



## Media Release

### First Responders Day – May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

**Haliburton County** – In Ontario, May 1 is recognized as First Responders Day. The day honours the skill and dedication of emergency medical services workers who protect and preserve life, property, evidence, and the environment through their heroic work.

On First Responders Day, members of Haliburton County Paramedic Service, municipal fire departments and the Haliburton Highlands Ontario Provincial Police have collectively come together to invite the public to a Haliburton County Community Open House to learn more about the critical role both professional and volunteer emergency responders have in keeping our communities safe.

Residents of all ages are invited to visit bases, halls, and stations throughout Haliburton County on May 1 from 3 – 7 p.m. for a variety of activities. Members of the public will be able to meet emergency personnel, learn about available programs and services, hear about volunteer and career opportunities, understand how to prepare for emergencies, and get an up-close look at emergency equipment and vehicles. (Activities vary at each location).

#### Locations:

**Algonquin Highlands** (Fire)  
Stanhope Firefighters Hall  
1123 North Shore Road

**Highlands East** (EMS, Fire)  
Highlands East Fire Dept – Station 4  
2259 Loop Road, Wilberforce

**Dysart et al** (EMS, Fire, OPP)  
Dysart Fire Dept & EMS Base  
South Street (behind the arena)

**Minden Hills** (EMS, Fire, OPP)  
EMS Base, 12410 Hwy 35  
Minden Hills Fire Dept, 12418 Hwy 35  
Haliburton Highlands OPP, 12598 Hwy 35

## Quotes:

“On behalf of the County and our four member municipalities, I’d like to offer my sincere congratulations to all of our first responders who go above and beyond every day to keep us safe. The Haliburton Highlands are in excellent hands thanks to your dedication.”

- Warden Liz Danielsen, County of Haliburton

## Quick Facts

- The First Responders Day Act was enacted by the Province in 2013 to recognize and honour the work of “men and women who, in the early stages of an emergency, are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, evidence and the environment.” (Source: <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/s13011>)
- First Responders include volunteers and professionals who work as police officers, firefighters, military personnel, paramedics, medical evacuation pilots, dispatchers, nurses, doctors, emergency medical technicians and emergency managers.
- The month of May also marks National Physicians’ Day (May 1), National Nurses Week (May 6 – 12), Emergency Preparedness Week (May 5 – 11) and Paramedic Services Week (May 19 – 25).
- Emergency Preparedness Week is a national awareness initiative since 1996. During Emergency Preparedness Week, Canadians are reminded to get familiar with potential risks in their area, make an emergency plan specific to their household and build a 72-hour emergency kit. To learn more visit: <https://www.haliburtoncounty.ca/en/living-here/emergency-preparation.aspx>

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