
HALDIMAND COUNTY

Memorandum EMS-M02-2019 Unannounced Ministry of Health Inspection April 2019 Results



For Consideration by Council in Committee on May 28, 2019

To: Mayor Hewitt and Members of Council
From: Jason Gallagher, Manager, Emergency Services/Fire Chief

On April 10, 2019, Haldimand County Paramedics Services received an unannounced inspection by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC), Emergency Services Division. The MOHLTC are mandated by the Province to complete audits of Paramedic Services throughout the province. In addition to the scheduled audit every 3 years, each service also experiences unannounced visits by a MOHLTC Inspector to assure compliance with the standards and legislation enforced by the Province. These visits occur at least once a year, and are important in determining operational, administrative, and quality assurance capabilities of the paramedic service. The inspector visits each station, which includes checking of all ambulances for equipment, functionality, and cleanliness. Each base is inspected for cleanliness, and functionality, and each paramedic on duty is audited for credentials and professionalism, which includes uniform and equipment checks.

During the visit on April 10th, the inspector was very impressed with Haldimand County Paramedic Services, stating the paramedics were friendly, professional, and all were within standards and legislation in regards to credentials. Bases were clean and in order. During the Inspection of ambulances there were 4 reported minor issues:

1. 1 medical kit had 5 alcohol swabs instead of the required 10.
2. 1 Fire Extinguisher was not signed off for the month of March.
3. 2 ambulances had loose equipment in the front cab.

These 4 items were the only issues found, and were remedied immediately following the inspectors report on the same day. In fact, the issue with the alcohol swabs was non existent as each of the Haldimand County's ambulances has a spare medical kit, (not mandatory) which was stocked properly, and therefore, we were never out of compliance in regards to alcohol swabs. The inspector did not inspect the spare medical kit, or would have found we were in compliance.

It should be noted that only having 4 issues, which are minor is exceptional, and proves Haldimand County Paramedic Services, strive to maintain all standards on a daily basis and that all paramedics are performing their duties as directed and obligated under the legislation.