

BRANDON FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES



BFES

2012

ANNUAL REPORT

A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF DANE



On behalf of the staff of Brandon Fire & Emergency Services (BFES) it is my pleasure to submit to you the department's 2012 Annual Report. 2012 has been a very busy year for our department which has included numerous significant changes.

We are settled in our new building, and operating business as usual. It is still a popular place for the public to come through for tours.

Our archive committee still meets, and provides tours through the building with some added historical information. We have provided 80 tours to over 1,100 people in 2012.

The announcement of four provincially funded staff through the Regional Health Authority was received in late 2012. The staff will be on shift by the end of January 2013.

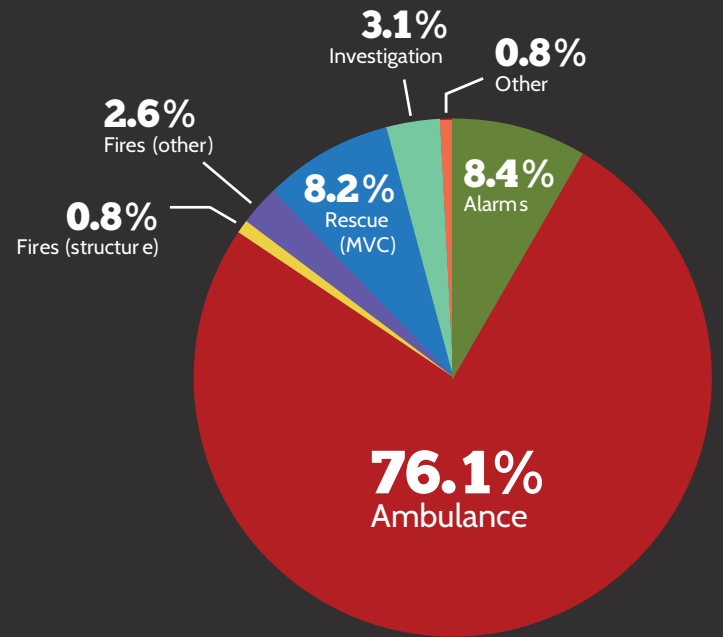
Negotiations progressed through 2012 to work towards a new collective agreement. The last agreement expired as of Dec. 31st, 2011. We hope to reach a new agreement in 2013.

Our department is always busy participating in public events including the Career Symposium, Take Our Kids to Work Day, Babysitting Course, Child Safety Seat Clinics, Fire Prevention Week, Road Shows and Rodeos, National EMS week, and Fire Prevention Week. By participating in these events we are able to provide valuable information to the public.

We hope you find the 2012 Annual Report interesting and informative. Thank you for your continued interest and support.

BY THE NUMBERS

TYPE OF INCIDENT	No.
Alarms	378
Ambulance	3432
Fires - Structure	34
Fires - Other	119
Investigation	142
Rescue - MVC	371
Other	35



Pet Breathing Equipment

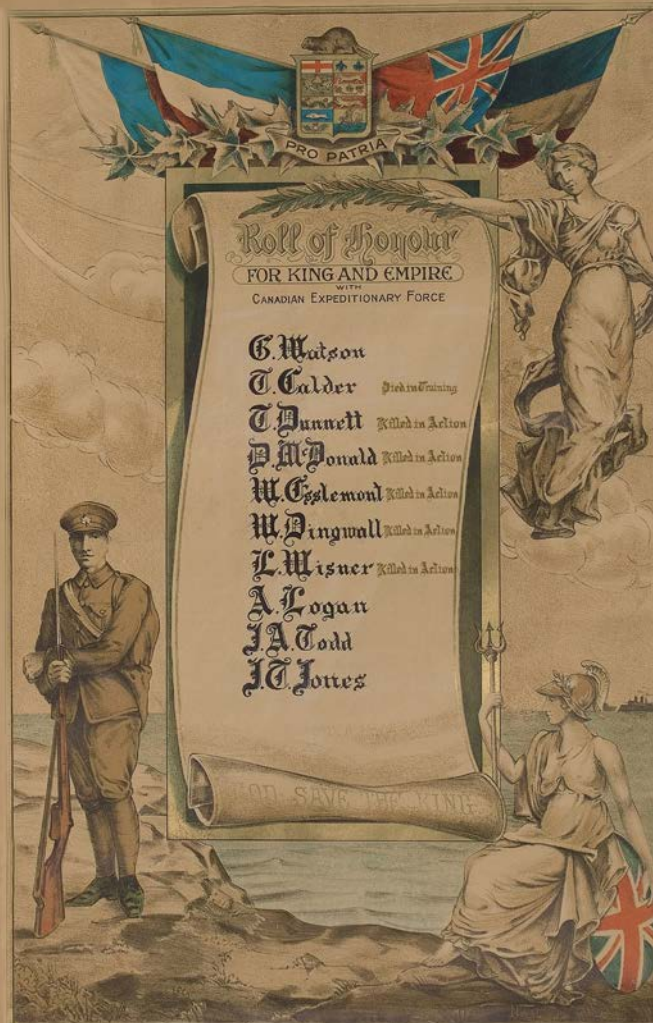
Wheat City Veterinary Clinic and Invisible Fence Brand of Southern MB donated pet breathing equipment for our emergency vehicles. This will provide help to pets who are involved in house fires.



HISTORY

In the hallway at #1 Hall we have on display a "Roll of Honour". Previous to the move, this document was framed at #1 Hall, mounted with EMS tape to a piece of cardboard. We discovered the significance of this document before we moved, and have now taken steps to preserve it. It lists ten of the department's firefighters who served in World War 1. There is very little information on the document, but it does state "Pro Patria Roll of Honour for King and Empire with Canadian Expeditionary Force".

Of the ten names listed there are very faded notes next to five that state "Killed in Action", and one "Died in Training". We had this piece of history digitally copied, touched up and reproduced for display. The original is now being properly stored to preserve it from further deterioration.



» A Special Thank You Received

"I would like to thank you for your response and support during our recent fire. It is reassuring to know that we can depend on the Brandon Fire Fighters in a time of need."

» **A Special Thank You Received**

"Thirty three retired teachers visited your facility. They had an excellent tour by both tour guides. The teachers were impressed by the professionalism of the two fire fighters who acted as guides."

Reported Killed in action
May 1st 1917
Somewhere in France

424744
1st C.M. R. L. Company
8th Infantry Brigade
3rd Can. Division
B. C. F. France.

45th Battalion
C. Company

We also discovered these members' employee cards. Their cards included details on where they were serving and when they were killed. These membership cards were used from 1892 until the 1950's to track our employees. These cards contained information about each staff members employment history.

MEMBERSHIP CARD

NAME	Age	Previous Service	Date Appointed	Appointed on Probation	Appointed and how Disposed	Transferred From
William Dingwall	24			Aug 19 th 1914 Substitute for Geo. Watson absent on Active Service	Relief Mullman No. 1	
Recommended by	Promotion	Merit	Complaints	Resigned	Remarks	
	Don. Apr. 9 th 1890				June 1 1916 Volunteered for Home June 12 th	Staff reduced range June 1915 68, 18 (OVER)

FIRE PREVENTION

FIRE CHIEF FOR A DAY

Every year during "Fire Prevention Week" Brandon Fire and Emergency Services along with the Grand Valley Mutual Aid District (GVMAD), the Office of the Fire Commissioner, and local McDonald's Restaurants hosts a Fire Chief for a Day event. The GVMAD consists of fire departments from Carberry, Souris, Brandon, Shilo and Wawanesa, as well as has representation from industrial partners including Koch and Canexus. The event is directed towards all Grade 4 students in Brandon and surrounding communities.

Thirty honorary Fire Chiefs, one from each school, were excused from school to be able to spend the day at the Brandon Fire and Emergency Services # 1 Hall and the Manitoba Emergency Services College. "Fire Chiefs" were allowed to see and more importantly, participate in activities designed to give them insight into the job of a firefighter/paramedic as well as the importance of fire safety in their day to day lives.

Following the day, all "Fire Chiefs" were given a CD with pictures of the day's events. "Fire Chief for a Day" is just one of the special events that the Fire Prevention Division organizes every year for Fire Prevention Week.



» A Special Thank You Received

"I was very pleased with the amount of effort and hard work your service does. I was also impressed with how friendly your staff is."



STAFFING CHANGES

» Something to Note

In 2012 we started using mass texting to callout for overtime. This has resulted in significant time savings for our staff.

In late 2012 we were provided with provincial funding for four additional firefighter/paramedics through the Regional Health Authority. These firefighter/paramedics will allow us to continue to meet the increasing demands placed upon our service.

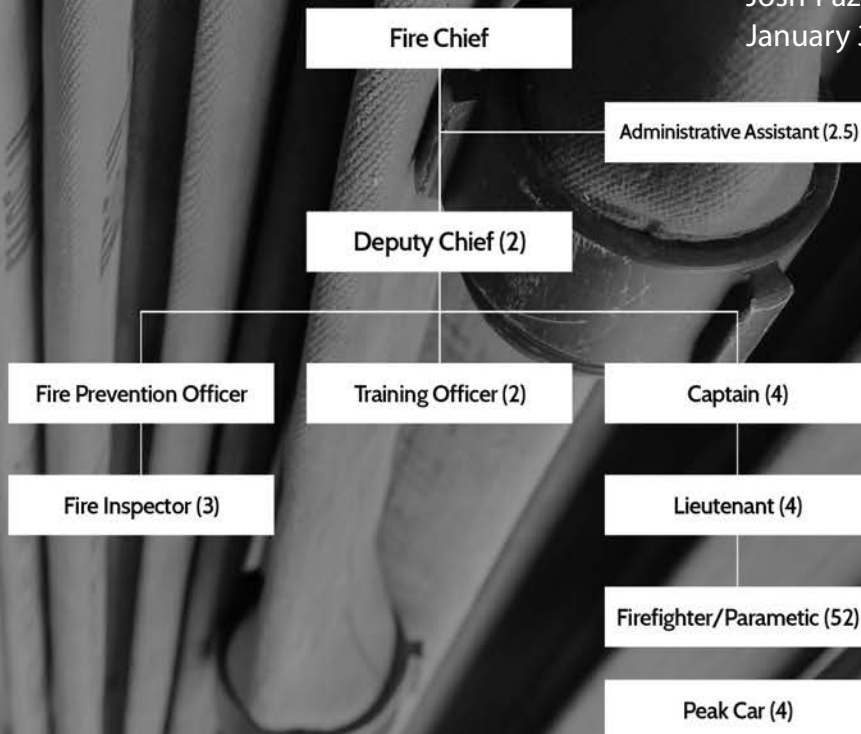
Promotions

The following promotions were made throughout the year: Terry Browett to Acting Lieutenant I, Terry Parlow to Acting Lieutenant II, Kevin Holder to Lieutenant, and Wade Ritchie to Captain.

New Hires

Josh Paziuk was hired as a firefighter/paramedic on January 3rd.

Organizational Chart



» Water and Tech Rescue

The Water Rescue and Tech Rescue (High Angle) teams continue to practice four times a year to ensure their skills are proficient in the case of an emergency. There were multiple calls where these teams were called into action.

TRAINING

Our vehicle extrication training is completed in partnership with CAA towing at their compound. It gave the members an opportunity to learn new skills, on various types of vehicles.

The two in-house training officers spent the year delivering both theory and practical training. This allows the staff to practice existing, and learn new skills. Some of the areas covered include fire, ventilation, forcible entry, search and rescue techniques, wild land firefighting, and vehicles.

FIRE

In 2012 we experienced a decrease in the number of structure fires and fire losses. The total losses were approximately \$1,178,250. The dollar losses were lower than the previous year. Unfortunately, there were two fire fatalities at two separate incidents. The last fire fatality was in 2004.

A significant purchase made in our department was new Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). This is a key piece of safety equipment for the staff fighting a fire.

The arrival of our new Pump was an exciting time for staff as they waited for its construction to be completed. The new pump, with the latest technology replaced a twenty two year old piece of equipment. We were excited to have it painted the traditional fire engine red.

» USAR Exercises

Our staff participated in provincial and national Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) exercises. This provides the opportunity for the team to practice skills and procedures required to respond to a high-risk incident such as a building collapse.

» A Special Thank You

"In particular we are so grateful for the professionalism and compassion shown to our family as they cared for dad. We are comforted to know in his last moments were handled with dignity and respect. Brandon is so fortunate to have such caring professionals to respond to our emergencies."



Courtesy of The Brandon Sun



Courtesy of the Brandon Sun

AMBULANCE SERVICE

There was an announcement by the Provincial Government to amalgamate the Regional Health Authorities in 2012. Brandon Fire and Emergency Services (BFES) is now part of the new Prairie Mountain Health region. We look forward to working with the former Brandon, Assiniboine and Parkland Regional Health Authorities within the new structure.

Prairie Mountain Health is the largest Regional Health Authority in geographical area in the province. They are responsible for providing EMS service to 66,000 square kilometers. The new region also employs 8,500 staff.

Along with the amalgamation, the Province has conducted a provincial review of EMS services in the province. Falling out from this audit will be a report providing direction on the future of EMS in the province.

EMS continues to be the largest make-up of responses BFES attends to with over 84% of our calls using EMS services through primary responses, interfacility transfers or MVC's.



» 2012 Ambulance Calls

BFES attended to 3,432 ambulance calls, and treated 4,223 patients in 2012.

» THE BFES Logo

Thanks to Ritchie Jacobson from the sign shop for designing our department logo.


» A Special Thank You

"As an ER physician, I am aware that my work is made significantly easier by the staff I work with, including the nurses, aides and EMT's. My wife and I just wanted to thank your staff, who I believe were instrumental in saving the life of my son."

» Preceptor Program

At the request of Manitoba Health the department has been participating in a preceptor program to assist in evaluating the skills and performance of students enrolled in the Primary Care Paramedic program. This program sees BFES host EMS students from around the province for a month at a time. The students, under the supervision of BFES paramedics, practice their EMS skills on patients within our service area.





Our Quint was repainted in 2012 to be classic fire engine red.

A house fire on 1st Street.

A firefighter connects to a hydrant while responding to a fire at the Sturgeon Tire building.

Firefighters control the fire at the Sturgeon Tire building.



Courtesy of The Brandon Sun



Courtesy of The Brandon Sun



Courtesy of The Brandon Sun