

FIRST NATIONS TECHNICAL SERVICES ADVISORY GROUP INC. (TSAG)
CODE OF ETHICS
FIREFIGHTER TRAINING PROGRAM

The purpose of a code of ethics is to establish criteria that encourages fire service personnel to promote a culture of ethical integrity and high standards of professionalism in our field. The broad scope of the recommended Code of Ethics is intended to mitigate and negate situation than may result in embarrassment and waning of public support for what has historically been a very highly respected profession.

Ethics comes from the Greek work ethos, meaning character. Character is not necessarily defined by how a person behaves when conditions are optimal and life is good. It is easy to take the high road when the path is paved and obstacles are few or non-existent. Character is also defined by decisions made under pressure, when no one is looking, when the road contains land mines, and the way is obscured. As members of the Fire Service, we share a responsibility to project an ethical character of professionalism, integrity, compassion, loyalty and honesty in all that we do, all of the time.

We need to accept this ethics challenge and be truly willing to maintain a culture that is consistent with the expectations outlined in this document. By doing so, we can create a legacy that validates and sustains the distinguished Fire Service Institution, and at the same time ensure that we leave the Fire Service in better condition than when we arrived.

Each member's conduct must be ethical and beyond reproach in order to maintain, the high level of public confidence and trust placed within our department.

Each member understands that they have the responsibility to conduct myself in a manner that reflects proper ethical behavior and integrity. Members must carry out their duties impartially, fairly, and honestly and to conduct themselves in a manner that their conduct will bear the scrutiny; and to avoid not only actual impropriety, but also the potential or appearance of impropriety. In doing so, I will help foster a continuing positive public perception of the Fire Service. Therefore, I as a Firefighter will:

- Always conduct myself, on and off duty, in a manner that reflects positively on my department, the Fire Service and myself in general.
- Accept responsibility for my actions and for the consequence of my actions.
- Support the concept of fairness and the value of diverse thoughts and opinions.
- Avoid situations that would adversely affect the credibility or public perception of the Fire Service Profession.
- Be truthful and honest at all times and report instances of cheating or other dishonest acts that compromise the integrity of the Fire Service.
- Conduct my personal affairs in a manner that does not improperly influence the performance of my duties, or bring discredit to my organization.
- Be respectful and conscious of each member's safety and welfare.
- Recognize that I serve in a position of public trust that requires stewardship in the honest and efficient use of publicly owned resources, including uniforms, facilities, vehicles and equipment



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and that these are protected from misuse and theft.

- Exercise professionalism, competence, respect and loyalty in the performance of my duties and use information, confidential or otherwise, gained by virtue of my position, only to benefit those I am entrusted to serve.
- Avoid financial investments, outside employment, outside business interests or activities that conflict with or are enhanced by my official position or have the potential to create the perception of impropriety.
- Never propose or accept personal rewards, special privileges, benefits, advancement, honors or gifts that may create a conflict of interest, or the appearance thereof.
- Never engage in activities involving alcohol or other substance use or abuse that can impair my mental state or the performance of my duties and compromise safety.
- Never discriminate against the public on the basis of race, religion, colour, creed, age, marital status, national origin, ancestry, gender, sexual preference, medical condition, or handicap.
- Never harass, intimidate, or threaten fellow members of the service or the public and stop or report the actions of other firefighters who engage in such behaviors.
- Responsibly use social networking, electronic communications, or other media technology opportunities in a manner that does not discredit, dishonor, or embarrass this organization, the Fire Service, and the public. I also understand that failure to resolve or report inappropriate use of this media equates to condoning this behavior.

Below is to be filled out by the Firefighter in Training:

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Representing Which First Nation: _____

Date: _____

