



OAFTO.CA

IDC SCHEDULE

2026

ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF FIRE TRAINING OFFICERS

SEP 21 – Day 1 – Keynote

	PRESENTATIONS
8:00 – 9:00	Opening Ceremony - Welcome – OAFTO President and FESTI Chief
9:00 – 12:00	Mark VonAppen - Fully Involved Leadership: Building Culture Through Action, Accountability, and Authenticity
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch
13:00 – 14:00	Justin Brunner – Writing AI Policy before AI writes yours!
14:00 – 15:00	OFM Update – Deanne Kirwin and Tara Lew
15:00 – 16:00	Section 21 Update – Rob Grimwood
EVENING PROGRAM	Members Appreciation Banquet, Awards and Recognition night – No Cost – Class A Uniform Dress or department uniform.

SEP 22 – Day 2

	IN-CLASS	HANDS-ON-TRAINING	HANDS-ON-TRAINING	In-Class Presentations
8:30 – 9:00	MORNING – True North FOOLS – Riley McGilloway			
9:00 – 12:00	Brent Thomas – Effective Command Workshop Session 1 - AM	Shane Robinson – No Hydrants, No Excuses: Tanker Shuttle Options and Operations – Session 1 AM	Rescue Squad Ironworks – Lead Instructor – John Cadiz Next Level Forcible Entry – FULL DAY Limited to 24 Students	Ariel Castromayor - Conversations on AI and the Fire Service/Fire Training with Justin Brunner – Using AI to Build Better Fire Service Training Session 1 - AM
12:00 – 13:00	LUNCH			
13:00 – 16:00	Brent Thomas – Effective Command Workshop Session 2 - PM	Shane Robinson – No Hydrants, No Excuses: Tanker Shuttle Options and Operations – Session 2 PM		Ariel Castromayor - Conversations on AI and the Fire Service/Fire Training with Justin Brunner – Using AI to Build Better Fire Service Training Session 2 - PM
EVENING PROGRAM	Corporate Vendor's Night – No Cost – Your attendance at the vendors night is important to help us attract corporate sponsorship which helps fund excellent high-quality instructors and training.			

SEP 23 – Day 3

	HANDS-ON-TRAINING	HANDS-ON-TRAINING	PRESENTATIONS/IN-CLASS	IN-CLASS TRAINING
8:00 – 9:00	MORNING BRIEF – OAFTO Members Annual General Meeting			
9:00 – 11:00	Phil Montgomery/Robb Wiggins High Rise Operations – FULL DAY class – 2 hour Lecture, 6 hours Hands-On – 20 person max	Thomas Anderson – Insight Fire Service Training - Seek Thermal Cameras – Session 1 PM	Expert VR – Evan Sitler-Bates – More Reps. Less Risk. How XR is Changing Firefighter Training in Ontario – Max 16 People	Scott Hewlett – Buy-In is BS: How to Make Change the Way Things Are.
11:00 – 12:00			Ministry of Labour – David Winter Drawing the Line: What Fire Training Officers Need to Know about OH&S Compliance	Steve Clark – Running the Hot Zone: Live Hazmat Exercises with Real-Time Team Tracking
12:00 – 13:00	LUNCH			
13:00 – 14:00		Thomas Anderson – Insight Fire Service Training - Seek Thermal Cameras – Session 2 PM	Anthony De Benedictis – Data-Driven Insights to Inform Best Practices on the Fireground	Steve Clark – A Running the Hot Zone: Live Hazmat Exercises with Real-Time Team Tracking
14:00 – 16:00			Expert VR – Evan Sitler-Bates – More Reps. Less Risk. How XR is Changing Firefighter Training in Ontario – Max 16 People	Scott Hewlett – Buy-In is BS: How to Make Change the Way Things Are.
EVENING PROGRAM	Gold Night – 9 Holes– PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUIRED TO COVER THEIR OWN COSTS – More info to come.			

SEP 24 – Day 4

	PRESENTATIONS	HANDS-ON- TRAINING	Presentation/Hands On	In-Class
8:30 – 9:00	MORNING BRIEF – OAFIC Update			
9:00 – 10:30	Chris Vanderburg – Command Crash Course – IC Fundamentals FULL DAY – Limited to 12 People	Sean Duffy Searchable vs. Survivable Space – FULL DAY – Max 36 Students	Jessica Clermont with Paul Terpstra – Through the Lock – Session 1	Dan Poirier – IAFF Responding to the Interface Program – Session 1
10:30 – 12:00				
12:00 – 13:00	LUNCH			
14:30 – 16:00			Jessica Clermont with Paul Terpstra – Through the Lock – Session 2	Dan Poirier – IAFF Responding to the Interface Program – Session 2

SEP 25 – Day 5

	PRESENTATIONS	HANDS-ON- TRAINING	Presentation/Hands On	HANDS ON-TRAINING
8:30 – 9:00	MORNING BRIEF – BRIEF – Jamie Kovacs – Director of Fire Marshal’s Public Safety Council			
9:00 – 11:00	Chris Vanderburg – Levelled-Up Fire Service Instruction	Sean Duffy Searchable vs. Survivable Space – FULL DAY – Max 36 Students	Brian King and Sean Henderson Time to task: Let’s Get Good at the Job! Session 1 - AM	Jeff Goarley – Hoses, Nozzles and Appliances
11:00 – 12:00	Dr. Kym Briggs - The Instructor Effect: How Training Shapes Firefighter Mental Health, Performance, and Organizational Culture			
12:00 – 13:00	LUNCH			
13:00 – 16:00			Brian King and Sean Henderson Time to task: Let’s Get Good at the Job! Session 2 – PM	Jeff Goarley – Hoses, Nozzles and Appliances
EVENING PROGRAM	TORONTO BLUE JAYS WRAP UP NIGHT – Jays Vs. Reds - PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUIRED TO COVER THEIR OWN COSTS – More info to come.			