

Fire Services Update – October 2021

Presented To:	Emergency Services Committee
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Meeting Date:	October 20, 2021
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Type:	Correspondence for Information Only
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Prepared by:	Jesse Oshell Community Safety
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Recommended by:	General Manager of Community Safety
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Report Summary

This report provides information regarding the recent business activities, relevant statistics and good news stories within the Fire Services Division, Community Safety Department.

Relationship to the Strategic Plan, Health Impact Assessment and Community Energy & Emissions Plan (CEEP)

This report refers to operational matters and has no direct connection to the Community Energy and Emissions Plan.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Background

This report aims to provide the City of Greater Sudbury Emergency Services Committee with an update on good news stories and relevant statistics as well as recent business activities within the Fire Services Division of the Community Safety Department.

Fire Services is responsible for delivering proactive public safety and response programs to prevent emergencies wherever possible and to preserve and enhance life, property, and the environment where response is required.

Major Fire Loss Incidents April 30, 2021 – August 31, 2021		
Date	Location	Estimated Loss
Monday, May 3, 2021	Melvin Ave, Sudbury	\$ 225,000
Thursday, May 6, 2021	Gennings St, Sudbury	\$ 210,000
Monday, May 10, 2021	Laval Street, Sudbury	\$ 100,000
Tuesday, May 11, 2021	Elm Street, Sudbury	\$ 325,000
Saturday, June 5, 2021	Fisher Road, Garson	\$ 7,000,000
Wednesday, June 16, 2021	Pine Street, Sudbury	\$ 500,000
Friday, June 18, 2021	Nesbitt St, Sudbury	\$ 221,000
Thursday, June 24, 2021	Kingsway, Sudbury	\$ 200,000
Monday August 16, 2021	Dominion Drive, Val Caron	\$350,000
Wednesday August 18, 2021	John Street, Chelmsford	\$150,000
Thursday August 19, 2021	Lafontaine Street, Hanmer	\$150,000
Monday August 23, 2021	Gemmell Street, Sudbury	\$900,000
Monday August 30, 2021	Velma Street, Val Caron	\$250,000

Data Source: Fire House

Incident Type	Jan 1 – Aug 31, 2021	Jan 1 – Aug 31, 2020	Change
Fires	236	205	15%
Fire Alarms	700	724	-3%
Vehicle Collisions	303	274	11%
Open Air Burning Response	257	259	-1%
Medical Assistance	1043	425	141%
Other Incidents (assisting other agencies, no incident found on arrival, etc.)	814	673	21%
Total	3353	2560	31%
TOTAL Estimated Loss for Fires	\$16,259,358	\$6,192,050	162%

Data Source: Fire House

Fleet

Covid-19 Stay at home/re-opening orders continue to cause issues for the Fleet Section with delays in repairs, contractors working on different sites/projects and supply chain issues.

Tankers: One of the two International cab and chassis with an aluminum body HV607 Tankers received in December 2020 from Dependable Emergency Vehicles is now in service. The training on the new tankers was completed with the Volunteer Firefighters and the truck is now in service at Station 24 in Wahnapiatae. However, due to the volume of Career Firefighters requiring training, the deployment of the tanker going to Station 4 in Long Lake (Tanker 4) is delayed but eminent.

With the new tanker in service at Station 24 in Wahnapiatae (Tanker 24), its predecessor afforded us a reserve tanker that can be used to replace any of the other tankers should they be sent for service. This allows Fire Services to maintain the current quantity of tankers in service at any given time. When Tanker 4 is put in service, the old Tanker 4 will be sent to auction.

Rescue Boat: Training by the manufacturer Inland Life rafts and further training with the Coast Guard has now been completed. The boat, designated Boat 4, is registered with Transport Canada, is being decaled and will then be placed at Station 4 in Long Lake.

Technical Rescue Truck and Trailer: A dedicated Technical Rescue Response unit and accompanying trailer have been refurbished and placed into service at Main Station. This unit carries the resources and supplies to support our rope rescue, high angle rescue, and miscellaneous technical response tools. These are required when responding or supporting the specialized needs of any technical response anywhere in the municipality.

HAZMAT Truck and Trailer: In 2021, Council supported the continuing development of hazardous materials response and at this time the HAZMAT response truck is now decaled and has the multi gas detection equipment in place. The HAZMAT trailer has been equipped with a generator and new lighting and is set up with the specialized equipment. The training is ongoing and will support the operational deployment of this unit. This unit will respond from Station 3 in New Sudbury, where it is now stationed.

The Fleet Section continues to work with the City Garage on the yearly Ministry of Transportation inspections for all apparatus and small fleet as the vehicles are due. As well, the ongoing repairs or breakdowns are being dealt with in as timely a manner as possible.

The installation and commissioning of the Nederman system at career halls (captures and vents vehicle exhaust from the tail pipe, providing cleaner air within the stations) is now complete. The Nederman representatives have completed training to both Fire and EMS personnel on the operation and maintenance of the system.

Inventory of the bunker gear stored in our Copper Cliff storage was completed. The expired gear has been removed. Quantities and sizing of the remaining gear is on file and will accommodate our new hires for both volunteer and career recruitments.

Areas of concern were discovered with the standby generators during a citywide blackout. The problems discovered are now being addressed in order to mitigate any future issues.

The following annual requirements have been successfully completed:

- 2021 annual ground ladder testing is complete.
- 2021 annual hard suction hose testing is complete.
- 2021 volunteer and career clothing orders are being processed.
- 2021 apparatus pump testing is complete.
- 2021 SCBA annual flow testing is complete.
- 2021 annual hose testing is ongoing.

- 2021 annual testing of the propane kitchen simulator and support equipment located on the Fire Service's training grounds has been completed by Draeger.
- 2021 annual aerial device testing is complete.
- 2021 annual air quality and compressor service is ongoing.

Fire Prevention

Fire Prevention is working with the four school boards on a targeted program to inspect and ensure code safety of the schools. This program will be on-going to maintain consistency.

Fire Prevention has been working with local restaurants to ensure fire code safety is maintained while moving through the different phases of COVID-19. Fire Prevention staff are working with restaurant owners to educate them and ensure their premises maintains compliance with the Ontario Fire Code. As restaurants being to increase occupancy of interior dining, the occupants can be reassured the building meets all Ontario Fire Code regulations.

With the high quantity of real estate sales occurring over the past year, Fire Prevention has experienced an increase in request inspections pertaining to real estate transactions. Lawyers of the purchaser of multi-unit buildings may request a fire inspection to be completed prior to the closing of the real estate transaction to ensure that the building meet all Ontario Fire Code regulations. The Fire Prevention Plans Examiner continues to maintain and address the demands for construction requests.

Public Education

Public Education has developed and implemented a new Home Fire Safety program for seniors. With this program, our Public Safety Officers and their community partners can assist seniors through an in-home visit to discuss home safety topics, such as smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms, and cooking safety.

The Public Safety Officers are currently working with the school boards to implement fire safety education back into the schools with options for delivery such as in-person learning or online programs.

Training

The Training Section continues its delivery of operational programming with several key targeted topics progressing.

The Hazardous Materials (HAZ-MAT) program is moving forward well, with a projected Operations level response capability by the end of 2021 transitioning into the Technical level response in 2022. COVID-19 related challenges related to remote instructors are responsible for some delayed aspects of the training which has overall impacted the final deployment of this response approximately one year longer than initially proposed to Council.

Swift water training occurred at relevant stations throughout the summer months as we requalified staff in the required training evolutions. Specific commercial boat operator licensing and training for the requirements of the Canadian Coast Guard are also ongoing for water response staff.

The Training Section has been heavily involved with the training of approximately 70 volunteer firefighter recruits. The volunteers are participating in our in-house NFPA 1001 compliant program being delivered by our Training Officers. This program is done on evenings and weekends, allocating significant resources to support our continued commitment to our volunteer firefighters.

The career firefighter recruitment process was successful and completed with the hiring of 11 new firefighters. The new career recruits are undergoing a nine-week NFPA 1001 training academy which also includes specialized technical response and emergency medical responder training. Their program concludes with a graduation set for November 5, 2021.

Watercraft rescue program development began with the assistance of the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG). This specific program will outline the material, processes, and training required for our staff who will become the Train the Trainers. Delivery to water response stations was completed during the summer months.

Trench Rescue planning has been finalized and will begin at the instructor development phase in May of 2022. This joint Fire Services / Water Wastewater program will have Fire Training Officers delivering the required trench program to both our firefighters and Water Wastewater staff. This will allow for an in-house delivery model supporting both services and providing efficiencies in training delivery.