

**DRAFT FCM RESOLUTION**

**Preventative Cancer Screening for Firefighters**

**WHEREAS**, firefighters in communities across Canada face higher risks of occupational related cancer due to repeated exposure to hazardous toxins resulting from by-products of combustion; and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities, as employers of firefighters, face rising health and benefit costs from occupational illness, and early cancer screening may help reduce the severity and long-term impacts of these illnesses; and

**WHEREAS**, while many provinces recognize presumptive cancers, there is no national screening standard tailored to the specific risks of firefighting; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal *National Framework on Cancers Linked to Firefighting* highlights the importance of screening but lacks clear implementation guidance or screening protocols for use at the local level; and

**WHEREAS**, some municipal governments are beginning to address this gap, as demonstrated by Halifax Regional Municipality, which in 2025 approved funding for a pilot cancer screening program for firefighters, underscoring the need to support local efforts and close ongoing gaps; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities call on the Government of Canada to accelerate the development of national, evidence-based cancer screening guidelines for firefighters through the *National Framework on Cancers Linked to Firefighting*, and to provide targeted federal support for municipal pilot programs that contribute to the development and future implementation of a national screening standard.

*Halifax Regional Municipality*

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