



Bedford residents condemn end of fire agreement

FIRE AGREEMENT

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we can get the numbers up, in which case we might be able to stop the agreement," he said.

During the meeting, the new training standards for fire fighters were blamed for driving Bedford volunteers out of the force. Chesebrough said the township wants to ensure fire fighters can perform a multitude of duties, not simply drive a truck.

"Again, we have to assess the liability issues with regards to that. We have to assess the situation in regards to the Occupational Health and Safety and the Ministry of Labour," Chesebrough said. "I don't think we would be doing the resi-

dents a service by saying this guy can only do this or get to this point and stop, or he can only drive a truck so when he gets to your house and he is the first one there, unfortunately he can't do medical."

Coun. Stowe said it might be prudent to reexamine the requirements needed to become a fire fighter. In the meantime, he wants South Frontenac council to reconsider the decision to cancel the agreement.

"I am going to try and convince our council to keep this agreement," he said.

Residents presented several petitions to the central fire committee requesting South Frontenac council to reconsider

the decision to cancel the agreement. The committee will look at the issue and report back to council.

There was also an option discussed about residents paying Rideau Lakes for additional fire service, or South Frontenac Township levying a special fee on the Bedford district residents for the additional fire service. DeBernardi said any agreement between a group of residents to pay for additional fire protection would still need to be agreed upon between the two municipalities. He would not say if he supported that, noting it would be up to Rideau Lakes council to decide whether to come to such an agreement.