

Greater Sudbury Fire Services – Camp Molly

Presented To:	Community and Emergency Services Committee
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Type:	Presentations
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Report Summary

This report and presentation provides background on the Camp Molly program and information on Greater Sudbury Fire Services' first Camp Molly.

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.

Purpose

Greater Sudbury Fire Services (GSFS) will be holding its first annual Camp Molly taking place from Thursday, August 17 until Sunday, August 20, 2023. Camp Molly is a free four-day event that provides young women in grades 11 and 12 the opportunity to perform a variety of firefighting tasks and to learn about the different career opportunities within Greater Sudbury Fire Services.

Background

Camp Molly pays tribute to the first female firefighter on record in North America, Molly Williams. Molly Williams was a slave in 1818 when she became the first female firefighter with Oceanus Engine Co. 11, in Lower Manhattan, after the male firefighters became sick with influenza, Molly answered the call to duty and was recognized for her strength and resiliency. Her incredible story has been memorialized into the children's novel, "Molly, By Golly!" and over 200 years later, Molly Williams continues to be known as a trailblazer in the field of firefighting. Camp Molly aims to carry on her legacy by inspiring other firewomen. Camp Molly's message to participant; be prepared to be challenged, be prepared to be empowered and be prepared to change the way you see yourself.

Since its inception, the goal at Camp Molly remains the same; to show young females aged 15 to 18 years old that a career in the fire services is a viable and rewarding option.

Camp Molly has been hosted by Halton Hills, Belleville, Oakville and Brantford Fire Services in previous years. Candidates from previous years have only positive feedback pertaining to the program and a few of the candidates have been successful in obtaining careers in the fire service since attending Camp Molly.

Participants in Sudbury's Camp Molly will get an inside look at a career in fire and emergency services. They will rotate through a series of activities based on Firefighter Level 1 training, such as Fire Investigation and Fire Dynamics, Medical Scenarios, Auto Extrication, Firefighter Survival and Forcible Entry, and more. The campers will be divided into 7 groups of 5 campers who will be led and trained by a GSFS female Captain from either the Career or Volunteer Sections.

Space is limited to 35 participants. Eligible participants must submit an application explaining why they would like to attend Camp Molly and meet all of the following minimum qualifications:

- be a girl or woman-identifying student between the ages of 15 and 18
- live in Greater Sudbury
- be in good physical condition and have a positive attitude
- be able to supply their own CSA safety footwear
- be able to provide their own transportation
- possess a valid provincial health card prior to August 14, 2023
- complete the online application form before the application deadline
- be committed to attend all Camp Molly activities and required dates

Camp Molly will promote diversity and inclusivity within GSFS and shall enhance exposure to future opportunities including our recruitment process for local volunteer and career firefighting.

Camp Molly utilizes a structured framework using volunteers and donations necessary to run Camp Molly at no cost to the City of Greater Sudbury. Camp Molly and the scenarios and evolutions involved will be set up and run by GSFS staff and volunteers arranged by Camp Molly. All GSFS and volunteer staff that take part in Camp Molly will be donating their time. Our only commitment will be the use of the City facilities (LEL Fire Training Grounds), surplus equipment, and limited management involvement utilized to assist with organization and promotion of the event.

Further information on this opportunity can be found by visiting campmolly.ca