



GEORGINA

Media Release

Town of Georgina Corporate Communications
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Pearson Consulting retained by Town regarding Pefferlaw Fire Hall project

Georgina, ON – The Town terminated its contract with BECC on April 28, 2020. Immediately upon termination, the Town secured the premises. To protect the property until construction resumes, by-law officers monitor the premises regularly and 24/7 security surveillance has been installed.

The Town has taken the first step towards the resumption of construction. Having terminated BECC, the Town needed to assess the project's present status in order to establish a go-forward construction schedule. In that regard, the Town engaged in an expedited process to retain a construction consultant. That process has resulted in the retention of Pearson Consulting, Project Management & Construction Risk Specialists.

At this time, it is expected that the assessment of the project and the completion of a report by Pearson will take approximately 4 to 6 weeks. Once that process has been completed, then the Town will be better positioned to determine how to proceed with the balance of the construction work required to finish the Pefferlaw Fire Station.

The Town has commenced litigation against both BECC and Echelon Insurance, the issuer of a Performance Bond in favour of the Town in respect of this construction project. In its Statement of Claim, the Town is claiming its cost overruns and delay costs from BECC, and seeking court orders that BECC or Echelon pay such damages to the Town. To date, neither BECC nor Echelon Insurance have delivered Statements of Defence to the Town's Statement of Claim, but it is expected that both parties will be defending the action brought against them. Town Council has instructed its lawyers to provide it with regular in camera (closed) session up-dates of the litigation so that Town Council can monitor the litigation and provide strategies for advancing that litigation to a possible settlement or trial.

As highlighted before, this project is important to Pefferlaw residents and for the Town of Georgina as a whole. Town Council and staff are committed to ensure that this project is completed. Further updates regarding the progress of the construction will be forthcoming as this project advances.

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