

# Greater Sudbury Fire Services Update Report

Presented to: Emergency Services Committee on June 5, 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 Community Safety Department, Fire Services Division.

Fire Services is responsible for delivering proactive public safety and response programs to prevent emergencies wherever possible and to preserve and enhance life, property, the environment, and the economy due to fire losses in accordance with the Fire Protection Act (FPPA) of Ontario, associated regulations, and City by-laws.

## Good News Stories

### New Structural Fire Helmets

Fire Services Fleet and Mechanical Section has procured new structural firefighter helmets for all Career and Volunteer Suppression staff. This purchase engaged the Fire Services Joint Health and Safety Committee to identify which new helmets will become the standard across the Fire Service. New helmets are colour coded to assist in the identification of firefighter rank on our busy emergency scenes and during training scenarios.



Included for each individual firefighter is a personalized name shield for the front of their helmet. This shield will display Sudbury Fire, their rank and name. The purchase of these new helmets helps ensure a high level of safety for all Fire Service responders.



To further our safety standards and to help combat the increasing rates of cancer among firefighters, the helmets were purchased with a secondary inner liner. This piece of equipment gives all firefighters the ability to remove contaminated pieces of their helmets after attending at an emergency scene. They can then be replaced with the new clean pieces while the contaminated ones are laundered. This assists the firefighters with protection from carcinogens that would normally build up and potentially permeate their skin, which could cause cancer.



In addition, all firefighters will receive a second flash hood that provides protection for vulnerable areas of exposed skin between the firefighter's

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helmet and bunker coat. With a second flash hood, each firefighter will be able to also remove their existing hood from service and use their spare hood while contaminated pieces are laundered.

### Fire Services Statistics

Major Fire Loss Incidents March 1 – April 30 2019		
Date	Location	Estimated Loss
Monday, March 4, 2019	Montpellier Rd., Chelmsford	\$ 800, 000
Tuesday, March 5, 2019	Kelly Lake Rd., Sudbury	\$ 500, 000
Wednesday, April 3, 2019	Lakeview Ave., Onaping	\$ 250, 000
Tuesday, April 9, 2019	Romeo St., Sudbury	\$ 125, 000
Saturday, April 13, 2019	Montague Ave., Sudbury	\$ 100, 000
Sunday, April 28, 2019	Dryden Rd., Wahnapiatae	\$ 250, 000
TOTAL Estimated Loss for all 72 Fires in 2019 to date		\$ 3, 206, 511

Data Source: Fire House

Incident Type	January 1 – April 30 2019	January 1 – April 30 2018
Fires	72	88
Fire Alarms	363	362
Vehicle Collisions	248	409
Open Air Burning Response	18	17
Medical Assistance	294	222
Other Incidents (assisting other agencies, no incident found on arrival, etc.)	419	414
Total	1414	1512

Data Source: Fire House



### Fire Operations

Fire Operations utilizes 88% of the Division's resources to deliver approximately 195,000-person hours of fire suppression services. The Section receives and processes approximately 4,800 requests for service representing 9,300 vehicle responses, in mitigation of emergent and non-emergent events within the scope of Fire Services including fire suppression, Medical Tiered Response (MTR), and technical rescue including water, ice, high angle, confined space, etc. Additionally, the Section responds to major emergency incidents through coordination with provincial and federal response agencies. From a non-emergency perspective, the Section delivers 160 Knox Box maintenance visits and approximately 60 tactical pre-plans. The operations group is made up of both Volunteer and Career responders.

### PEER Support Network (PSN)

The PSN is a dedicated team of staff from both Paramedic & Fire Services (Career and Volunteer). They provide support to their fellow workers during times of emotional difficulties by being a confidential listening ear and a bridge to help. The PSN members receive training and ongoing support from a consulting psychologist. In April of this year, the PSN team expanded, and new and existing team members trained together for four days. This team has been in existence since 2016 and is an important part of our emergency services mental health care.



### 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 by using 5% of the Division's resources to reach nearly 12,000 citizens via fire safety education programs aimed at at-risk populations and the completion of approximately 1,900 inspections enforcing various sections of municipal by-laws and provincial legislation. Public Fire Safety Education provides directed and focused fire safety programs aimed at at-risk populations to reduce risk where Fire Code enforcement has a diminished impact and where emergency response is delayed due to the City's geography through the development and delivery of programs such as: Learn Not to Burn, seniors' fire safety, student housing fire safety, the Arson Prevention Program for Children (TAPP-C), industrial fire safety, and fire extinguisher training. Fire Prevention conducts inspections and enforces various sections of municipal by-laws and provincial legislation in delivery of fire prevention programs 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.

### Play Safe, Be Safe

The Play Safe, Be Safe program is in full swing throughout the City. The program offers Grade 2 students in schools within the City the opportunity to learn about fire safety through an interactive program. Public Safety Officers attend the schools on two separate occasions to first present the message, and then returning to evaluate retention of the message with the program culminating with a visit to either a fire station or a visit to the school with a fire truck. The program encourages student involvement and positive interaction with fire service personnel creating a better understanding of safety during an emergency.



### 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.

### Water Rescue Equipment

An updated Water Rescue program was launched in mid-April to ensure an appropriate level of training and response for the fast flowing water season. Fire Services Fleet and Mechanical Section coordinated resources and assigned two updated Water Rescue units, (each unit includes a Zodiac boat and a tow vehicle) to respond out of Station 2 (Minnow Lake) and Station 4 (Long Lake). Fire Services Training Section has been extremely diligent to ensure water rescue responders are both equipped and trained to the appropriate standards in order to be operational and ready to respond from those stations across the entire City. Station 22 in Skead will remain the location of Boat 22, (a Stanley Steel watercraft) which responds to emergencies on Lake Wanapitei.

### 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. The Training Section also oversees operation of fire training grounds on which the training sessions are conducted.



### Career Recruitment

The Training Section has been hard at work with the 2019 Career Candidates. Twelve (12) new candidates have been progressing through several technical components as part of their nine-week training academy. Technical Rope Rescue, Water Rescue, and Emergency First Responder Medical Training are a few of the specialized programs to be completed. A graduation ceremony will be held on May 16<sup>th</sup> at the Lionel E Lalonde Centre for our successful candidates.

The Training Section continues working diligently to deliver several other technical programs throughout the City that will ensure the high risk but low frequency emergency response incidents attended to by Fire Services meet or exceed the required standards.

