



2016 Annual Report

Township of Esquimalt Fire Department

May 2017



Township of Esquimalt Mission Statement

Focusing on community priorities, the Township of Esquimalt works to make our community and environment a better place for today and the future.



Our Values

Accountability – we acknowledge and take responsibility for our actions, decisions and policies.

Integrity – we practice high standards of ethical behaviour and open communication that inspire trust.

Respect – we foster an environment of fairness where people are valued and treated with dignity.

Service – we strive to meet community needs and achieve high-quality results through teamwork, innovation and creativity.

Strategic Priorities 2015-2019

- *We continue to enhance the health and liveability of the community*
- *We recognize the importance of, and will enhance relationships with our neighbours and the other levels of government*
- *We encourage a resilient and diverse economic environment*
- *We continue to address the operational and financial requirements of our infrastructure*

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FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT – YEAR IN REVIEW

During 2016, the Esquimalt Fire Department continued to improve operations and build new partnerships. Several of the significant successes in 2016 involved developing new partnerships and renewing existing agreements.

In February, the Department successfully negotiated a Property Use Agreement with the National Defense Department to use the Urban Search and Rescue training site for training purposes. I wish to extend thanks to Glen Cooper (USAR) and Ryan Hyland (CFB Esquimalt Fire) for their assistance in working with our staff to ensure great training opportunities at the site.

In March, the Department renewed our Fire Dispatch Agreement with Saanich Fire Department. This agreement, and a subsequent agreement reached in December, will extend fire dispatch services until the end of 2017. In May, we renewed the Tower Crane Rescue Services Agreement providing access to high angle rescue services during construction of high rise buildings.

In June, our long time Administrative Assistant, Kim Maddin, was successful in taking a position in the Corporate Services Department within the Township. Kim has been a tremendous resource to me and a valued part of the team. She will be missed by all members of the Department.

Meghan Wylie, rejoined the Department in June as our new Administrative Assistant. Meghan brings a wealth of experience from other municipal governments along with past experiences of corporate services and recreation departments within the Township.

In August, the Department participated in negotiations for a Regional Fire Services Agreement, incorporating; Central Saanich, Esquimalt, Oak Bay, Saanich and View Royal Fire Departments. This agreement establishes the provisions of mutual aid and establishes a framework for other best practices that involve automatic aid and closest apparatus response.

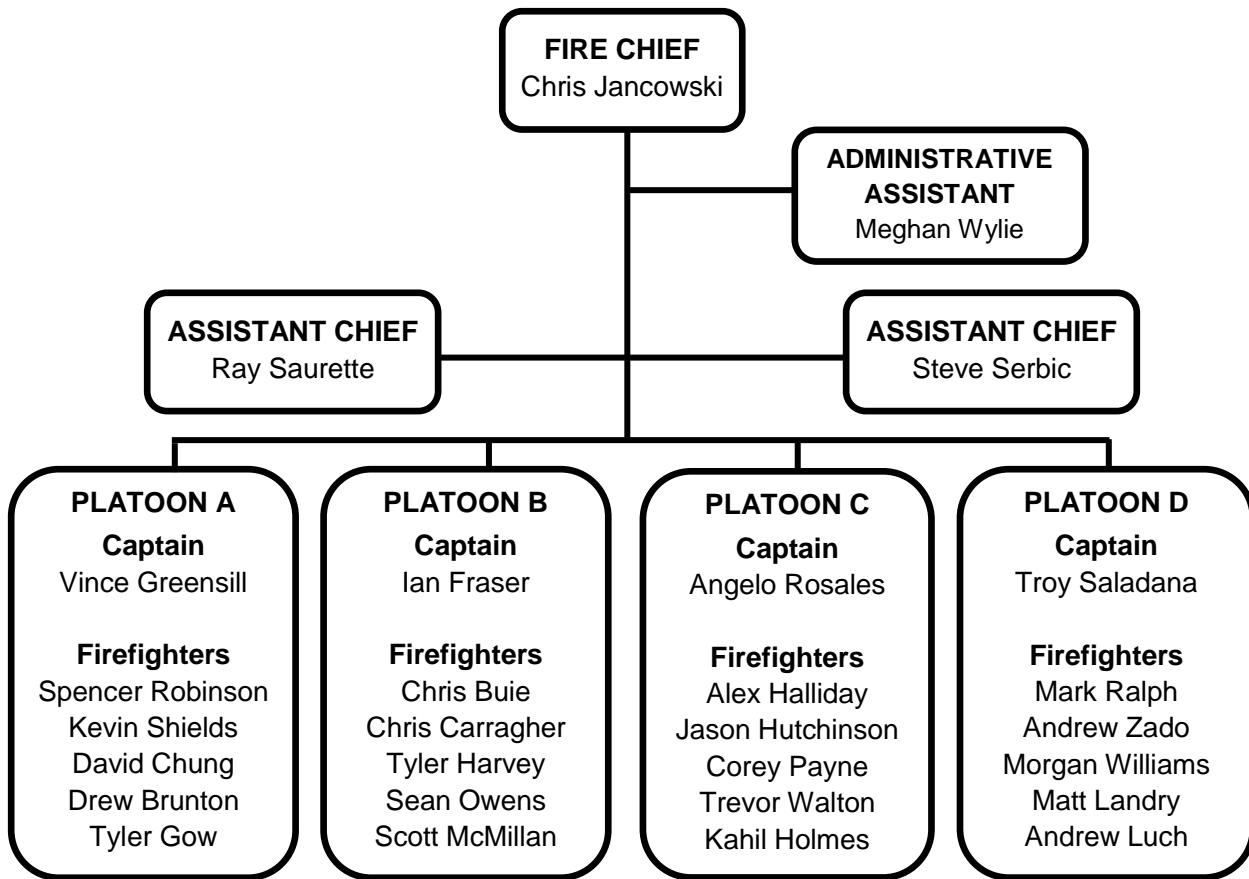
I would like to express my thanks to all Fire Department staff for the professional manner in which they accepted change during 2016. We look forward to the continued challenge of improving our service delivery to the community in 2017.

Respectfully,

C.A. (Chris) Jancowski, M.A., CFO, MIFireE



2016 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Notes:

In September 2016, Captain Ian Fraser retired and Senior Acting Captain Spencer Robinson was promoted to the rank of Captain. In June 2016, Kim Maddin was successful in transferring to a new position within the Townships Corporate Services Department. The Department welcomed back Meghan Wylie as the new Administrative Assistant.

Public Fire Extinguisher Education Session



PERSONNEL

New Member

Administrative Assistant Meghan Wylie

In June, the Department welcomed back Meghan Wylie. Meghan had previously worked with our Department in 2015. She brings a wealth of experience from other municipalities as well working within the Township’s Corporate Services and Parks and Recreation Departments.



Retirements

Captain Ian Fraser

In September, Captain Ian Fraser retired from the Esquimalt Fire Department. Ian had previously served with the Langford and Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt Fire Departments. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

Awards

In 2016, Firefighter Kevin Shields received a 10 Year service award from the Township. This award is presented to employees who have served a total of 10 years of service.

Medal – Federal Fire Services 20 Year

Captain Rosales began his fire service career with the CFB Esquimalt Fire Department. In 2003, Angelo joined the Esquimalt Fire Department and has been involved in many programs such as rope rescue and the Capital Regional District Hazardous Materials Team. He currently serves as a Captain on C Platoon.



CAPITAL PROJECTS

Stair Project

The Fire Department replaced the flooring on the second floor of the public safety building in 2015. As part of this project, testing was completed on the older stairwell materials. This testing indicated the presence of asbestos. In 2016, as part of the Stair Project the asbestos was removed and new stair coverings were installed.



Staff Vehicle

As part of the final steps of the Department's operational changes, a new command/utility vehicle was purchased. This vehicle provides a mobile command post for larger events and serves the Department as a staff utility vehicle.



MSA TIC Camera

In 2016, the Department continued with the addition of thermal technologies. These technologies have been successfully used in fire suppression and investigation in 2016.

1.75" Fire Hose Nozzles

The Department replaced all of the small/medium hand line nozzles in 2016. The new nozzles allow firefighters to operate at lower pressures (75 psi) thus reducing firefighter fatigue. In addition, these nozzles also allow the firefighters to select higher flow (gallons per minute) to be applied to the fire, resulting in reduced property loss.



CAD Systems

Since the late 2000's, the Department has incorporated the use of on-board computers. In 2016, the Department took the next step of upgrading these computers to Mobile Data Terminals (MDT). These MDT's provide live updates from Ambulance and Fire Dispatch Centers. These terminals also provide critical information on fire hydrant locations, civic addresses and pre-incident plan information. In the Fall, the Department installed two of these devices into the command apparatus with successful results. In 2017, a further implementation for other apparatus will be considered.



RIT 3 SCBA

As part of standardizing the equipment on the Department's apparatus, an additional Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) was purchased. This specialized SCBA is used by firefighters to provide emergency breathing air to trapped or injured firefighters.



Forestry Equipment

The Department purchased several pieces of forestry fighting equipment in 2016. The Township of Esquimalt contains several large parks that pose a fire interface area. This new equipment will enable firefighters to efficiently and effectively action small fires near or in these park areas.

Turnout Gear Washer

As part of the commitment to firefighter safety, the Department purchased a turnout gear washer in 2016. This industrial rated gear washer allows members to now wash their gear after training and emergency events.

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING - EXPANSION

In April, the Township began preparing for the Esquimalt Town Square Project. This project will see the development of the adjoining property to the South of Municipal Hall. This site also contained a “blue shed” that contained the storage of the Fire Departments second line Engine and additional storage.

In May, the Department began the planning for a small addition to the Public Safety Building Apparatus Bay. This addition is designed to provide limited storage of equipment and the second line apparatus.

This project was managed by Fire Department staff along with Praxis Architecture. Heather Spinney was the co-ordinating professional for the project and was invaluable during the planning and construction phase. Several meetings were held on site to deliver the project in a short time frame.



In August, Saywell Contracting was selected as the General Contractor for the project. They demonstrated the ability in past projects to co-ordinate around business operations with minimal interruptions.

In September, the Department began excavation of the site. This was quickly followed with the construction of the structure and interior finishing.

October and November continued with the construction of the foundation, steel superstructure and roofing. In late November, the interior finishing continued with the installation of electrical and mechanical systems. The Department moved apparatus into parts of the expanded building at the end of December.



Excavation – September



Substantial Completion –December

COMMUNITY SERVICES PORTFOLIO

2016 was another busy year for community services. I am happy to report that the membership continues to work hard at achieving the best customer service levels through improved public education, code inspections and fire prevention initiatives.

Public Education

Fire Department members continue to improve community education through various programs. Our Car Seat Installation and Education Program (British Columbia Automobile Association) provides critical education to new parents on how to install a car seat correctly.

The Department has continued our focus on early child education in 2016 with numerous fire station tours. These tours combine the demonstration of fire apparatus along with lessons on how to escape from a fire inside a home.

As part of our community focused fire prevention week activities, the Fire Department hosted our Annual Open House. This event was unfortunately upstaged by poor weather conditions. It should be noted that many citizens still braved the challenging weather to participate in apparatus demonstrations, fire equipment demonstrations and fire extinguisher training.



2016 Fire Chief for a Day Winner

As part of our school based programs for fire prevention week, education materials were circulated to grade K-3. These materials once completed and returned entered each student into separate draws for an IPAD and Fire Chief for a Day. The 2016 Fire Chief for a Day winner was Gaia Girard. Gaia was picked up and taken to school in a fire apparatus then taken to lunch at McDonalds with several family members. Gaia was then returned to school for the remaining part of the day.

The Department also has seen an increase in requests for fire extinguisher demonstrations in 2016. These demonstrations provide skills to citizens, staff members of local business and youth within our community. The Department will explore new ways to deliver and structure this valuable education in 2017.

Pre-Incident Planning

In July of 2016 the Department began a digital pre-incident planning program. This program involves firefighters collecting information from multi-residential, commercial and light industrial properties within Esquimalt. This information combined with site and floor plans of the building, provides critical information that is necessary for a quicker response to citizens in medical distress and reduction of fire and property loss. These pre-incident plans will be connected to specific property files as part of the Computer Assisted Dispatch Program. These plans can be updated by Department staff as buildings are renovated or expanded. At the end of December over two dozen plans had been created. Moving forward into 2017, we will focus on multi-residential and complex buildings.

Fire Inspections and Plan Reviews

In 2016, the Fire Department created a Fire Inspection Handbook. This Handbook incorporates several types of occupancy classes within Esquimalt and several code references that provide quick reference during Company Level inspections. The Handbook will be updated as needed from year to year.

In addition to the Handbook, Community Services has also continued the development of other internal fire code documents. These documents are designed to provide a quick reference for frequently asked code questions. In the Fall of 2016, the Department hosted an Internal Self Development Workshop for the BC Fire Code. This workshop was led by Assistant Chief John Cassidy of the Colwood Fire Department.

2016 was a steady year for Building and Development Plan reviews. Several projects were submitted to the department for code reviews. The redevelopment of the Old English Inn, Esquimalt Town Square Development and the Red Barn Market are just a few of the plans reviewed in 2016.

As part of ongoing discussions with developers and building officials, Community Services worked with the assistance of the Township's Engineering Technologist, Hanif Hussein, to develop minimum apparatus turning radiuses. These radiuses will assist in future developments to ensure Fire Department access.

Administrative Activities

Business license approvals have been steady in 2016. These approvals range from home-based business to commercial activities. Community Services have continued to work alongside other community safety departments and agencies within Esquimalt. The Department works with Bylaw Services, Victoria Police and the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) to provide a co-ordinated approach to safety.

In closing, many of the Fire Department Forms, Permits and Waivers were updated and digitized. These forms have been posted to the newly updated Fire Department page of the Townships Website.

DEPARTMENT SERVICES PORTFOLIO

I am pleased to be able to provide an overview of the 2016 Department Services activities. 2016 was an active year with maintenance and new training activities.

The year started with the hosting of a Fire Dynamics workshop. This workshop combined recent scientific research, building construction and field testing from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). This workshop was delivered by Greg Norman from the Vancouver Island Emergency Response Academy (VIERA) and was attended by over 50 Firefighters.

In February, the Department hosted a Wide-Rise Strategy and Tactics Workshop. This Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC) workshop was delivered by two of the most respected Battalion Chiefs in British Columbia. It applied fire dynamics, operational response models and tactical decision making. This workshop was well received by many fire departments within the region.

In May, several senior officers attended a workshop based on a tragic fire that occurred in Charleston, South Carolina. This fire was called the “*Charleston Sofa Super Store Fire*”, and the resulting lessons learned was delivered by Doctor D. Griffin who at the time was an engineer with the Charleston Fire Department.

The Department continued its orientation to specific or complex buildings with several tours of the Archie Browning Recreation Facility. This tour involved general knowledge as well as specific procedures for the operation of the refrigeration plant and emergency procedures.

Members of the Department have continued to progress in Fire Officer Studies. These studies combine Distant Education and face to face deliveries. Several members of the Department completed courses leading to their National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Fire Officer Level 1, 2 and 3 Certifications. Members of the Department require these courses to advance as officers in accordance to the Department’s Promotional Policy.

Members of the Department also continued their development with Emergency Vehicle Operations training. This training combines the knowledge and skills in apparatus inspections, preventative maintenance, emergency vehicle driving and fire pump operations. Once students successfully completed the training they are certified to the NFPA 1002 Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver / Operator. Ongoing maintenance of these skills are a part of the annual In-service Training Program.



New Training Initiatives in 2016

Training improvements and new training initiatives continued in 2016. The Department continued to improve upon the safety of our members through a joint Power Saw Training Program. This program was delivered to the Townships Parks and Fire Department staff with a focus on chain saw maintenance, use and bucking of fallen trees.

In the Spring, the Department reviewed the structured Basic Forestry Firefighter Course (S-100). This course prepares structural firefighters with the skills to suppress fires in the interface areas of our community.

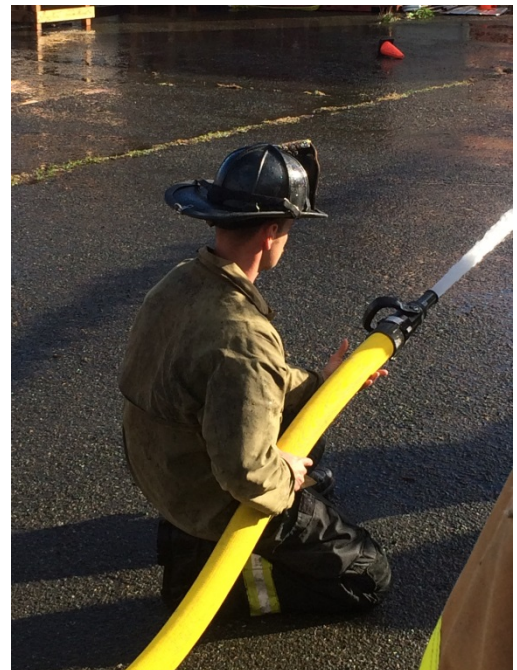
The Department conducted tours of the BC Hydro Substation on Devonshire Road. These tours provided members of the Department with a basic safety orientation of the site along with best practices on how to provide assistance during high voltage electrical emergencies. These tours were very well received by BC Hydro and will be added into our annual ongoing training programs.

In the Summer, the Department continued with improving first responder medical skills by adding a train the trainer model. This model had been used by the Department numerous years ago with the previous training provider. These new instructors received several days of intense training along with standardized lesson plans, training support materials and new training manuals. This new group of instructors will deliver new skills and re-certify other members in their platoons.

In the early Fall, the department continued to build its relationship with the Canadian Forces Base Urban Search Urban Search and Rescue Team (CFB USAR). The CFB USAR Team provided several orientation sessions on the topic of Structural Collapse, combining classroom and practical skill sets. These sessions could not have happened without the continued support of Glen Cooper from the CFB USAR Team.

In November, the Department hosted the first British Columbia Nozzle Forward workshop. This workshop was lead by Aaron Fields from the Seattle Fire Department, who has instructed this course to many Fire Departments across North America. This workshop focused on the effective movement and advancement of 1.75" and 2.5" fire hose. This joint opportunity had members attend from all over Vancouver Island, Lower Mainland and Alberta.

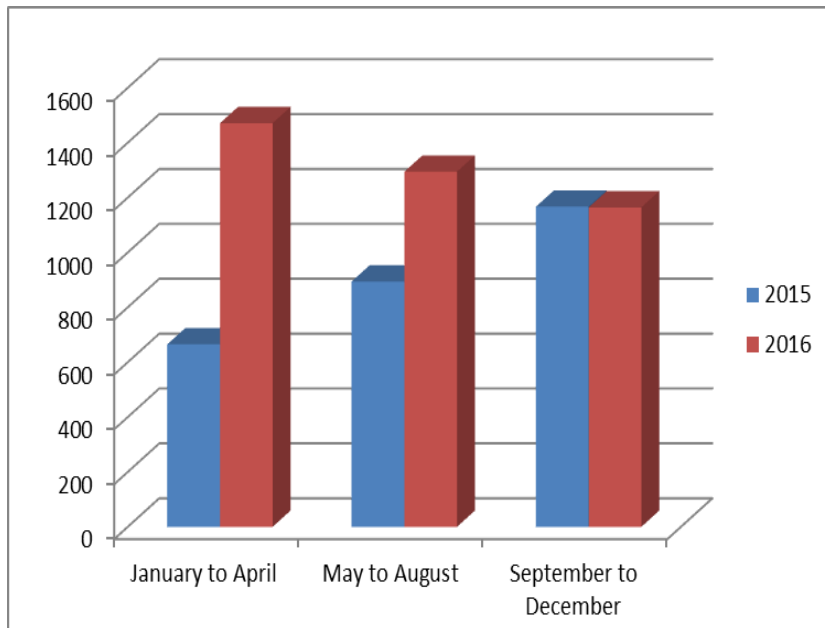
The Department finished off the training year with several offerings of the Incident Safety Officer Program. This program is accredited to the National Fire Protection Association 1521 Standard. The Department provided this training to all on-duty members. These new and refreshed skills are applicable to Technical Rescues, Structural Fires and Hazardous Materials Emergencies.



Company Level Training Hours

Fire Department members train daily to learn new skills and maintain existing disciplines. These internal training sessions typically range from 1 to 2 hours on day and night shifts. In 2016, the Department participated in 3929 hours of internal training compared to 2015 with 2726 hours.

Firefighters and Fire Officers also participate in external training courses. These courses can range from several hours to several days.



External Training Courses

In 2016, members of the Department attended several external training courses . These courses ranged in learning new skills, promotional development and best practices.

2016 TRAINING COURSES	
Course	Type / Subject
Fire Dynamics	Fire Suppression
High / Wide Rise Workshop	Fire Suppression
Urban Search and Rescue – Structural Collapse Orientation	Technical Rescue
Emergency Vehicle Operations	Emergency Driving
Emergency Vehicle Operations – Refresher	Emergency Driving
Incident Command Systems (ICS 100&200)	Fire Suppression
Fire Cause and Origin Level 2 NFPA 1033	Fire Prevention
Emergency Scene Management 1 & 2	Fire Suppression
Fire Service Administration 1 & 2	Fire Officer
Leading People 1	Fire Officer
Company Fire Inspections 1	Fire Prevention
Nozzle Forward Workshop	Fire Suppression
First Responder Instructor Techniques	Medical Aid
Charleston 9 Workshop	Leadership
Incident Safety Officer – NFPA 1521	Fire Officer
MATI – Managing People	Leadership
Chainsaw Safety and Operations - Forestry	Fire Suppression
Rapid Intervention Workshop	Fire Suppression
Public Information Officer	Fire Officer

ADMINISTRATION SERVICES

2016 was a year of transition for many services within the Department's Administration.

In March, the Department completed a long term project of reviewing the Operational Guidelines (OG's). This major review of guidelines was initiated from a third party review in the Summer of 2014, and it included member feedback, formatting changes and modern department practices. Operational Guidelines are dynamic by their nature and will be updated as needed moving forward.

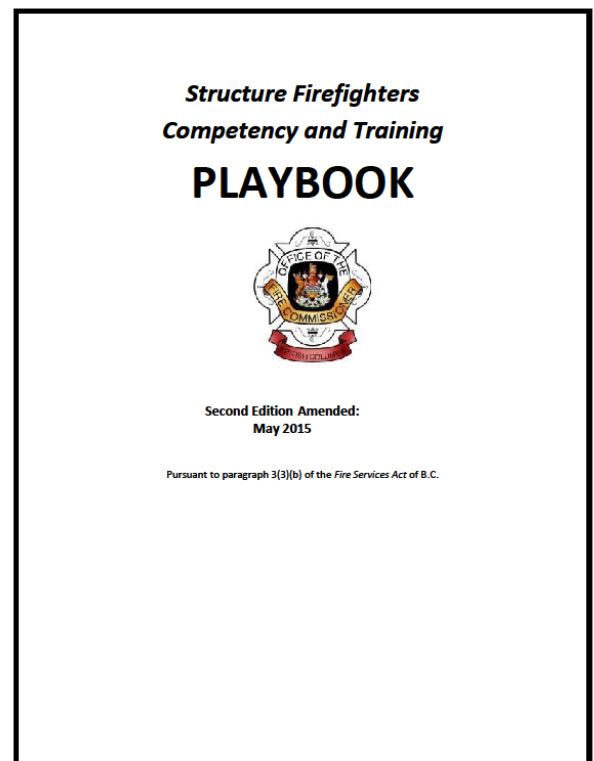
In the Spring, the Department met with the Township's Corporate Services Department to develop a transitional plan for records management into the Local Government Management Association format. This plan identified key principles concerning storage location, access and indexing.

This plan was implemented for all administrative records, using the same format to organize digital records within the Department. These digital records will require additional formatting as a more robust filing system is explored. In 2017, this same system will be implemented for all fire prevention and training records.

In May, the Department expanded the public safety building apparatus bays. As previously mentioned under "*Public Safety Building – Expansion*", the Department successfully completed this project in late December. This project was managed by Fire Department staff and Heather Spinney from Praxis Architecture.

In September, the Department began conversations with Oak Bay Fire Department to conduct a joint recruitment process. This process will streamline efforts and resources of both Departments. The joint process was launched in late Fall and will be completed in 2017.

In accordance with the BC Fire Service Act and Fire Service Training Standards "Structure Firefighters Competency and Training Playbook," the Fire Department recommended a service level of "*Full Service*" for structural fire services. The Township of Esquimalt Council declared this level of service through a Council Policy. This Policy confirms the continuation of the Department Structural Fire Services at the "*Full Service*" Level.



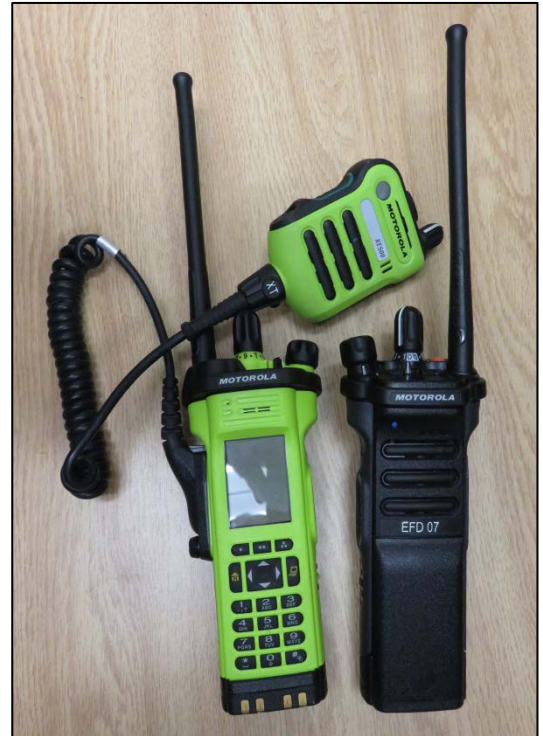
COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

Radio Communications

The Capital Regional Emergency Services Telecommunications (CREST) started the roll out of new P25 Digital System in 2016. This system operates at a higher frequency range along with a secured digital format. As part of the network coverage and upgrades, the Department participated in public consultations with CREST and Esquimalt Parks and Recreation Department for a new communication site on High Rock Park.

With the new digital network, new compatible subscriber equipment is required for all users. The Esquimalt Fire Department implemented a phased approach to the new subscriber equipment. The first phase involved the replacement of all apparatus mobile radios and the second phase replaced all mobile radios.

With the assistance of CREST, the Esquimalt Fire Department also implemented a dedicated digital tactical channel. This channel is currently limited in use as a training channel. The Department will be implementing this channel into operations once neighbouring fire departments have it programmed into their radio matrixes.



Citrix Computer Connections

In 2016, the Township of Esquimalt Information Technology (IT) Department implemented a Citrix platform. This platform centralizes and standardizes applications for consistency across devices and enables effective IT management. In addition, other benefits of the system allowed increased level of security when remotely accessing applications and data.

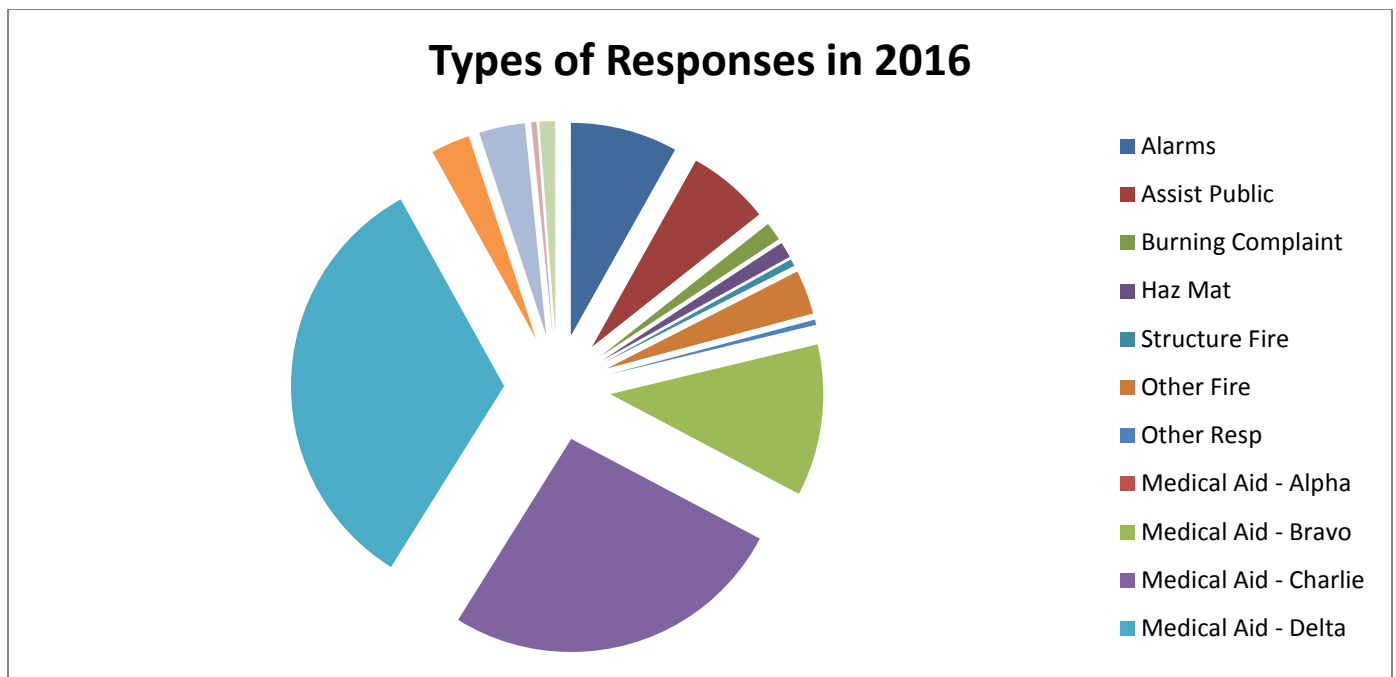
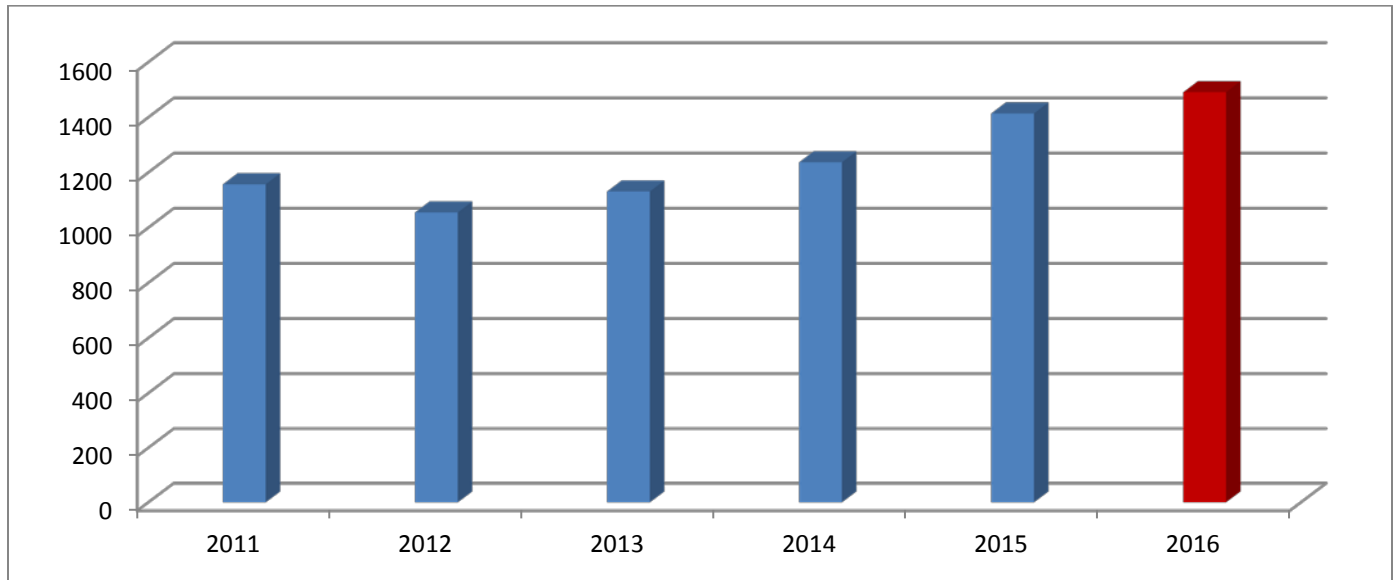
After the use of Citrix locally within the Township, the Esquimalt IT Department assisted the Fire Department with the request and connection of Citrix Connections to our ECOMM Records Management System. These connections dramatically speed up the use of the Fire Department Management (FDM) Software. This change reduces time to input activities and reduces the frustrations of staff.

Mobile Data Terminals

As earlier identified in our 2016 Capital Projects, the Department implemented new Mobile Data Terminals. The Department has seen dramatic improvements in technologies available over the past years. In taking advantage of these technologies, it will enhance our existing service deliveries to the community. The Department is continuously looking forward to other software and programs that can be incorporated onto these devices in the near future.

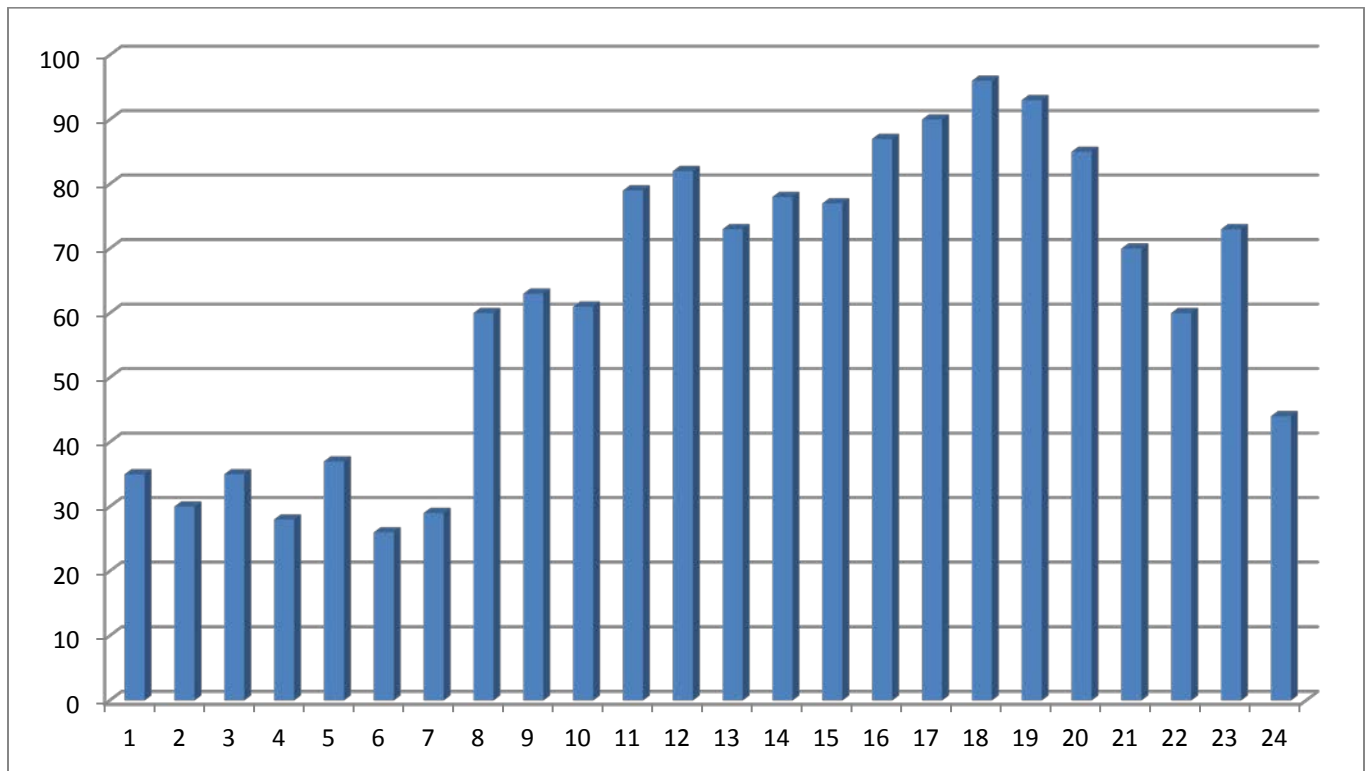
OPERATIONAL RESPONSES

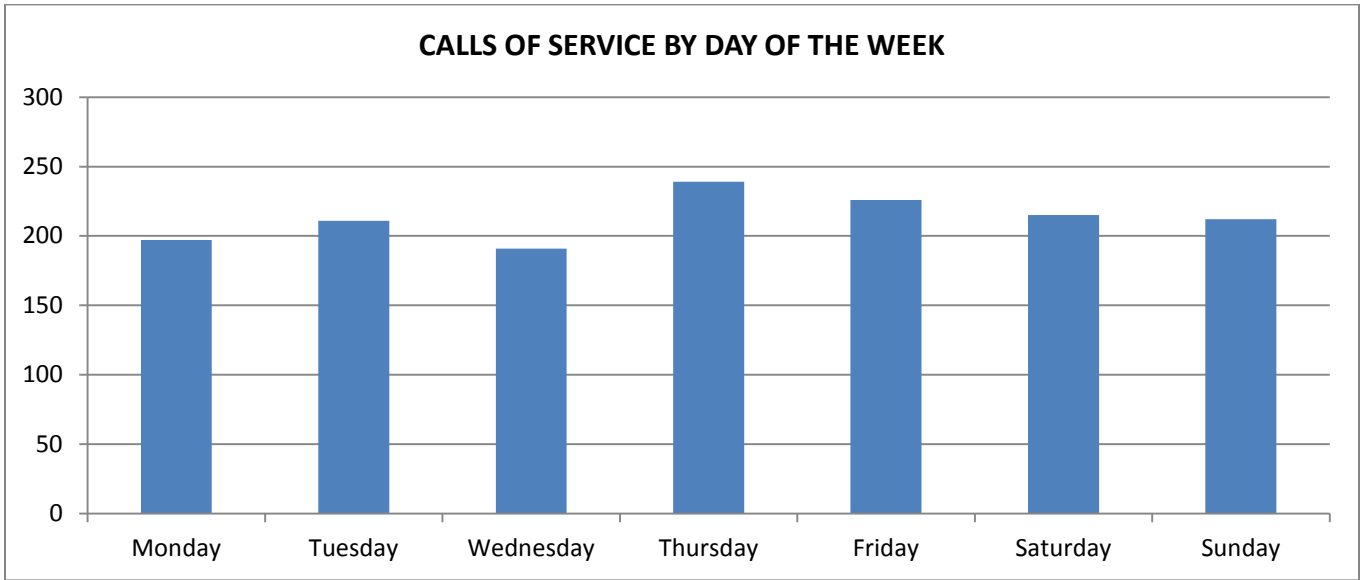
The Department provides a wide range of emergency and non-emergency services to the citizens of Esquimalt. The following data provides a brief overview of these activities. In 2016, the Department has seen a 5.5 percent increase to the overall calls of service from 2015. These calls ranged from assisting in resetting a fire alarm system to performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).



2016 TOTAL RESPONSES BY CATEGORY			
TYPE OF RESPONSE	2016	PERCENT	Percent Change from 2015
Alarm Calls	121	8.2%	+4 %
Assist the Public	93	6.3%	+3%
Burning Complaints	21	1.4%	-8%
Hazardous Materials	18	1.2%	-.3%
Structure Fires	8	.6%	+3%
Other Fires	50	3.4%	+7%
Other Responses	6	.4%	-1.7%
Medical Aid	1098	73.7%	+8%
Motor Vehicle Incidents	52	3.5%	+2%
Rescue	6	.4%	0%
Electrical Emergency	18	1.2%	0%
Total Responses	1491	100	

The table below illustrates the time of the day that calls for service were received by the Fire Department. These calls included emergency and non-emergency responses. In summary, the Department responded to 786 calls on day shift and 705 on night shifts. Day shift is scheduled from 8am to 6pm and night shift is from 6pm to 8am.





Fire Department Apparatus 2016

(Ladder 1, Engine 11, Engine 1)

RESPONSE LOCATIONS

Fire and Other:

The Department responds to a variety of events that range from alarms, structure fires, public assist and assisting other agencies.

The map to the right illustrates the geographic areas of where our services have been delivered within our community. The response data contained within these maps was converted to a series of maps with the assistance of the Township's GIS Technician, Alex Tang.

In future years, the Department is looking forward to incorporating additional dispatch and response technologies into our general operations.



Medical Aid:

The Esquimalt Fire Department provides medical aid assistance to our citizens as part of the Provincial First Responder Program. Our Fire Department is dispatched to assist the British Columbia Ambulance Service for priority calls through a Medical Priority Dispatch System. This system triages the calls into ranked categories based on the urgency of the medical condition. In 2016, the Department responded to a slight increase for calls of service for Medical Aid Events.

The map to the left illustrates the geographic areas of response for medical aid calls within our community. It should be noted that several locations identified on these maps have received multiple calls of service.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

The Department continued to engage the community through various community activities and events.

5KM Esquimalt Fun Run

In April, several members of the Department participated in the 5 kilometer Fun Run. This community run included a children’s race that involved firefighters participating with full turnout gear and self contained breathing apparatus. This was a successful community event that incorporated all ages.



Picture taken by Connie Dunwoody



McHappy Day / Camp Day

In May, the Department participated in the Annual McHappy Day. This event raises funds for Ronald McDonald House and various children’s charities. In June, the Department participated in Tim Hortons Camp Day. This event raises funds for sending local children to camp. Members of the Department attended both locations of Tim Hortons in Esquimalt and served coffee alongside staff and other invited guests.

Remembrance Day

On November 11th, members of the Department attended the Annual Remembrance Day Ceremony at Centennial Park. This event connects current and past members of the armed services along with citizens and first responders from the community.



FUNDRAISING / COMMUNITY SUPPORT

This page submitted by the Esquimalt Firefighters' Charitable Foundation.



The Esquimalt Fire Fighters Charitable Foundation is 100% Volunteer based, and members collectively donated over 500 hours of their time in 2016. Our focus is to make a difference in the Community that we serve and go above and beyond the scope of our job description on and off duty.

We strive to:

- Support programs that develop life skills of youth.
- Help those in need of a little extra help in healthy living.
- Support burn survivors and families affected by fire.
- Help raise funds and awareness for medical research, and provide much needed equipment to our local neonatal unit.

2016 was an exceptional year for the Esquimalt Firefighters Charitable Foundation. Rib Fest, our main revenue generator for the year, was an enormous success bringing in more revenue than we have ever seen in years past.

By increasing our revenues, we have been able to increase our donations and expand the number of causes we support. As we continue to get behind youth sport and life skill development, we are increasing our social and mental health donations to groups such as the Neighbourhood House and Rainbow Kitchen.

Collectively, we continue to work with our partners at Santa's Anonymous, Mustard Seed, Muscular Dystrophy, Terry Fox Cancer Foundation, BC Professional Fire Fighters Burn Fund and many more.

As 2017 has approached, we are in full swing with developing new marketing material, including an updated website. We are also finding new groups to assist, and making the most of the revenues that we have worked hard to achieve.

For more information and ways to help visit:
www.esquimaltfirefighters.ca



WHAT OTHERS HAD TO SAY

Medical Aid Call – First Responder

“To staff at the Esquimalt Fire Hall, many thanks for your call and support of our mom, whenever she needed you.”

Kim, Bruce, Shawn and Family.

“Steve, I just wanted to pass on a bit of feedback from a paramedic crew... your crews were a great resource and contributed to the best possible outcome for these two.”

Mike D.

“Thank you all for your wonderful assistance especially the person who rode with me in the back of the truck. I was in a lot of pain and difficulty. Your patience and calm voice made a huge difference.”

Ilene K.

Car Seat Installation

“Just wanted to thank you for coordinating the car seat tutorial for me earlier this week. All of the guys were really helpful and so enthusiastic which made me feel well looked after. They provided a lot of good general safety tips as well which I really appreciate.”

Alison M.

Community Activity

“I wanted to express our thanks for you and your team's support and advice regarding our closed space procedures and inspection. It's great to know that such a resource is available and standing by.”

Peter S.

“On behalf of the 2016 Wounded Warrior Run BC, I would like to sincerely thank you and the members of the Fire Department for its support for this year's run.”

Ron M.

“Just wanted to extend a thank-you to the crew that brought the truck to the Easter event at Gorge Park! Having the fire truck and the staff there is always a hit with the kids.”

Vicki K.

“The Dunk-A-Cop event was a huge succes and your team played a vital part in it and all were very professional and gracefully accepted to pose for pictures.”

Andree N.

“This event is important for our community and I know the Seniors and the Macaulay Elementary School students appreciated your crew’s help.”

Gillian R.

“I was out for a walk in Esquimalt with family and had a chance to meet your duty crew. I just wanted you to know how impressed I was and what a great conversation I had with them. They left me with a very positive experience.”

Dan D.

Provincial Fire Training

“I wanted to take the opportunity to thank each of you for all of the time and hard work that you have put into the creation of the Team Leader curriculum and materials.”

Gord A.

Mutual Aid – Fire Response

“Chief Jancowski, I wanted to pass along my thanks to you and your team for your support and assistance at the fire on base this past week. Please pass along to the troops a “Bravo Zulu” (Military Speak) for Well Done.”

Steve M.

Fire Response

“Excellent job containing the fire last night cheers!!”

Trent R.

Local Fire Training

“Hi Steve, Thank you for hosting the Emergency Scene Management workshop. Your hospitality was greatly appreciated. We look forward to the next opportunity to work with you and your students.”

Keith B.

“Thank you and the members from Esquimalt Fire Rescue for hosting a great weekend of training at Esquimalt City Hall.”

Doug C.

“Let your guys know that they performed very well. I threw everything I had at them and they still managed to keep focused on the task at hand and execute the rescue.”

Brad W.

2016 GOALS – How did we measure up?

The Department established the following goals for 2016. The following is a brief synopsis of how the Department did in 2016.

Goal #1

Establish a plan for the transition and implementation of changes to conform to the newly established Greater Victoria Passport Accountability System.

Our Department worked in collaboration with various stakeholders such as; the Greater Victoria Training Officers, Greater Victoria Fire Chiefs and Fire Departments within the region to develop a common standard. This standard incorporates the needs of the Volunteer, Composite and Career Fire Departments in regards to tracking and identifying members on emergency scenes.

Goal #2

Explore opportunities and develop a plan for computer-assisted dispatching terminals in the fire apparatus.

In the Spring of this year, the Department reviewed the options for Mobile Data Terminals. This review led to the selection of Panasonic FZ-G1 Tough Pads. Through our dispatch provider (Saanich Fire / ECOMM), the Department purchased three Mobile Data Terminals as the first part of a two step implementation program. These terminals were installed into the command apparatus in the Fall. Early testing results have proven the expectations of live updates from British Columbia Ambulance Service and Fire Dispatch. In addition, these terminals allow the users to access our newly created fire pre-incident plans.

Goal #3

Co-ordinate and deliver several training courses and workshops for emergency services within the Township.

The Assistant Chief of Department Services co-ordinated numerous courses within Esquimalt in 2016. These training opportunities brought firefighters and officers from Fire Departments within the Capital Regional District, Mid Island, Lower Mainland and Alberta. The courses ranged from fire suppression, rescue services and officer development. A few of these courses that were included in 2016 were; Nozzle Forward, Incident Safety Officer, High/Wide Rise, Child Car Seats, Public Information Officer, Rapid Intervention and Fire Dynamics.

Goal # 4**Develop a digital preplan program that is standardized to be consistent with neighbouring fire departments.**

In July, the Department implemented a digital fire pre-incident planning program. This program allows firefighters to create pre-incident plans by identifying fire suppression systems, hazards and drawing or attaching the floor plans of buildings. This information is used in emergency response to gain quicker access to patients in medical emergencies or reduce property loss in responding to fires.

Goal #5**Update mapping within the Township of Esquimalt for all public and private fire hydrants.**

In March, Members of the Department led by B Platoon, began the review of civic addressing and fire hydrant locations. This project is critical to fire operations and the quick location of citizens in medical distress. The review identified several areas and locations that were updated with the assistance of the Townships Engineering Department. A special thanks to Richard Syrett and Firefighter Sean Owens for their assistance in this project.

Goal #6**Explore opportunities to develop partnerships with other emergency service organizations for increased service delivery.**

In 2016, the Department established several new agreements. In the Spring, the Department signed a new Fire Services Agreement with the municipalities of Central Saanich, Saanich, Oak Bay and View Royal. The Department also secured access to the Canadian Forces Base Urban Search and Rescue Training Ground. This site will be used for fire and rescue training as well as joint regional training courses.

Goal #7**Upgrade the Fire Department's records management system to reflect best practices for storage of records and data in accordance with the Township's approved Records Management Policy and Classification System.**

The Department has initiated a change in practice of records management and file management. The new system was implemented in the Department's administrative records in 2016. In 2017, the final change will incorporate Fire Department Training and Prevention Records.

2017 GOALS

The Department has established several goals as we move forward in 2017:

1. Continue with hosting joint regional fire and rescue training.
2. Increase service delivery of Medical Aid – First Response protocols.
3. Incorporate Fire Training and Prevention records into the newly adopted LGMA format.
4. Implement a Fire Inspection Module into our Fire Department Management (FDM) Software.
5. Develop and Publish materials for a mentorship and training program for new company officers.



**Joint Fire Training Session
-Nozzle Forward-**