



NEWS RELEASE

Answer the Call: Niagara-on-the-Lake to Open Recruitment for Volunteer Firefighters

For Immediate Release

February 24, 2026

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is inviting residents to step forward, serve their community, and become volunteer firefighters.

Niagara-on-the-Lake Fire & Emergency Services will be recruiting volunteer firefighters this March, with applications open from March 1 to March 31, 2026. The Fire Department is actively welcoming new volunteers this spring and encouraging residents to learn more about this flexible, meaningful and community-focused opportunity.

Interested residents are encouraged to visit the [Town's website](#) for full details and application requirements.

Learn More This March

Residents are invited to attend one of several opportunities to connect with firefighters and explore the role:

- **Open Houses:** Drop in at one of the fire stations every Monday evening in March at 7:00 p.m. to watch training, meet firefighters, and ask questions. Fire station locations are as follows:
 - **Old Town:** 22 Anderson Lane
 - **St. Davids:** 745 Warner Road
 - **Virgil:** 1391 Concession 6 Road
 - **Queenston:** 5 Dumfries Street
 - **Glendale:** 350 Townline Road
- **Information Night:** Attend an information night on Thursday, March 26, at 7:00 p.m. at the Virgil Station to view a presentation, meet firefighters and ask questions.

Why Volunteer?



Serving as a volunteer firefighter is a powerful way to give back while gaining valuable, transferable skills. The role offers hands-on training, teamwork, leadership development, and the opportunity to make a real difference when it matters most.

The Town is particularly encouraging residents who may not have previously considered volunteering, including working adults, parents, trades professionals, caregivers, coaches, and those already active in the community, especially individuals who live or work near one of the Town's fire stations, to explore the opportunity. Volunteering is designed to be flexible and accessible for those balancing careers and family life.

Quotes:

“Volunteer firefighters play a vital role in keeping our community safe. Their service is rooted in community, protecting the people and places they call home. I encourage residents who are looking for a meaningful way to give back to consider answering the call.” – **Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa**

“Our volunteer firefighters demonstrate exceptional commitment, professionalism, and teamwork. This recruitment campaign is about welcoming the next intake of community leaders who are ready to serve, learn new skills, and make a lasting impact.” – **CAO Nick Ruller**

“Volunteer firefighters are regular people with regular lives. They are parents, tradespeople, business owners, coaches, and neighbours who choose to give back. If you've ever considered serving your community in a hands-on way, now is the time.” – **Fire Chief Jay Plato**

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