

Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue

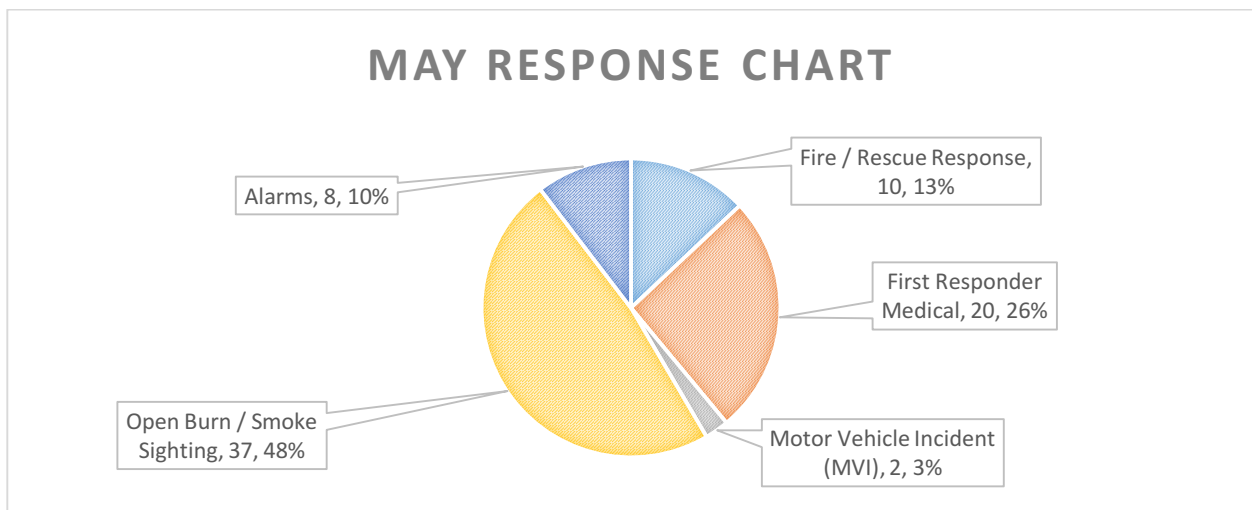
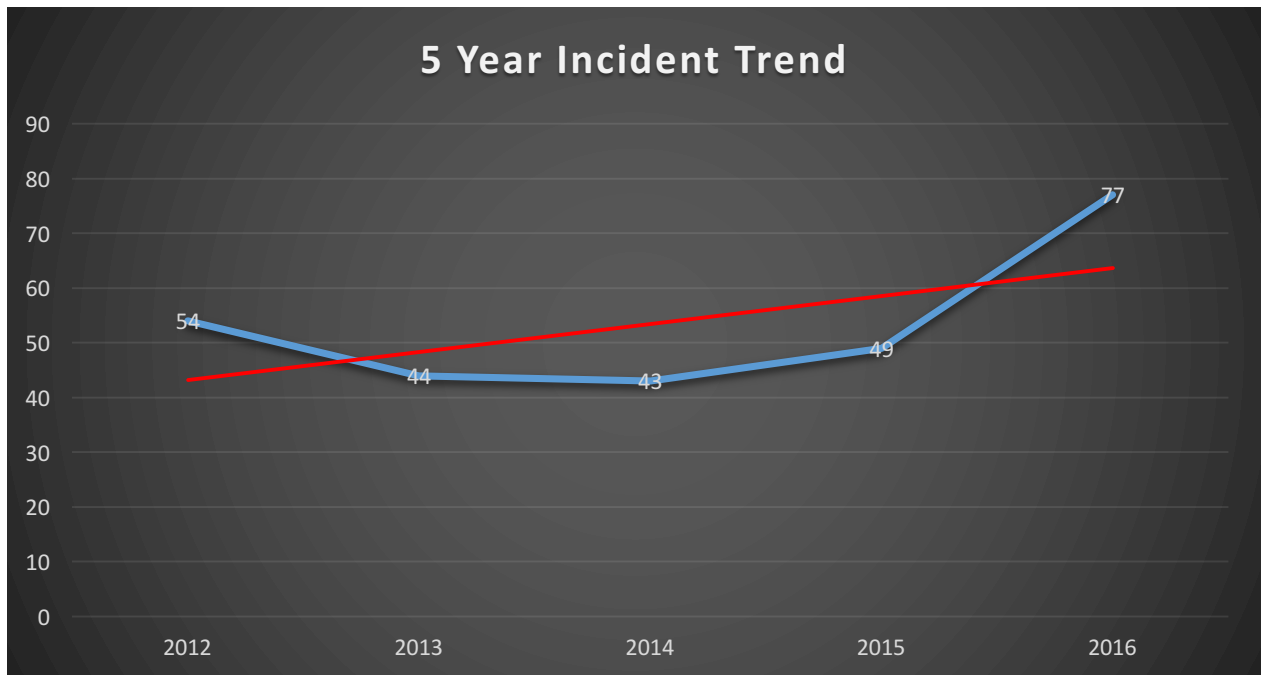
Fire Chief's Report

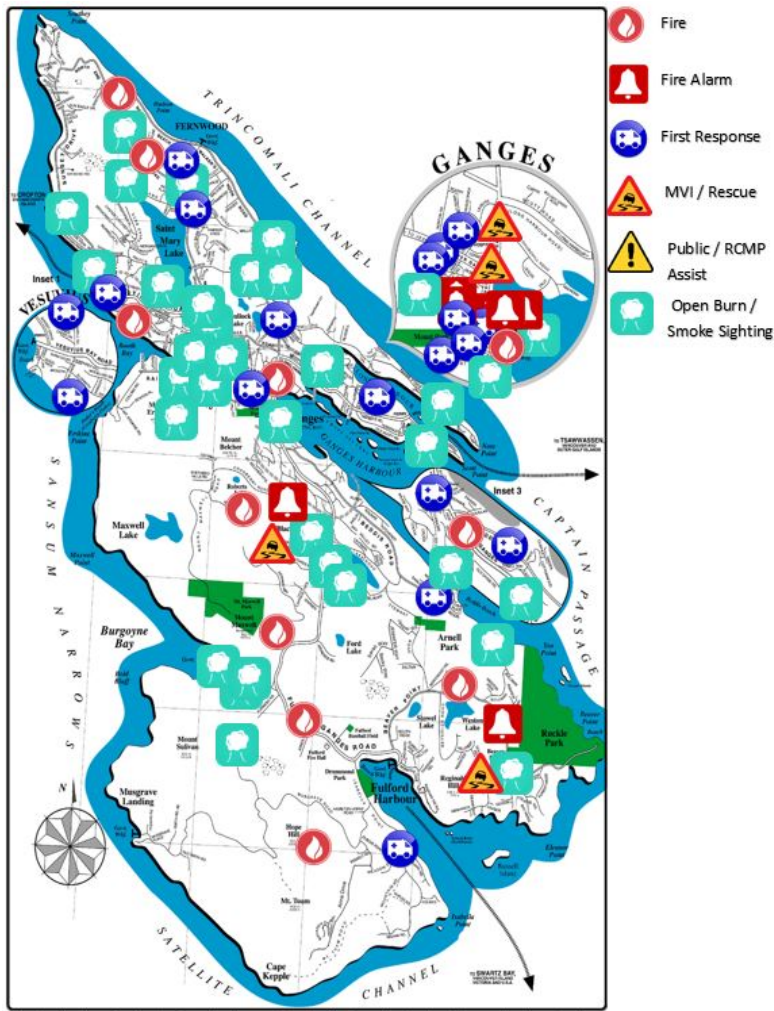
May 2016



Response Report

May 2016 saw a large increase in call volume compared to the past five years. Forty-Eight (48%) percent of the incidents resulted from open burning and smoke sightings. May was a very hot dry month resulting in an early closure of backyard burning. The high fire risk led to a larger than normal call volume. At the end of May 2016 SSIFR had responded to **247 calls** for the year, compared to only 197 in 2015.





Fire Calls in Detail

FULL PAGE		FIRST RESPONSE PAGE		DUTY PAGE		NOT PAGED OUT	
DAY (0700-1700)	NIGHT	DAY (0700-1700)	NIGHT	DAY (0700-1700)	NIGHT	DAY (0700-1700)	NIGHT
7	12	10	4	5	13	23	3

FIRE CALLS:

BURN ENQUIRY	FLOODING	BURN COMPLAINT		MACHINE PILE COMPLAINT		CHIMNEY	VEHICLE	SMOKE/CO ALARM	HYDRO	COMMERCIAL ALARM BELLS	
		LEGAL	ILLEGAL	LEGAL	ILLEGAL					WITH CAUSE	FALSE ALARM
4		3	18	4	2		1	1			7

RESCUE	TRASH/DUMPSTER	OUTSIDE OF AREA	MISC	SMOKE SMELL IN STRUCTURE	SMOKE SIGHTING FALSE ALARM	STRUCTURE FIRE	BRUSH/GRASS	MVI (no injuries)	HAZMAT IN STRUCTURE
1	2	1	1		4	1	4	2	1

FIRST RESPONDER CALLS: (SSIFR 1st on scene 11/20 58%)

MEDICAL	TRAUMA		RESPIRATORY	CARDIAC		ASSIST BCAS
	MAJOR	MINOR		WITH CPR	NO CPR	
15	2	2				1

Operations Update

The new updated call map includes two new icons'. One for for Fire Alarms and one for Open Burn and Smoke Sightings.



The Fire Alarm icon will represent a commercial or a residential fire alarm activation. Fire Alarms can be activated intentionally or accidentally. SSIFR responds to all alarms as a "fire" until it can be confirmed a false alarm.

OFC Fire Report Update

With recent conversations with the OFC staff, we have adjusted our fire report plan and have begun completing the process of 2012 and 2013 reports by their request. The change in process is because the OFC is in the process of producing the 2013 BC fire statistics.

Apparatus Update: Our Hall #1 frontline engine E204 experienced some serious mechanical issues so far this year. To date Engine 204 has been out of service for **21 days.**

Incident Spotlight

May 7th 2016.

SSIFR Firefighters responded to an evening structure fire that quickly spread to the bush in the south end of the island. Fourteen (14) Firefighters battled the small structure and surrounding brush for over four hours. The fire brought some challenges with a driveway access of over one thousand (1000') feet. One Firefighter was taken to hospital for minor injuries and one occupant transported to Hospital with third degree burns to both arms.



May 9th 2016.

During an extreme heat wave crews responded to a double header with a Dumpster fire on Lee Road and a brush fire on North End Road. Both fires were quickly extinguished and minimal damage to exposures.

May 13th 2016.

SSIFR Firefighters responded to a brush fire on Alexander Boulevard. An old machine pile fire had burnt underground and with the extreme heat, reignited into a brush fire. Nine Firefighters, four apparatus and 1700 gallons of water used to extinguish.



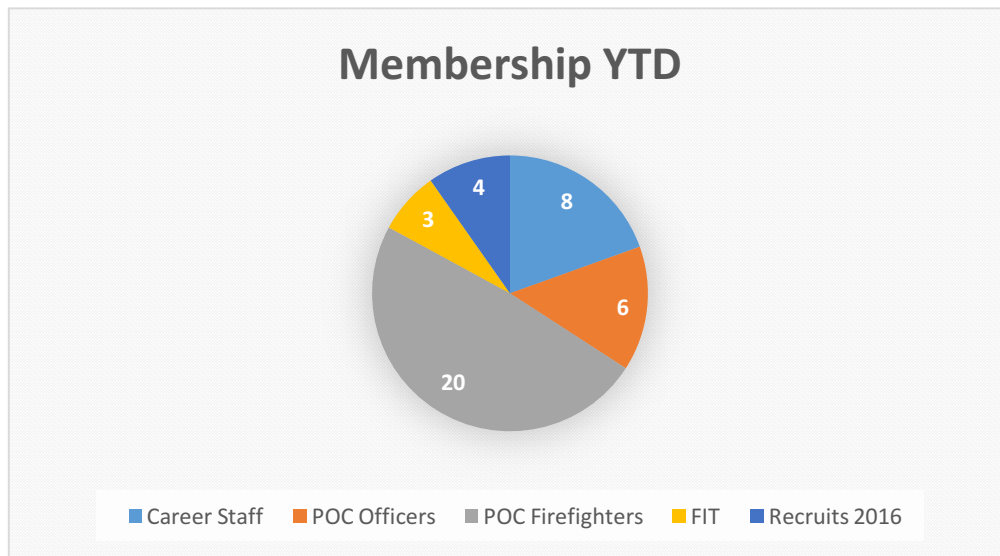
Office of the Fire Commissioner Playbook Update (Points from the FCABC Conference)

- The OFC is not collecting statistics on who has declared or what level departments are declaring
- Come June 30th, the BC minimum training standard will be in effect, thus declaring before the deadline is recommended to minimize our risk.
- WorkSafe BC will now use the Playbook as the provinces minimum training standard.
- The creators of the Playbook recommend that if jurisdictions have multiple complex structures Full Service should be the level declared.
- I confirmed Pre Incident Plans are not required for Full Service although they are recommended as a best practise.
- Recommended that the AHJ policy be reviewed regularly to ensure the departments are meeting the declared training level.

SSIFR currently trains at the Full Service level with NFPA 1001 FF2 as our training standard and Fire Officer 1 for our Officers. Management recommends that the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District create a policy and declare Full Service as our training standard.

Attached are two staff reports that relate to the British Columbia Training Standard Playbook. (See Attached).

Membership



Our Membership remains at 41. We still have two members on a leave of absence (LOA). Both LOA's are for personal leaves, one three months, and one for six months.

Training Division

April 9th Acting Chief George and Captain Gaudet attended Errington's Fire Department's BIG WATER event. The full day exercise tested methods of delivering rural water supply using Tenders, and large diameter hose. The exercise was a success and provided us with some valuable information to strengthen our own water supply operations. The organizers have requested SSIFR to return in 2017 to audit their Shuttle Operations and provide feedback for improvements.



May 13 and 14th eight (8) members attended an inspiring leadership and safety presentation from one of the members of the Charleston Fire Department. The full day presentation shared lessons learnt from the tragic June 18th 2007 Fire in Charleston where nine firefighters were killed in the line of duty.

Assistant Chief Holmes and Capt. Ponsford attended the BC Training Officers Association conference in Port Alberni. Training ranged from urban search and rescue, safety officer, and the introduction of the Team leader two-day course.

All three (3) special teams met in May (Auto Ex team, Pump Operations team and the Tech Rope Rescue team). The special operations teams meet monthly to maintain their skill set in each discipline.

Lt Hunsberger attended the Emergency Vehicles Technicians conference in Richmond BC. The workshop style conference covered managing a preventative fleet maintenance program, emergency lighting, electrical systems, and hydraulic tool maintenance.

June 1st, SSIFR First Responders became certified to administer the drug Naloxone (Narcan). Overdoses due to Fentanyl have reached an epidemic in BC. So far this year over 300 people have died from Fentanyl related overdoses. In May SSIFR First Responders responded to one Overdose where Naloxone was used to treat the patient.

The screenshot shows a news article from Driftwood Gulf Islands Media. The header includes the logo 'Driftwood GULF ISLANDS' and a weather widget for Salt Spring, BC, showing a forecast of 21°C overcast. The navigation bar lists 'HOME', 'SECTIONS', 'BLOGS', 'VIDEOS', 'CALENDAR', 'VISITOR INFO', 'PUBLICATIONS', and 'CLASSIFIEDS'. The article title is 'Responders get naloxone training' by Sean McIntyre on June 1, 2016. The text states that Salt Spring first responders have a new tool to save lives, mentioning a successful overdose patient treated with naloxone. A photo shows Firefighter Jason Gaffney and Capt. Dominique Gaudet performing a procedure on a pig. The caption reads: 'Firefighter Jason Gaffney, left, and Capt. Dominique Gaudet inject saline into a pork hock at a Salt Spring Fire-Rescue naloxone training session.' The author credit is 'Sean McIntyre | Driftwood Gulf Islands Media'.

Inspection and Public Education Division

Our Public Educators reached over eighty (80) residents strictly focused on fuel mitigation and Fire Smart. FireSmart is the best preventive measure the public can take to minimize the risk of wildfires on Salt Spring Island.

Our Firefighters joined local Emergency Responders at the annual Emergency Preparedness Week Open House. A Fire Smart public presentation along with Fire Extinguisher training were provided to the public.

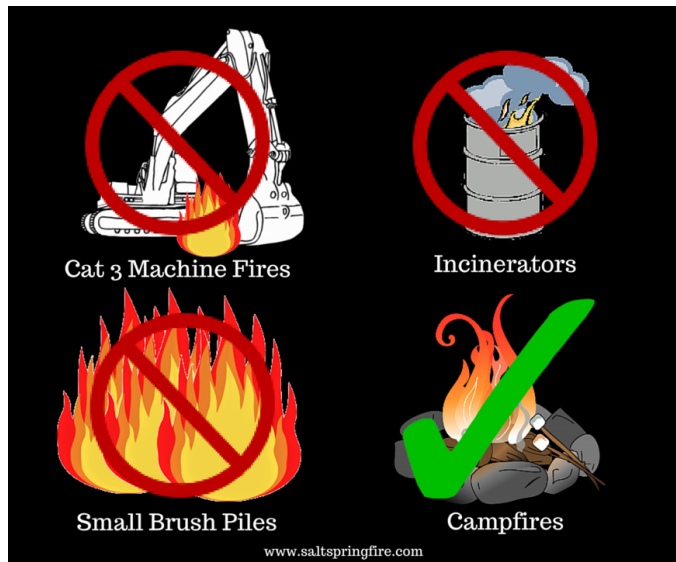
Our Public educators also met with three schools for fire drills, safety audits and basic fire safety lessons.

Our certified car seat technician assisted with one car seat installation in May. For new parents who are not familiar with the proper installation of car seats or booster seats SSIFR provides direction to keep your infant safe and secure. To arrange an appointment please call the Ganges Fire Hall 250-537-2531.

Capt. Lundy attended the annual Fire Prevention Officers conference in Vernon BC. Eighty (80) Fire Inspectors attended from all over BC and Alberta. A number of safety topics were presented such as: mobile food carts, gas station safety, propane BBQ safety, alarm monitoring, PTSD, Carbon Monoxide detection, NFPA 1730, fire investigations, and the new BC Fire Safety Act.

During May twenty-four (24) Commercial inspections were completed along with three (3) Pre Incident Plans. There was also four (4) requests for driveway inspections from the CRD Building department for access of emergency vehicles.

Management decided to restrict machine, incinerators, and small brush pile fires May 13th. Currently only campfires are permitted within the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District. Fire Permits are still required and can be obtained during business hours at Fire Hall #1 in Ganges. Campfire permits are free of charge. The island is already facing a Level 3 Drought and High fire risk levels.



Upcoming Events

- S100 Basic Wildland Firefighting course (Held on SSI).
- Training in Paradise (July)

Respectfully Submitted

Arjuna George, Acting Fire Chief



STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Trustees
SUBMITTED BY: Acting Fire Chief Arjuna George
DATE: June 15th 2016

Recommendations: It is my recommendation that the Authority having Jurisdiction (AHJ) defines in writing definitions for both Simple and Complex structures as required for the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) British Columbia Fire Service Training Standards Playbook (2015)

Background: The OFC Structure Firefighters Competency and Training Playbook (2015) defines the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) as a local or regional government, or the entity legally responsible for the organization and operations of the particular fire service. Declaration of the Playbook must be established as a formal policy for our Fire Department.

Interior Operations Service Level defines “Simple Structures” as a vehicle, single family dwelling, or other small structures. In an effort to make the best decision for the service level a definition must be defined for non-simple structures or complex structures.

I recommend the following definitions:

Simple Structure: Structures such as vehicles, single family dwellings, or other small structures.

Complex Structure: Any structure that is larger than a simple structure. Buildings may include but are not limited to be: Care Facilities, Schools, Assembly Buildings, Industrial, Large Commercial, extra ordinary single family dwellings, and Multi-Family Dwellings.

STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Trustees
SUBMITTED BY: Acting Fire Chief Arjuna George
DATE: June 15th 2016

Recommendations: That the SSIFPD Board of Trustees declare the Office of the Fire Commissioner Training standards by the June 30th Deadline.

Background:

The Playbook document is a living document that I am confident will transform and be revised over the years. As previously stated I feel the training standard for Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue meets the OFC Playbook Full Service requirements. Currently our Incident Commanders base their decisions on the number of trained personnel, equipment, and resources such as water. Decision's to fight the fire defensively (Exterior) or Offensively (Interior) are based off these available resources. This decision making would occur still on levels "Interior" and "Full Service".

I recommend we adopt Full Service with the intention to review our training levels yearly to ensure compliance.

I also recommend the following wording to be added to the Training Standards Policy.

Limits of Service

Services provided by Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue depends on the availability of members who are on call to provide response capability twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The number of personnel, equipment and resources available for delivery of Fire Protection services at emergency events will determine by the level of service the department can provide.

Arjuna George



Acting Fire Chief

Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue

www.saltspringfire.com