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Community and Protective Services Committee
City Hall
300 Duffering Ave.
London, Ontario

RE: NAMING OF # 4 FIRE STATION AFTER PETER HARDING

As an entire London Food Bank organization, we wish to strongly endorse the initiative to have #4 fire station on Colborne Street named after former Deputy Chief Peter Harding.

I was working at Central Fire Station in 1986 and Peter Harding (my captain at the time) was the very first person I spoke with regarding establishing a food bank in London, Ontario. Peter was not only supportive, but worked through the fire chief and City administration at the time to open up all the fire stations in the city for the collection of donated goods. He also incorporated the services of St. John Ambulance (as their superintendent at the time) to do the pick ups at the stations and deliver the food to the London Food Bank warehouse.

The link between the London Food Bank, the London Fire Services, and the London Professional Firefighters Association is indelible and long-lasting. Much of that was due to Mr. Harding's relationship with all the various groups involved in making sure that hungry families received the food they required.

Peter Harding was our very first board member and remained with us for our entire time as an organization. He also served as our board chair for 20 years of our 32-year operation.

It remains impossible for us to think of the London Food Bank's success over the years without linking it directly with the remarkable efforts of Peter Harding. He represented our city at its very best and left a permanent influence on our organization. I can, as a former colleague, attest to the fact that #4 station on Colborne Street was his favourite of all the fire halls. Our entire board, our large volunteer base, and all of our staff endorse the naming of the fire station after one of London's greatest citizens.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glen Pearson", written over a horizontal line.

Glen Pearson
Co-Director
London Food Bank