

Greater Sudbury Fire Services Update Report

Presented to: Emergency Services Committee on October 23, 2019



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.

Good News Story

Congratulations to Elissa Bertuzzi, who was recognized for her actions and willingness to assist in patient care and removal at a serious motor vehicle collision during her probationary year as a volunteer fire fighter. Thank you Elissa!



**1- Probationary Volunteer Firefighter, Elissa Bertuzzi
Acting Deputy Chief Brian Morrison**



Fire Services Statistics

Major Fire Loss Incidents May 1, 2019 – August 31, 2019		
Date	Location	Estimated Loss
Wednesday, May 22, 2019	257 Jean St., Sudbury	\$155, 000
Friday, June 21, 2019	16 Ravina, Garson	\$450, 000
Friday, June 21, 2019	20 Ravina, Garson	\$450, 000
Monday, June 24, 2019	220 Hanna Ave., Capreol	\$250, 000
Sunday, June 30, 2019	5544 Deschene Rd., Hanmer	\$150, 000
Saturday, July 6, 2019	20 & 24 Chinaberry Dr., Lively	\$760, 000
Tuesday, July 9, 2019	2309 Mallard's Landing Dr., Sudbury	\$760, 000
Wednesday, July 24, 2019	1520 Bancroft Dr., Sudbury	\$800, 000
Saturday, August 17, 2019	2 Edinburgh St., Sudbury	\$250, 000

Data Source: Fire House

Incident Type	Jan 1 – Aug 30, 2019	Jan 1 – Aug 31, 2018
Fires	218	288
Fire Alarms	738	817
Vehicle Collisions	450	731
Open Air Burning Response	142	185
Medical Assistance	658	511
Other Incidents (assisting other agencies, no incident found on arrival, etc.)	900	985
Total	3106	3517
TOTAL Estimated Loss for Fires	\$5, 712, 570	\$6, 669, 054

Data Source: Fire House



Public Fire Safety Education/Fire Prevention

Public Fire Safety Education and Fire Prevention work hand-in-hand to proactively deliver programs aimed at ensuring safe communities. Public Education provides directed and focused fire safety programs to reduce risk where fire code enforcement has a diminished impact and where emergency response is delayed due to the city's geography.

Fire Prevention conducts inspections, and enforces various sections of municipal by-laws and provincial legislation. The Section's goal is to reduce the possibility and severity of fire or explosion, by providing tools, resources and leadership to the community, with a focus on disadvantaged and vulnerable citizens.

Vulnerable Occupancy Inspections

The Fire Prevention and Protection Act requires that a municipality's fire service inspect all "vulnerable occupancies" on an annual basis. A vulnerable occupancy is defined as a: **building or organization that is either a care and treatment occupancy, a care occupancy or a retirement home. Care occupancy means an occupancy in which special care is provided by a facility, directly through its staff or indirectly through another provider to residents of the facility.** The Fire Services Division has completed this mandatory inspection requirement of all 53 Vulnerable Occupancies within the City of Greater Sudbury (CGS). It takes approximately six months of dedicated work by the Fire Prevention Officers to carry out this work, ensuring protection of some of our most vulnerable citizens. The work commenced in January 2019.

Fire Inspections

During this same time period, the Fire Prevention Section also conducted 513 inspections. Each inspection requires the attendance of a Fire Prevention Officer at the specific property, sometimes due to a complaint, at other times by request.

Fire Prevention Officer Recruitment

With the second Fire Prevention Officer position filled, the new officer will be working on recent amendments of the Fire Code, such as education of property owners on the new firefighter elevator requirements.

Plans Examiner

Fire Prevention's dedicated Plans Examiner has reviewed 353 plans/occupancy "walk throughs" for new construction projects within CGS since January 1st. This work is carried out in partnership with CGS Building Services.



Public Education

Public Safety Officers continue to be very active conducting education within CGS. School presentations have been delivered that consist of three parts, homework, in class discussion and use of the inflatable house for “plan your escape” exercises, smoke and carbon monoxide alarm familiarization. Secondary School presentations have also been conducted, utilizing smart phone technology. One topic of discussion is fire prevention while cooking. Public Safety Officers also attended the recent “Aging in Place” symposium, which was a very positive opportunity to discuss fire safety with our senior citizens.

As a result of a bus fire, Public Safety Officers conducted fire extinguisher training for local bus line staff. In addition, two new television commercials were filmed that will air in 2019 and focus on “planning your escape” and “kitchen fire safety.”

The summer season festivals provided additional opportunities for both Public Safety Officers and Fire Prevention Officers to attend and deliver community safety messages to businesses, citizens and visitors. Public Safety Officers will be focusing on fire safety messaging for the travelling public by working with local hotels/motels on fire safety tips.

Jim Copeland Award 2018

Derek D’Agostino of First General Services (Sudbury) Inc., was the recipient of the 2018 Jim Copeland Award for public fire safety. Mr. D’Agostino was nominated for this award by the Fire Prevention Section. The award, presented by the Ontario Municipal Fire Prevention Officers Association, recognizes an individual or community group that demonstrates support of fire prevention activities and the promotion of fire life safety in the community. The award was presented by the Association’s president at their annual conference in Oshawa.



- Luc Willard, GSFS Public Safety Officer, Derick D'Agostino, Gary Laframboise, OMFPOA President



Fire Fleet/Logistics

Fleet provides logistical and maintenance support to ensure fire vehicles, equipment and buildings are maintained and repaired in accordance with applicable legislation, regulations, policy and manufacturers' suggested standards.

Annual Testing

The Fleet and Mechanical Section has begun the 2019 annual resource testing process which includes all hose, pumps, ladders and self-contained breathing apparatus devices. The testing is specific to each item and ensures that these resources are in their top operating condition and certified to safety standards for use by Fire Services staff. Working with our suppliers, the testing is on schedule and staff are ensuring as little interruption in service as possible while the equipment is cleaned, tested, repaired and then placed back into service.

Diesel Emissions Capture

Working with CGS Buildings and Assets Division, Fire Services Fleet and Mechanical staff will begin assisting with the engineering and design of an exhaust emissions capture system in five fire stations. These systems are put in place to vent the exhaust from fire apparatus to the outside environment without indoor contamination or spread of exhaust throughout a building. A critical piece of safety hardware, these systems will work to keep a high level of air quality while ensuring the harmful emissions generated by the apparatus does not affect the occupants of the stations.

Training

Training involves the development and delivery of fire service related training programs, including recruit training, officer development, emergency care, equipment operator training, fire suppression, and fire prevention. They also oversee operation of fire training grounds.

Full Time Captain Promotional Process

Fire Services has qualified 15 fulltime firefighters to the rank of Acting Captain which shall allow them to operate in a relief capacity when there is an opportunity due to a scheduled vacancy for an on-duty Captain. The process was completed over several months of self-directed study and various mentoring and learning opportunities, which prepared the candidates to write a comprehensive exam and complete scenario-based assessments.

Volunteer Captain Promotional Process

The final stage of the three-stage learning and evaluation Volunteer Captain Promotional process is underway. The candidates have attended classroom sessions and followed self-study material in order to prepare for their next evaluation. A comprehensive written exam and a scenario-based assessment shall be done to qualify for the rank of Volunteer Captain.



Platoon Chief Promotional Process

Three new Acting Platoon Chiefs have recently been qualified to operate in a relief capacity when there is an opportunity due to a scheduled vacancy for an on-duty Platoon Chief. The process involved many learning objectives, classroom sessions and contained self-study material. All Acting Platoon Chief candidates performed multiple scenario based-assessments and completed a written examination.

Annual Fire Training/Physical Assessment

Volunteer Firefighters have begun their annual mandatory training sessions which are completed at the Fire Training Tower located at the Lionel E. Lalonde Centre. Each Volunteer Firefighter will attend sessions providing skills and tactics to be used on different fire emergencies while applying those skills to simulated fires on the training ground. Included is a physical assessment to assist Volunteer Firefighters in understanding their current health and wellbeing when operating on the fire ground.

Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment

A Volunteer Firefighter recruitment drive was held this past summer. A recruit class will commence this fall with additional volunteer firefighters joining the stations in October.