



## **NEWS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release*  
February 24, 2026

**Municipality of Southwest Middlesex**  
153 McKellar Street, Glencoe, ON N0L 1M0  
[www.southwestmiddlesex.ca](http://www.southwestmiddlesex.ca)

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### **Province Supports Southwest Middlesex Firefighters with Cancer Prevention Funding**

**GLENCOE, ON** – The Municipality of Southwest Middlesex is proud to announce that the Southwest Middlesex Fire Department has received \$36,233.56 in provincial funding to support firefighter cancer prevention efforts.

This important investment will provide new protective gear and specialized cleaning supplies to help keep local firefighters safer while they serve our community. The funding will allow the department to purchase additional turnout gear, protective hoods, and equipment designed to better remove harmful contaminants after emergency calls.

Firefighters are exposed to smoke and toxic materials as part of their work. Having clean gear and proper cleaning tools significantly reduces long-term health risks.

“Our firefighters show incredible dedication to protecting Southwest Middlesex,” said Mayor Allan Mayhew. “This funding is about protecting them in return. It ensures they have the equipment and resources needed to stay healthy and safe while serving our residents.”

The additional gear will allow firefighters to rotate equipment more effectively, ensuring clean protective clothing is always available while used gear is professionally cleaned. The new supplies will also improve on-scene and post-incident cleaning practices.

MPP Steve Pinsonneault highlighted the Province’s commitment to frontline emergency responders. “Firefighters are pillars of our communities. Our government is proud to invest in initiatives that help protect their health and well-being. This funding will make a real difference for the firefighters of Southwest Middlesex.”

Fire Chief Gary Johnston noted the significance of the funding for the department. “Cancer prevention is a growing priority in the fire service. This investment strengthens our ability to protect our team and support long, healthy careers in service to our community.”

For more information, visit [www.southwestmiddlesex.ca](http://www.southwestmiddlesex.ca) or contact the municipal office at (519) 287-2015.

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Front Row (L-R) Amanda Gubbels, CAO; Councillor Haggith; Deputy Mayor Sholdice; MPP Steve Pinsonneault; Councillor Emery; Mayor Allan Mayhew; Councillor McGill; Fire Chief Gary Johnston.

Back row (L -R) Paul Macdonald; Isaac Speiran; Julie Cole; Dawson Stokes; Captain Dave McEachren; District Chief Craig Enwright; Councillor Myers.



(L-R) MPP Steve Pinsonneault; Paul Macdonald; Isaac Speiran; Julie Cole; Dawson Stokes; Captain Dave McEachren; Mayor Allan Mayhew; District Chief Craig Enwright; Fire Chief Gary Johnston.