

MEDIA RELEASE

Fire code violation conviction collects \$19,000 in fines – 19 Nickel Street

Port Colborne, ON (October 13, 2023) – The Fire Prevention Division of Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services continues to inspect properties across the City to ensure compliance with the Ontario Fire Code, egregious violations were discovered, prompting the prosecution of a property owner.

On March 1, 2022, Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services responded to a public safety concern at 19 Nickel Street to a property with 10 residential units in the building. During the building inspection, fire code violations were observed. The building owner was charged with failing to maintain the fire alarm system and other life safety equipment.

On October 12, 2023, 11641514 Canada Inc. the owner of 19 Nickel Street, was convicted in Provincial Offences Court for failing to comply with the Ontario Fire Code and was fined \$15,000, plus court costs and victim surcharge, in accordance with the provisions of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act.

On October 12, 2023, the Director of the Corporation was convicted in Provincial Offences Court for failing to comply with the Ontario Fire Code and was fined \$4,000.00, plus court costs and victim surcharged, in accordance with the provisions of the Fire and Protection and Prevention Act.

"It is incumbent on property owners to ensure their properties always remain in compliance with the Fire Code," said Fire Chief Scott Lawson. "This ensures the safety of occupants and emergency personnel who may need to respond to the location".

Building owners are mandated to maintain fire alarm systems and life safety equipment in multiresidential buildings. Failing to meet these requirements could result in fines of up to \$500,000 for a corporation and \$50,000 for an individual per count.

"Thank you to our Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services for continuously making the safety of our residents a top priority through inspections and enforcements," said Mayor Bill Steele. "This is a reminder that working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms save lives".

Port Colborne residents and property owners that require assistance ensuring alarms are working, creating an escape plan, or determining if their buildings are compliant, are encouraged to call Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services at 905-834-4512.

Help us ensure you are leading a fire safe life. Never Think It Can't Happen to You - Fire Kills.

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For more information, contact:

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