



## **Fire code violation conviction - 85 St Arnaud Street**

**Port Colborne, ON (Jan 20, 2023)** – On Jan. 12, 2023, the property owner of 85 St Arnaud Street, Port Colborne was convicted in Provincial Offences Court for failing to comply with the Ontario Fire Code. The owner was fined \$4,000 plus court costs, in accordance with the provisions of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act.

On Dec. 17, 2021, Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services responded to a structure fire in one of the four residential units at 85 St Arnaud Street. During the fire investigation and building inspection, a smoke alarm violation was observed, fire personnel installed the required smoke alarm out of an abundance of caution and the building owner was charged with failing to replace a smoke alarm within the time frame indicated in the manufacture instructions.

“I hope this conviction serves as a reminder to all residents and owners of buildings in Port Colborne of their responsibilities under the Fire Code,” said Fire Chief Scott Lawson. “Unsecure buildings create a risk to our community. Working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms save lives”.

Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services will continue to enforce the Ontario Fire Code across the City. It is incumbent on property owners to ensure their properties always remain in compliance with the Fire Code. This ensures the safety of occupants and emergency personnel who may need to respond to the location.

Working smoke alarms are mandatory under the law and any residence with a fuel fire appliance or attached garage requires a working carbon monoxide alarm. Failing to meet these requirements could result in fines of up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) per count.

“Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services continuously make the safety of our residents a priority through inspections and enforcements. I cannot stress enough the importance of Port Colborne residents having working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in their homes and businesses,” said Mayor Bill Steele.

Port Colborne property owners that require assistance ensuring alarms are working or determining if their buildings are compliant, are encouraged to call Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services at 905-834-4512.

**Help us ensure you are leading a fire safe life. Never Think It Can't Happen to You, Fire Kills.**

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### **For more information, contact:**

Scott Lawson  
Fire Chief  
905-834-4512  
[scott.lawson@portcolborne.ca](mailto:scott.lawson@portcolborne.ca)

Shianne Stephens  
Creative Services Coordinator  
905-835-2900 x308  
[Shianne.stephens@portcolborne.ca](mailto:Shianne.stephens@portcolborne.ca)