

## News Release

October 4, 2017

### **Toronto Fire Services announces enhanced service delivery**

Toronto Fire Services (TFS) is pleased to announce that all TFS fire trucks now carry Naloxone for use by trained firefighters for patients suffering from a suspected opioid overdose.

"The administration of Naloxone by trained TFS staff will enhance the level of service TFS provides to the public," said Fire Chief Matthew Pegg. "Acknowledging the urgent public health crisis across Canada and the marked increase in opioid-related emergencies in Ontario, TFS, in alignment with the current tiered response protocols, will enhance service delivery through the administration of Naloxone."

In March 2017, City Council endorsed the Medical Officer of Health's report entitled Toronto Overdose Action Plan: Prevention and Response. In the report, the Board of Health requested the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care to provide Naloxone to community service providers, first responders and correctional facilities. Access to emergency pre-hospital care, including the administration of Naloxone, plays an important role in the City's drug strategy, which is based on the integrated components of prevention, harm reduction, treatment and enforcement.

Medical oversight for Naloxone administration by TFS staff is provided by the Fire Services Medical Director at the Sunnybrook Centre for Pre-Hospital Medicine through a physician-reviewed set of medical directives.

Follow Toronto Fire Services on Twitter at [https://twitter.com/Toronto\\_Fire](https://twitter.com/Toronto_Fire) and on Instagram at <http://www.instagram.com/torontofireservices>.

Toronto is Canada's largest city, the fourth largest in North America, and home to a diverse population of about 2.8 million people. It is a global centre for business, finance, arts and culture and is consistently ranked one of the world's most livable cities. In 2017, Toronto is honouring Canada's 150th birthday with "TO Canada with Love," a year-long program of celebrations, commemorations and exhibitions. For information on non-emergency City services and programs, Toronto residents, businesses and visitors can visit <http://www.toronto.ca>, call 311, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, or follow us on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/TorontoComms> and on Instagram at <http://www.instagram.com/cityofto>.

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