



## National Indigenous Fire Safety Council Welcomes New Board President

**December 9, 2024**

*(French version to follow)*

The National Indigenous Fire Safety Council (NIFSC) is proud to announce the successful conclusion of its 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM). We extend our gratitude to all participants whose engagement and dedication continue to drive our mission of creating safer and more resilient First Nations communities.

We are thrilled to introduce **Jeremy Parkin** as the new Board President of NIFSC. Jeremy is the Director of Emergency Services with the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, where he oversees full-time fire and paramedic departments along with emergency management. With over 25 years of fire service experience, Jeremy brings expertise in training, program development, public education, diversity programs, and emergency management.

In addition to his professional role, Jeremy has served with numerous non-profits, as well as regional, provincial, and national committees. He is currently the Vice President of the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs and is pursuing a degree in Public Safety. We are confident that Jeremy's leadership will further strengthen our efforts to enhance fire safety and emergency preparedness across First Nations communities.

We would also like to express our gratitude to **Michelle Vandevord**, who has served as Board President with exceptional dedication. During her tenure, Michelle has been instrumental in advancing NIFSC's initiatives, fostering collaboration, and amplifying Indigenous leadership in fire safety. Michelle will continue her invaluable contributions to NIFSC as the Saskatchewan representative on the Board of Directors and as Interim Executive Director.

The NIFSC is excited to move forward with this exceptional leadership team, continuing our commitment to Indigenous fire safety and community well-being.

The outcomes of this AGM reflect our shared commitment to advancing fire safety, emergency preparedness, and community resilience across First Nations. We are inspired by the dedication of our leadership, members, and partners, and we look forward to continuing to make a lasting impact together.

Together, we are building safer and stronger communities for generations to come.

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