



**SMOOTH
ROCK
FALLS**

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May 15th, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

At 12:01 a.m. on May 16, 2020, Ontario is lifting the Restricted Fire Zone (RFZ) designation that was put in place last month across Ontario's fire region. The province will continue to assess forest fire hazard conditions and an RFZ designation may be reinstated in higher risk areas if conditions deteriorate. These restrictions are put in place in order to reduce the number of preventable human-caused fires and lower the risk of wildfires impacting the public. For the full press release please to go: <https://news.ontario.ca/mnr/en/2020/05/ontario-ready-to-respond-to-wildland-fire-season.html>

The Smooth Rock Falls Volunteer Fire Department will not be issuing burning permits during this time, until further notice. If you had a permit for your current residence in 2019, then you may burn, provided you follow all the regulations on the permit.

Please respect the government regulation on social distancing. The intent is to respect your neighbours but have the opportunity to be able to get outside with other members of your household to enjoy the atmosphere of a small campfire. Once this pandemic is over, new permits will be required.

Sincerely,

Fire Chief, Michel Pelletier

Cc: Deputy Fire Chief, Yvan Marchand

CC: Mayor, Michel Arseneault

CC: CAO & Director of Economic Development , Luc Denault