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**\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\***

The Township of Black River-Matheson (BRM) and Black River –Matheson Fire Department are happy to announce their Ramore Fire Station will be moving to a new home.

The Ramore Fire Station located on Ferguson Avenue in Ramore, has been the home of the Ramore Firefighters for a number of years. The Building is 100+ years old and is beyond feasible repair and no longer provides a safe working environment for the Firefighters. “The decision to find or build a new fire station has been debated for several years and we just could not allow our Firefighters to continue to operate out of such a substandard base”, said Chief Administrative Officer, John Regan. Mayor Laderoute said “We’d like to recognize the dedication of Chief Lamb to this project over the years. The new Council and Administration are able to take immediate action based on his research and hard work”.

After reviewing numerous options, the decision has been made to relocate to the Pioneer Hall property in Ramore. A new two-bay garage will be built to house the emergency vehicles and equipment. The Pioneer Hall will be utilized by the Firefighters for regular meetings and training. The Pioneer Hall is also the Township’s alternate Emergency Operations Centre. “Closing down the Ramore Fire Station is not an option”, said Mayor Laderoute “We have a significant land mass to cover in BRM, and providing service from just the Matheson and Val Gagne stations would be inappropriate and disregard our residents’ safety”.

The Knights of Columbus will share the Pioneer Hall with the Firefighters, and the Pioneer Hall will still be available for rent by the residents of the community. “Presently the Pioneer Hall is underutilized and the Firefighters need a new home. This new garage combined with the Pioneer Hall building will allow the Firefighters to improve and deliver training as mandated by the Province, This is a win-win for both.” said Fire Chief Guy Lamb.

Treasurer Cassandra Child stated “ The Township budgeted for a new building in 2018, and there is no further tax impact to residents.”

Black River-Matheson Fire Department consists of three stations, Ramore, Matheson and Val Gagne, with a total of 50 volunteer Firefighters.

If you would like more information, please contact:

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