of Members
- Site specific training to ensure the knowledge, skills and abilities of the Members are evaluated and skills are proficient

Apparatus, Equipment and Maintenance

- Maintaining the availability and safe operational condition of all fire department vehicles
- Ensuring life safety equipment attached to emergency equipment continually performs

Emergency Management and Response

- Maintaining the Corporation’s Emergency Plan and Program
- Ensuring plans for business continuity and response readiness to HIRA

Administration

- Leading the strategic planning, reporting and administration requirements of the Fire department in an efficient manner



Memorandum

Corporate By-law Number: 028-2026-Infrastructure & Operations - Thunder Bay Fire Rescue

TO: Office of the City Clerk

FROM: Dave Paxton, Fire Chief
Thunder Bay Fire Rescue

DATE PREPARED: December 8, 2025

SUBJECT: By-law 28-2026 – A by-law to Establish and Regulate the Thunder Bay Fire Rescue and to repeal By-law 50-1984 and Chapter 890 of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code.

MEETING DATE: City Council – February 3, 2026

By-law Description: A By-law to establish and regulate Thunder Bay Fire Rescue and to repeal By-law 50-1984, as amended and to repeal Chapter 890 of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code.

Authorization: Report 066-2026 (Infrastructure & Operations – Thunder Bay Fire Rescue) – City Council – February 3, 2026

By-law Explanation: The purpose of this by-law is to repeal the outdated 1984 by-law and adopt the new Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing & Regulating By-law, ensuring alignment with legislation, operational practices, and Council-approved service levels. This by-law will also repeal Chapter 890 – Fire Service – Regulation, of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code.

Schedules and Attachments:

Schedule "A" - Fire Protection Services and Programs

Amended/Repealed By-law Number(s):



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF THUNDER BAY
BY-LAW NUMBER 028-2026

A By-law to establish and regulate Thunder Bay Fire
Rescue and to repeal Chapter 890 of the City of
Thunder Bay Municipal Code and to repeal
By-law 50-1984, as amended

Recitals

1. Subsection 2(1) of the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act*, 1997, S.O. 1997, c 4, as amended (the "FPPA"), requires every municipality to establish a program in the municipality which must include public education with respect to fire safety and certain components of fire prevention and the provision of fire protection services as it determines may be necessary in accordance with its needs and circumstances;
2. Subsection 2(2)(b) of the FPPA permits a municipality, in discharging the responsibilities under subsection 2(1), to establish a Fire Department;
3. Subsection 5(0.1) of the FPPA permits a Council of a municipality to establish, maintain and operate a Fire Department for all or any part of the municipality;
4. Subsection 5(1) of the FPPA requires a Fire Department to provide fire suppression services and permits the Fire Department to provide other Fire Protection Services in the municipality;
5. Subsection 8(1) of the *Municipal Act*, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended ("Municipal Act, 2001"), provides that the powers of a municipality shall be interpreted broadly so as to confer broad authority on municipalities to enable them to govern their affairs as they consider appropriate, and to enhance their ability to respond to municipal issues;
6. Subsection 10(2) 6. of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality may pass by-laws for the health, safety and well being of persons;
7. Section 227 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that it is the role of officers and employees of the municipality to implement Council decisions and establish practices and procedures to implement those decisions; and
8. Subsection 391(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality may impose a fee or a charge for services provided by it.
9. City Council approved By-law 50-1984, to establish and regulate the City of Thunder Bay Fire Department on March 13, 1984.
10. By-law 50-1984 was subsequently adopted as Chapter 890 of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code, titled Fire Service – Regulation on November 12, 1996.

ACCORDINGLY, THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF THUNDER BAY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. General

1.1 Short Title: This By-law may be cited as "Thunder Bay Fire Rescue By-law".

1.2 Definitions:

- a) "Additional Expenses" means the cost to the City of any Additional Resources, including any applicable taxes and administrative fees;
- b) "Additional Resources" includes the use of:
 - (i) a private contractor,
 - (ii) special equipment that is rented or contracted by Thunder Bay Fire Rescue,
 - (iii) consumable materials not normally carried on a fire vehicle, or
 - (iv) consumable materials that are used in addition to the amount of those consumable materials normally carried on a fire vehicle;
- c) "City" means The Corporation of the City of Thunder Bay;
- d) "Confined Space" means any space that has limited or restricted means for entry or exit (e.g. tanks, vessels, silos, storage bin, hoppers, vaults, trenches, excavations and pits) and that is not designed for continuous human occupancy;
- e) "Council" means the Council of The Corporation of the City of Thunder Bay;
- f) "Deputy Fire Chief" means the person appointed by the Fire Chief who acts on behalf of the Fire Chief in the case of an absence or a vacancy of the Fire Chief; "Division" means a Division of the Thunder Bay Fire Rescue as provided for in this By-law;
- g) "Fire Chief" means the person appointed by Council to act as Fire Chief for the City and who is ultimately responsible to Council for the delivery of Fire Protection Services;
- h) "Fire Department" means Thunder Bay Fire Rescue ("TBFR");

- i) "FPPA" means the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act*, 1997, S.O., c 4, as may be amended from time to time, or any successor legislation, and any regulation made thereunder.
- j) "Fire Protection Services" includes fire suppression, rescue and emergency services response, fire and life safety code inspection and enforcement, fire investigation, fire and life safety public education, the management and maintenance of facilities, apparatus and equipment, and the training and professional development of persons involved in the provision of Fire Protection Services;
- k) "Hazmat" means Hazardous Materials;
- l) "High Angle" means an environment in which the load is predominately supported by a rope rescue system;
- m) "Limited Services" means a reduced number of fire fighters and/or equipment and/or apparatus, or a delay in response.
- n) "Member" means any person employed in or appointed to TBFR and assigned to undertake Fire Protection Services; and
- o) "Officer" includes the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chiefs, Division Chiefs, Platoon Chiefs, and all other supervisory positions within the Fire Department.
- p) "Trench" means Trench Rescue.
- q) "USAR" means Urban Search and Rescue.

2. Establishment and Composition

- 2.1 The Fire Department is continued under this By-law to provide Fire Protection Services for the City and shall continue to be known as Thunder Bay Fire Rescue ("TBFR").
- 2.2 The Fire Department shall consist of the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chiefs, Division Chiefs, Platoon Chiefs, other Officers, Members and operational staff, administrative support staff and any other person as may be approved by Council for the Fire Department to perform fire, rescue and other emergency protection services.

3. Organization and Core Services

- 3.1 TBFR shall be organized into the following Divisions:
 - a) Operations Division – Suppression which provides fire fighting and emergency response.

- b) Fire Prevention and Investigation which also provides public education.
- c) Training
- d) Apparatus and Equipment.
- e) Administration.

3.2 The Divisions set out in Section 3.1 shall provide the programs and services as prescribed at Schedule “A”, which forms part of this By-law.

4. Levels of Service

- 4.1 The Fire Department will provide all properties within the City Limits with an equal level of response of both equipment and firefighter personnel.
- 4.2 Limited Service may be provided by the Fire Department. Limited Service may result from those conditions such as responding to multiple emergencies, travel distance, training levels of personnel, limited water supply, environmental conditions, and structural integrity.

5. Authority and Responsibilities of the Fire Chief

- 5.1 The Fire Chief shall be the head of the Fire Department and is responsible to Council for the effective operation and administration of TBFR.
- 5.2 The Fire Chief is ultimately responsible to Council for the effective delivery of Fire Protection Services.
- 5.3 The Fire Chief, may re-organize or eliminate Divisions or establish other Divisions or may do all or any of these things or any combination of them as may be required to ensure the proper administration and efficient operation of the Fire Department and the effective management of Fire Protection Services for the City, subject to City hiring practices, policies, procedures, by-laws, and collective agreements.
- 5.4 The Fire Chief may assign or re-assign such members to a Division as required for the effective operation and administration of that Division.
- 5.5 The Fire Chief shall be authorized to make such general orders, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations and to take such other measures as the Fire Chief may consider necessary for the proper administration and efficient operation of the Fire Department and the effective management of the Fire Protection Services for the City and for the prevention, control and extinguishment of fires, the protection of life and property and the management of emergencies.

5.6 Without restricting the generality of subsection 5.5 the Fire Chief shall be authorized to make such general orders, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations and to take such other measures as the Fire Chief may consider necessary for the following:

- a) For the care and protection of all property belonging to the Fire Department;
- b) For arranging for the provision of necessary and proper facilities, apparatus, equipment, materials, services, and supplies for the Fire Department;
- c) For determining and establishing the qualifications and criteria for employment or appointment to all positions within the Fire Department, subject to City hiring practices, policies, procedures, by-laws, and collective agreements, and in accordance with provincial certification standards;
- d) For determining and establishing the duties of all Members and administrative support staff of the Fire Department;
- e) For determining the number and assignment of staff required for operating the Fire Department in an efficient manner taking into consideration the level of core services and annual operating budget as determined by Council.
- f) For the conduct and the discipline of Members and administrative support staff of the Fire Department.
- g) For the preparation of Community Risk Assessment and Community Risk Reduction Plan, as required pursuant to O. Reg. 378/18, as amended.
- h) For preparing and upon approval by Council, implementing and maintaining such Fire Department strategic plans and Master Fire Plans as may be required by Council, on behalf of the City.
- i) For reporting to the appropriate crown attorney or other prosecutor or law enforcement officer or other officer the facts based on the evidence in any case in which there is reason to believe that a fire has been the result of criminal intent or negligence or in which there is reason to believe an offence has been committed under the FPPA;
- j) For keeping an accurate record, in convenient form for reference, of all fires, rescues and emergencies responded to by the Fire Department;
- k) For keeping such other records as may be required by Council and the FPPA;

- l) For preparing and presenting the reports of the Fire Department to Council;
- m) For preparing and presenting the annual operating and capital budget of the Fire Department to Committee of the Whole and City Council; and
- n) For exercising control over the budget approved by Council for the Fire Department, provided that such general orders, policies, procedures, rules, regulations, and other measures do not conflict with the provisions of this By-law or any other By-law of the City, including without limitation those requiring the prior approval of or prior notice to Council or the satisfaction of certain conditions, general or otherwise, specified by Council before such measures can be implemented, or with the provisions of the FPPA or with the provisions of any collective agreement or other written agreement that may be applicable.

5.7 The Fire Chief shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of this By-law and all general orders, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations made under this By-law and for the enforcement of any other City by-law respecting Fire Protection Services.

5.8 The Fire Chief shall periodically review the general orders, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations made under this By-law, and shall periodically review any City by-law respecting Fire Protection Services, including this By-law, and may for the purpose of any review establish an advisory committee consisting of such Members and other persons, including members of the general public as the Fire Chief may determine are necessary to assist him in the discharge of this duty.

5.9 The Fire Chief may recommend by-law amendments to Council that the Fire Chief considers appropriate after the completion of a review as set out in subsection 5.8.

5.10 The Fire Chief may revise or delete any general orders, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations made under this By-law that the Fire Chief considers appropriate after the completion of a review as set out in subsection 5.8.

5.11 The Fire Chief shall have all powers, rights and duties assigned to a Fire Chief under the FPPA including without limitation the authority to enforce compliance with the *Fire Code*.

5.12 The Fire Chief may liaise with the Office of the Fire Marshal of Ontario and any other office or organization as required by Council or as considered necessary or advisable by the Fire Chief for the proper administration and efficient operation of the Fire Department and the effective management of Fire Protection Services for the City.

5.13 The Fire Chief may, from time to time, utilize such Members and administrative support staff of the Fire Department as the Fire Chief considers appropriate to assist in the performance of the Fire Chief's duties.

6. Deputy Fire Chiefs

6.1 The Deputy Fire Chiefs shall be the second ranking Officers of the Fire Department and shall be subject to and shall obey all orders of the Fire Chief and shall perform such duties as are assigned to them by the Fire Chief.

6.2 Where the Fire Chief is absent one of the Deputy Fire Chiefs, as decided upon by the Fire Chief in advance, shall act on the Fire Chief's behalf.

6.3 Where the Fire Chief is absent and has not appointed one of the Deputies to act on his or her behalf, or there is a vacancy in the office of the Fire Chief, one of the Deputy Fire Chiefs shall be appointed as acting Fire Chief by the Commissioner with the responsibility over the Fire Department.

6.4 Where a Deputy Chief is acting as the Fire Chief, the Deputy Chief has all the powers and responsibilities as the Fire Chief provided under any City by-law, including this By-law, and any provincial statute or regulation.

7. Members and Administrative Support Staff

7.1 The Members and administrative support staff of the Fire Department while on duty shall be under the direction and control of the Fire Chief or the highest ranking Officer present in any place.

7.2 Every Member and administrative support staff person shall conduct themselves in accordance with general orders, policies, procedures, rules and regulations made by the Fire Chief and shall give their whole and undivided attention while on duty to the efficient operation of the Fire Department and shall perform the duties assigned to them to the best of their ability in accordance with the FPPA and any collective agreement or other written agreement that may be applicable.

7.3 No person, other than duly appointed Members and administrative support staff of the Fire Department, shall obtain, carry, wear, or use any Fire Department uniform clothing in a manner that would lead any reasonable member of the public to identify the person as a member of the Fire Department.

7.4 No person, other than duly appointed Members and administrative support staff of the Fire Department, shall in any way identify themselves as being a member of the Fire Department.

8. Use of Fire Department Property

- 8.1 No person shall use or permit to be used any apparatus, equipment, or other property of the Fire Department for any personal or private use, without the prior approval of the Fire Chief.
- 8.2 No person shall willfully damage or render ineffective or inoperative any apparatus, equipment or other property belonging to or used by the Fire Department.

9. Fire Suppression and Other Emergencies

- 9.1 The Fire Department may respond to and suppress any fire by extinguishing the fire and by taking any other reasonable action required to respond to the fire, and, for these purposes, may enter private property, if necessary, to do so.
- 9.2 For the purposes of this section "fire" shall include, with any necessary modifications, an emergency, rescue, or hazardous condition.
- 9.3 The Fire Department may pull down or demolish any building or structure when considered necessary to prevent the spread of fire.
- 9.4 Despite any other section of this By-law, no person present at a fire, shall refuse to leave the immediate vicinity when required to do so by the Fire Department.
- 9.5 During a fire, and for the time that is required to complete the operations, no person shall remove the equipment of the Fire Department
- 9.6 During a fire, and for the time that is required to complete the operations and render the location and vicinity safe, from fire, no person, either on foot or with a vehicle of any kind, shall enter or remain upon or within:
 - a) The portion of any street or lane upon which the site of the fire abuts or upon any street or lane for a distance of fifteen (15) metres on each site of the property damaged by fire; and
 - b) Any additional street or lane or part of a street or lane or any additional limits in the vicinity of the fire, as may be prescribed by the Fire Chief or the highest ranking Officer present at the fire.
- 9.7 The provisions of subsections 9.5 (a) and (b) shall not apply to a resident of any street or lane or within any prescribed additional limit or to any person so authorized to enter or remain by an Officer or by a police officer.

10. Emergency Responses Outside the Limits of the Municipality

10.1 The Fire Department shall not respond to a call with respect to a fire emergency, rescue or hazardous condition outside the territorial limits of the City except with respect to a fire or emergency:

- a) That, in the opinion of the Fire Chief, threatens property in the territorial limits of the City or property situated outside the territorial limits of the City that is owned or occupied by the City.
- b) In a municipality with which an approved automatic aid or mutual aid agreement has been entered into to provide Fire Protection Services.
- c) On property with which an approved agreement has been entered into with any person or corporation to provide Fire Protection Services.
- d) At the discretion of the Fire Chief, to a municipality authorized to participate in any regional mutual aid plan established by a fire coordinator appointed by the Fire Marshal or any other similar reciprocal plan or program.
- e) On property beyond the territorial limits of the City where the Fire Chief determines that immediate action is necessary to preserve life or property and the appropriate fire department is notified to respond and assume command or establish alternative measures, acceptable to the Fire Chief.
- f) At the discretion of the Fire Chief, to an unincorporated area of Ontario that is not already protected by a fire service and where the City is entitled to reimbursement for the response from the Province.

11. Recovery of Additional Expenses

11.1 If, as a result of the Fire Department's response to a fire or other emergency, rescue or hazardous condition, the Fire Chief determines that it is necessary to use Additional Resources in order to suppress or extinguish a fire, preserve property, carry out required investigations, prevent a fire from spreading, control and eliminate an emergency, carry out or prevent damage to equipment owned by the City or otherwise carry out the duties and functions of the Fire Department, the owner of the property or motor vehicle requiring or causing the need for the Additional Resources shall be liable to pay the Additional Expenses to the City.

11.2 Any Additional Expenses shall be considered a fee or charge imposed for services provided or done by or on behalf of the City under the *Municipal Act, 2001* and shall be billed as a fee for services to the owner of the property or vehicle as the case may be.

- 11.3 The Additional Expenses shall constitute a debt of the owner to the City.
- 11.4 The City may take such action as it considers necessary and as is permitted by law to collect the Additional Expenses.
- 11.5 The owner shall be liable to pay to the City any costs incurred by the City in collecting the Additional Expenses and these costs shall be deemed to be Additional Expenses under this section;
- 11.6 Without restricting the generality of the foregoing where the Additional Expenses, or any portion of them remain unpaid, for a period in excess of 90 days, the Additional Expenses, or any portion of them that are unpaid shall be added to the tax roll for any real property within the territorial limits of the City owned by the owner referred to subsection 11.1 and shall be collected in a like manner as municipal taxes.

12. Interference

- 12.1 No person shall impede, interfere with, hinder, or attempt to impede, interfere with, or hinder any Officer or Member of the Fire Department in the performance of their duties under this Bylaw.
- 12.2 No person shall prevent, obstruct, or interfere in any manner whatsoever with the communication of a fire alarm to the Fire Department or with the Fire Department responding to a fire alarm that has been activated.

13. Offences

- 13.1 Every person who contravenes any provision of this By-law or fails to comply with an order or directive issued under this By-law, is guilty of an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding the maximum fines set out on the *Municipal Act*, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, and to such other penalties, as provided for in the *Provincial Offences Act*, R. S. 0. 1990, c. P.33, as amended.
- 13.2 Where a person has been convicted of an offence under this by-law, the court in which the conviction is entered and any court competent jurisdiction thereafter may make an order prohibiting the continuation or repetition of the offence by the person convicted.

14. Conflict and Severability

- 14.1 If this By-law conflicts with any other City by-law, this By-law shall supersede and prevail over the other by-law to the extent of the conflict.
- 14.2 Should any provision of this By-law be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall not affect the validity of the By-law as

a whole or any part thereof, other than the part which was declared to be invalid.

15. Repeal and Enactment

- 15.1 Chapter 890 of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code, titled Fire Service – Regulation is repealed.
- 15.2 By-law 50-1984, as amended, is hereby repealed.
- 15.3 This By-law shall come into effect upon the day it is passed.

Enacted and passed this 3rd day of February, A.D. 2026 as witnessed by the Seal of the Corporation and the hands of its proper Officers.

Andrew Foulds
Speaker

Jeff Walters
Deputy City Clerk

Thunder Bay Fire Rescue By-law Schedule “A”

The following Fire Protection Services and programs are prescribed for the purposes of Section 3.2 of this By-Law:

Operations

- Fire Suppression (Firefighting)
- Emergency Rescue
- Tiered Medical Response
- Hazardous Materials Response
- Wildland/Brush Firefighting
- Urban Search and Rescue
- Trench Rescue
- Confined Space Rescue

Fire Prevention Division, Investigation and Public Education

- Providing fire and life safety education to the public
- Enforcement of fire safety regulations and related fire codes
- Fire cause determination efforts including the preservation of evidence involving incendiary fires

Training and Professional Development

- Ensuring ongoing safety and compliance training of Members
- Site specific training to ensure the knowledge, skills and abilities of the Members are evaluated and skills are proficient

Apparatus, Equipment and Maintenance

- Maintaining the availability and safe operational condition of all fire department vehicles
- Ensuring life safety equipment attached to emergency equipment continually performs

Emergency Management and Response

- Maintaining the Corporation’s Emergency Plan and Program
- Ensuring plans for business continuity and response readiness to HIRA

Administration

- Leading the strategic planning, reporting and administration requirements of the Fire department in an efficient manner