

References/Compliance:

- ✓ Fire Department establishment - FPPA s.2(1)(a); s.12
- ✓ Fire Chief appointment and delegation - FPPA ss.6(1), 14, 19–20
- ✓ Duties of the fire department - FPPA s.2(1) and NFPA alignment
- ✓ Organizational structure and personnel roles - OFM Guidelines
- ✓ Community Risk Assessment (CRA) - O. Reg. 378/18
- ✓ Fire Master Plan reference - OFM Best Practice
- ✓ Emergency Management program - EMCPA s.2.1 and O. Reg. 380/04
- ✓ Mutual/Automatic Aid and Tiered Response - FPPA and OFM Guidelines
- ✓ Records, inspections, and reporting - OFM and EMO audit standards
- ✓ Legal entry powers - FPPA s.19

(Ref 1)

Current Version: Cites FPPA and Municipal Act vaguely; limited context.

New Version: Clearly aligns with the FPPA (1997), EMCPA, and the Fire Master Plan.

Comment: The New Version by-law better reflects modern legislative requirements, including alignment with Council-adopted plans (Fire Master Plan and Community Risk Assessment), adding legal clarity and strategic integration.

(Ref 2)

Current Version: Contains limited operational and legal definitions. Too much risk and not compliant.

New Version: Expanded to include:

- “Automatic Aid,” “Community Risk Assessment,” “CEMC,” “NFPA,” “WSIB,” etc.
- Updated Fire Chief reporting structure.

Comment: These additions reflect updates to provincial regulations (e.g., O. Reg. 378/18), emergency management law (EMCPA), and best practices in fire service operations and terminology.

(Ref 3)

Current Version: Includes high-level service descriptions. Not O.Reg or NFPA/OFM compliant.

New Version: Clearly lists all mandated services: suppression, inspection, education, hazmat, medical tiered response, drone/UAS operations, emergency management, etc.

Comment: Provides operational clarity, transparency to the public, and alignment with NFPA 1710, FPPA, and Fire Marshal expectations.

(Ref 4)

Current Version: Limited to Fire Chief and Deputy Chiefs. Not compliant with delegation/authorities. Possible legal challenge. OFM non-compliant.

New Version: Includes Assistant Deputy Chiefs, and delegation powers under FPPA Sections 14, 19, 20.

Comment: Better supports a modern command structure EMP, codifies succession, and enhances legal authority through written delegation powers.

(Ref 5)

Current Version: Covers powers under FPPA for inspections, demolitions, and barricading.

New Version: Adds Charter-compliance for dwelling entry and expands legal context. Much more resilient in the context of legal authorities.

Comment: Improved legal precision and rights-based compliance under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. CORF - mandated.

(Ref 6)

Current Version: Emergency management roles not addressed. Non-compliant.

New Version: Assigns BFES responsibility for municipal emergency management, EMCPA and Reg. 380/04 compliance, and CEMC designation.

Comment: Strongly modernized; ensures OFM/NFPA/EMO compliance, critical for municipal (aka City) risk management.

(Ref 7)

Current Version: Covers Simcoe Mutual Aid, dispatch agreements.

New Version: Clarifies approval authority, Council delegation, and includes mutual/automatic/tiered response and inter-agency agreements. OFM/EMO compliant now.

Comment: Strengthens inter-municipal collaboration frameworks and formalizes support operations. Forward thinking.

(Ref 8)

Current Version: Implied through reporting duties. - implied vs stated (challenge issues).

New Version: Lists records for incidents, training, inspections, WSIB, maintenance, and performance metrics.

Comment: Enhances accountability, performance measurement, and compliance with audit requirements (OFM/EMO).

(Ref 9)

Current Version: Mentions “annual report.”

New Version: Mandates reporting on activities, performance indicators (KPI's), CRA integration - compliance and best practices.

Comment: Supports modern municipal performance transparency and informed Council decision-making.

(Ref 10)

Current Version: Grants Mayor and Clerk authority in consultation with Fire Chief.

New Version: Consolidates dispatch authority under Fire Chief with possible delegation. (CoC for Fire Chief)

Comment: Streamlines governance and matches operational responsibility with accountability. OFM/NFPA – compliant

(Ref 11)

Current Version: Based largely on pre-2010 standards. - non-compliant

New Version: Incorporates:

- FPPA s.2(1), s.6
- EMCPA s.2.1, Reg. 380/04
- CRA under O. Reg. 378/18
- NFPA references

Comment: Comprehensive legislative compliance ensures credibility with OFM, EMO, WSIB, and risk auditors. S.12 assistant to the fire marshal added.

Summary of Improvements

Area	Current By-law (2012)	New By-law (2025)	Comment
Legislative References	Limited	Comprehensive	Includes FPPA, EMCPA, CRA, NFPA
Organizational Detail	General	Detailed	Identifies key roles and modern structure
Emergency Management	Absent	Integrated	Ensures EMCPA compliance
Service Mandate	General	Specific	Matches modern FUS/NFPA expectations
Agreements	Basic	Detailed with authority provisions	Clarifies delegation, approval processes
Performance Accountability	Minimal	Defined	Enables better Council oversight
Legal Language	Dated	Charter-compliant	Improves enforceability

Conclusion

The 2025 E&R by-law represents a substantial modernization of the department's legal and operational framework. It enhances transparency, compliance, risk governance, inter-agency coordination, and Council oversight.

These changes are essential to reflect Barrie's growth, updated legislation, modern fire service standards, and the strategic vision articulated in the Fire Master Plan.