



## **Fire code violation conviction – 47 Louis Street**

**Port Colborne, ON (Jan 27, 2023)** – The Fire Prevention Division of the Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services continues to inspect properties across the City to ensure compliance with the Ontario Fire Code. On several occasions, egregious violations were discovered, prompting the prosecution of several property owners.

On April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services responded to a complaint at 47 Louis Street to a property with 4 residential units in the building. During the building inspection, smoke alarm violations were 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's instructions.

On Jan. 26, 2023, the owners of 47 Louis Street, was convicted in Provincial Offences Court for failing to comply with the Ontario Fire Code, and was fined \$2000 plus court costs, in accordance with the provisions of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act.

"Whether you are a tenant or the owner, having working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in your residence or building is the law," said Fire Chief Scott Lawson. "This conviction serves as a reminder to all property owners that unsecure buildings create a risk to our community".

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 an 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.

"On behalf of Members of Council, we're thankful for our Fire Department's dedication to our community and their hard work to ensure our residents are fire safe" commented Mayor Bill Steele.

Port Colborne residents that require assistance in determining whether 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:**

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