

# MUSQUASH FIRE - RESCUE 2004 Annual Report

## CONTENTS

FIRE CHIEF'S MESSAGE .....	2
ORGANIZATION.....	3
BUDGET .....	3
TRAINING.....	3
TRAINING STATISTICS.....	4
TYPES OF RESPONSES.....	5
RESPONSES BY COMMUNITY .....	5
MAJOR INCIDENTS.....	6
GENERAL and OTHER MEETINGS .....	7
LOCAL SERVICE DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE .....	7
SOCIAL COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES .....	7
MAINTENANCE & INVENTORY PROGRAM .....	8
NEW RESIDENT WELCOME PACKAGE .....	8
COMMUNICATIONS .....	9
FIRE PREVENTION & PUBLIC EDUCATION .....	9
SUPPORTING OUR NEIGHBOURS.....	9
FIRE & ARSON INVESTIGATION TEAM.....	10
PUBLIC INFORMATION - MEDIA LIAISON.....	10
POINT LEPREAU GENERATING STATION .....	10
CANADIAN COAST GUARD AUXILIARY .....	11
NEW EQUIPMENT - 2004.....	11
CHILD FIRE SAFETY WINDOW STICKERS.....	11
RECREATIONAL SPORTS GATHERINGS .....	12
VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT.....	12
PLANS FOR 2005.....	12
STATIONS, APPARATUS & EQUIPMENT .....	14
FIREFIGHTERS.....	15
AUXILIARY MEMBERS.....	15

**FIRE CHIEF'S MESSAGE**

Another year of dedicated service has been provided by our members to the community. Many hours of training and calls at all times of the day, some of which have not been easy to attend, took place throughout the year.

The department has been reaping the benefits of the changes that were put in place in previous years, such as our Standard Operating Guidelines, our Accountability System and the workshop format used for our Monday night training.

Our department has attracted new people from outside our serving area, who want to learn and help out. This in itself shows the recognition that our department has achieved throughout the province.

Musquash Fire has become the largest volunteer fire department within the province. We have been asked to conduct training at the Provincial Fire Workshop in Miramichi City. We have trained side by side with career departments at the Point Lepreau Generating Station.

The Musquash Local Service District continues to be a pillar of support for the Musquash Fire Department. They have met regularly with us, and have given unanimous backing on all projects.

Wayne Pollock  
Fire Chief

***MUSQUASH FIRE - RESCUE***

35 Malcolm Meehan Rd  
Musquash, N.B. E5J 2G2  
Phone: (506) 672-2702 Fax: (506) 657-FIRE  
e-mail: [info@musquashfire.ca](mailto:info@musquashfire.ca)  
**[www.musquashfire.ca](http://www.musquashfire.ca)**

**ORGANIZATION**

The Chief of Department is Wayne Pollock, assisted by a Deputy Chief at each of the two stations, Deputy Chief Gilles Arseneault at Station 1, and Deputy Chief Greg Dixon at Station 2.

Officer positions within the department are eight Captains consisting of six Crew Leaders, and two Training Officers. There are five lieutenants - a Fire Prevention Officer at each station, an Assistant Training Officer at each station, and a Fire Investigator at Station 1. The Fire Investigator role at Station 2, as well as the position of Public Information Officer are both held by a Crew Captain at Station 2. At the end of 2004 there were a total of forty nine firefighters in the department including all officers. The Social Committee consisted of 12 members.

**BUDGET**

The budget for the fire department for 2004 was \$141,899. This amount represents \$96,900 for operational expenses, and a \$44,999 loan payment for our equipment truck, Rescue 1. The budget year runs from January 1 to December 31. The department budget is managed by the Fire Chief, and overseen by the Musquash Local Service District Advisory Committee.

**TRAINING**

Each Monday evening, in house training is held on various firefighting and rescue subjects. The department has adopted a workshop style of training covering twenty subjects. Firefighters are broken up into smaller groups to receive refresher training during regular training nights. Formal training following the New Brunswick Community College curriculum, hosted by our department and other departments is also attended through out the year by firefighters. During 2004, firefighters received certified training in Firefighter II; CPR Recertification; Defensive Driving and Driver Assessment; Liquified Natural Gas Training, and Medical First Responder. The department also participated in a training exercise with the Northeast Pipeline Company.

Firefighters took part in Industrial Firefighting Training at the Point Lepreau Generating Station; and participated in joint exercises with the Point Lepreau Response Team and the Saint John Fire Department at Point Lepreau.

**TRAINING (Continued)**

Six members of the department attended the annual NBCC Training Workshop held in Miramichi on September 18 and 19, 2004. Members of our department also taught a Boat Rescue Course during the weekend.

**TRAINING STATISTICS**

As of the end of 2004, firefighters had training in the following courses:

FIREFIGHTER LEVEL I.....	42
FIREFIGHTER LEVEL II.....	35
STANDARD FIRST AID & CPR.....	41
RED CROSS FIRST RESPONDER & CPR .....	34
FIRE ATTACK.....	35
INDUSTRIAL FIREFIGHTING .....	18
V.F.I.S. DRIVER TRAINING .....	28
AUTO EXTRICATION.....	37
HAZMAT AWARENESS .....	38
ADVANCED S.C.B.A. ....	9
BOAT RESCUE - FIRST RESPONDER.....	25
ICE RESCUE .....	32
ROPE RESCUE - High Angle.....	11
ROPE RESCUE - Low Angle.....	17
AIR BRAKE .....	31
DEFENSIVE DRIVING.....	27
DEFENSIVE DRIVING INSTRUCTOR (VFIS) .....	3
FLAGGING.....	21
COAST GUARD AUXILIARY .....	10
FIRE INSTRUCTOR .....	4
FIRE COMMAND.....	7
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY (OH&S) .....	16
W.H.M.I.S.....	16
WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER .....	39
FIRE & ARSON INVESTIGATION I.....	3
FIRE & ARSON INVESTIGATION II & III .....	2
SPECIAL FIRE SCENE INVESTIGATION .....	2
DEALING WITH THE MEDIA IN TIMES OF CRISIS.....	1
INCIDENT COMMAND .....	1

**TYPES OF RESPONSES**

The Department saw a decrease in the number of calls during 2004 compared to 2003. The Musquash Fire Department responded to a total of 41 incidents during 2004 consisting of:

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Structure Fire.....	2	5
Chimney Fire .....	2	1
Vehicle Fire.....	2	4
Brush / Grass / Forest / Rubbish Fire.....	3	5
MVA - Hwy 1 - Extrication Required.....	1	0
MVA - Other Hwy - Extrication Required.....	0	0
MVA - Hwy 1 - No Extrication.....	12	12
MVA - Other Hwy - No Extrication.....	4	4
Motor Vehicle Accident.....	13	13
Gasoline or other Hazardous Materials Spill.....	1	1
Fire Alarm Activated .....	9	12
Medical Assistance (First Responder).....	0	2
Ambulance Assistance .....	3	0
Water or Ice Rescue.....	0	0
Rescue Boat Response.....	1	1
Other Rescue - Not Motor Vehicle .....	0	0
Mutual Aid Response .....	0	0
False Alarm - Good Intention .....	2	1
False Alarm - Malicious.....	0	0
Other.....	3	10
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>59</b>

**RESPONSES BY COMMUNITY**

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>		<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Chance Harbour.....	3	2	Musquash.....	8	23
Dipper Harbour .....	7	5	New River Beach.....	1	0
Lepreau.....	14	11	Prince of Wales .....	5	5
Little Lepreau .....	2	5	Pocologan .....	0	0
Maces Bay .....	1	6	Saint John .....	0	2

**MAJOR INCIDENTS**

**May 8, 2004** - Firefighters responded to a fast moving brush and forest fire on the West Branch Rd near Thompson Subdivision. The fire had started along the natural gas pipeline right of way and spread quickly due to high winds. Firefighters had to deal with three separate fires at this location as the wind caused the flames to jump the clearing for the pipeline, as well as the West Branch Rd.

**August 10, 2004** - The All Terrain Vehicle and trailer were utilized to assist the ambulance at an ATV accident off the Fundy Trail east of the Off Site Emergency Centre. Firefighters assisted Paramedics with packaging the injured party and transported him and Paramedics out to the ambulance.

**October 3, 2004** - Flames destroyed a storage shed located at a residence behind Station #2 in Dipper Harbour. The occupant had left a pile of burning rubbish unattended and flames spread to the shed.

**October 23, 2004** - A motor vehicle accident on the causeway at Little Lepreau sent one man to hospital with serious injuries. The occupant was out of the vehicle laying in gasoline when firefighters

arrived. The truck was hanging over the guardrail. Firefighters assisted Paramedics to package the patient, and provided a protective hose line in case the spilled fuel ignited.

**October 26, 2004** - Firefighters responded to another serious motor vehicle accident, this time on Highway 1 east bound just before the Musquash exit. Firefighters arrived just ahead of the ambulance and assisted Paramedics with one victim who had been ejected from his truck. Firefighters then searched the scene using the thermal imaging camera for any other victims. The lone male occupant later died from his injuries.

**November 9, 2004** - The second structure fire of the year caused minor damage to a residence on the Mink Brook Rd. An improperly installed chimney ignited a fire in the attic area of the house. Flames were confined to the area of origin.

**GENERAL and OTHER  
MEETINGS**

The department held four general meetings during the year on March 22, July 4, September 20 and December 18 for the purpose of discussing financial and operational business of the department. There were three officers meetings held during the year on January 16, March 13 and September 10.

A representative of the department attended most meetings of the Royal Fire Fighters Association. Training Officers attended the Royal Zone 2 Training Group meetings. Coast Guard Auxiliary meetings were attended on February 28 and September 11.

**LOCAL SERVICE DISTRICT  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The department would like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Musquash Local Service District Advisory Committee for their co-operation and support of the fire department - Chairman Dave Rogers, Secretary Midge Thompson, and members Lynn Burley, Susan Postma and Marion St. Pierre.

**SOCIAL COMMITTEE  
ACTIVITIES**



Members of the social committee organized the following events which were attended by the public and firefighters:

- Canada Day Celebrations including Bingo, Barbecue, and Children's Games.
- The annual Fall Supper at Station Two on October 13.
- The annual Appreciation Dinner for the fire fighters and their spouses was held at Station Two on Saturday, December 4.

**MAINTENANCE & INVENTORY  
PROGRAM**

Preventive maintenance checklists and inventory checklists are completed on all apparatus during maintenance week. Since this program was introduced, items needing attention are identified sooner and repaired or replaced quicker.

**NEW RESIDENT WELCOME  
PACKAGE**

In 2001 the department was contracted by the Emergency Measures Organization to conduct a survey of all residences within a 20 km radius of Point Lepreau. This survey was used to update the information of residents in case of an emergency and also provided the department with the opportunity to stress the importance of properly displayed civic numbers. Besides involving our seven communities, the area also encompassed the nearby communities of New River Beach, Pocologan, and Pennfield.

During 2002, EMO placed Community Notification Solutions (CNS) Devices in houses and businesses. These units are connected to the phone line and can be used to notify the community of major emergencies. The Fire Department and EMO

wardens accounted for 93% of these placements or approximately 1,050 devices.

In October 2004, the department was contracted by EMO to visit every residence again to update information, change batteries in the CNS devices, and to deliver new Iodine tablets.

As part of this program, the Fire Department is continually watching for changes in the community. New residents are visited by a firefighter and an EMO warden and asked to complete a Demographic Survey. During this visit each new household also receives a CNS Device, a smoke detector, Iodine tablets, and a civic number plate.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Firefighters each carry a voice pager to be notified of an alarm. Several officers are assigned a portable radio. Emergency calls are dispatched by the Public Safety Communications Centre in Saint John. Each large apparatus (pumpers and rescue van) carries a mobile radio and a minimum of two portable radios. The rescue van also has a radio in the back area at the built in Command Post. Each fire station has a base radio. These radios all have capabilities to use six frequencies - a fire channel, two simplex fireground channels, two E.M.O. channels and a shared channel between Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station and the Saint John Public Safety Communications Centre.

**FIRE PREVENTION & PUBLIC EDUCATION**

Our apparatus and equipment were on display to coincide with the annual Fall Supper at Station 2.

Child Fire Safety Window Decals were introduced in June, 2003. These reflective decals are for use on the outside window of a child's bedroom, allowing us as firefighters to concentrate our initial rescue efforts on these

rooms. Decals are available from the Fire Prevention Officers, and some were left at the school for students.

A 2004 Fire Prevention Calendar was produced which included several fire prevention tips during each month.

Firefighters visited Fundy Shores School and provided a safety talk, followed by a tour of our equipment brought to the school.

### **SUPPORTING OUR NEIGHBOURS**

The department was again proud to support the Fundy Fisherman's Day held on August 14. There were 22 firefighters present for the annual Remembrance Day ceremony at the monument located at Station 1.

**FIRE & ARSON INVESTIGATION  
TEAM**

The Fire & Arson Investigation Team currently consists of Captain Andrew Sanojca and Lieutenant Grady Curtis. During the year we investigated two structure fires and two vehicle fires.

The team is responsible for fire cause determination, which includes identifying fire cause, gathering pertinent information, interviewing all witnesses, securing the scene and any evidence, and working with the RCMP and Insurance Crime Prevention Bureau.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION - MEDIA  
LIAISON**

Several Press Releases were issued about incidents and events the department was involved in. Calls from the media were answered, and where possible, our department provided assistance to the media for projects they were working on.

During a major incident, the Public Information Officer would release information to the media in a timely manner, allowing the fire chief and other officers to concentrate on the emergency in progress.

**POINT LEPREAU GENERATING  
STATION**

NB Power at Point Lepreau continues to be a greatly appreciated supporter of the Musquash Fire Department. On several occasions, the Fire Department was granted access to the live fire training props at the fire training grounds on site. We also utilized the SCBA training maze.

An exercise room was set up at Fire Station #1 with the support of Point Lepreau. This room is available to all firefighters and includes cardiovascular and strengthening equipment.

**CANADIAN COAST GUARD  
AUXILIARY**

The Musquash Fire Department is a member of Zone 15 of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary. We can respond quickly with our 16 foot rigid hull zodiac to search the coast line around our area when called upon by the Joint Rescue Co-ordination Centre in Halifax. This craft is also capable of being used on inland water ways.

On September 25, Captain Andrew Sanojca and Firefighter John Carroll represented Zone 15 and took part in the annual Rescue Challenge which was held in Fredericton this year. This event includes an on water Search and Rescue Exercise, First Aid Scenario, Pump Operations, Line Throwing, and a Mystery Event. Teams from all 16 zones of the Maritimes CCGA competed. Zone 15 won first place in the Line Throwing Event, and in First Aid.

**NEW EQUIPMENT - 2004**

The department took delivery in December of a new pumper. The truck is equipped with a larger 1050 gallon per minute pump and an on board foam system. It features a top mounted pump panel and carries 1200 gallons of



water. The truck is designated as Engine 2 and is stationed at Station 2 in Dipper Harbour.

Several new sets of bunker gear were purchased during the year, as well as smaller tools and equipment including a heat detection gun.

**CHILD FIRE SAFETY WINDOW STICKERS**

The department has introduced a reflective sticker for use on the outside of the window of a child's bedroom. These decals will allow us to search identified bedrooms quickly in case of a fire. Decals are available at both stations.

## **RECREATIONAL SPORTS GATHERINGS**

Members again enjoyed several social events during the year allowing for comradery and friendly competition. Horseshoe tournaments were hosted at the chief's camp in the spring and fall while several firefighters again took to the links at the St. Stephen Golf Course in late fall.

Firefighters Gerald and Dianne Gass hosted the barbeque and awards banquet at their camp after the golf. Teams also took part in curling events and the annual Big Bothers & Big Sisters Bowl For Kids. Musters were attended at Long Reach, Greenwich, Grand Manan and Rothesay. The Musquash Fire Department team won first place at the Grand Manan muster.

## **VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT**

Qualified members of the community and nearby areas are welcome to apply at anytime to be a volunteer firefighter. During 2004, three firefighters resigned from the department, while seven new members were welcomed to the department. One member resigned from the Social Committee. New members are needed for the Station 2 coverage area, and recruiting efforts will continue to focus on this need.

**PLANS FOR 2005**

**Training** - The department plans to host a Firefighter Level I course for new recruits of our department. Neighbouring and nearby fire departments will be invited to send students on this course.

Updated Workshops for Monday night training will be introduced. These workshops allow firefighters to get a brief refresher on areas that may not be utilized on a regular basis.

A Pump Operators Course is planned, and will include in depth training on our newly acquired pumper.

**PLANS FOR 2005 (Continued)**

The department plans to meet with the Saint John Fire Department Haz Mat team to learn how they operate, and what equipment they use. These sessions will include what is expected of us at a hazardous materials incident both before and after the specialized team arrives.

Mutual Aid Agreement Training is planned, to allow us to work more often in training sessions with the neighbouring departments that we may call on for assistance, or who may call on us during a major fire or other incident.

Ice Rescue training will be held, both for those who have not yet received the training, and as a refresher for firefighters currently trained.

Boat Rescue training will be held on various Monday nights.

**New Equipment** - A capital purchase application will be submitted to upgrade our Self Contained Breathing Apparatus to one hour air packs. These units would be compatible with the units used at the Point Lepreau Generating Station.

An application will be made to replace Engine 1.

**Camp & Cottage Civic**

**Numbering System - A**

numbering system will be introduced with the assistance of the Department of Natural Resources to identify all camps and cottages currently located on the inland waterways in our area. These include Loch Alva, the East Branch River and the West Branch River. Owners will be asked to post a sign that would be visible from the water as we approach in our boat. This number may also be used by others on the water to quickly pin point their location in case of an emergency.

## STATIONS, APPARATUS & EQUIPMENT

The department has eight units housed at two fire halls. Station 1 is located at 35 Malcolm Meehan Road in Musquash and has the following equipment:

### **Rescue 1**

2000 International / Dynamic Fiber Rescue / Equipment vehicle with 18 foot walk in box, diesel engine and automatic transmission. It is equipped with firefighting equipment and Halmatro hydraulic extrication tools, airbags and other specialized rescue equipment.

### **Engine 1**

1986 GMC 7000 / Metalfab 325 g.p.m. tanker / pumper which carries 1350 gallons of water, and is equipped with a Robwen Class "A" foam system.

### **ATV**

1  
999  
Hond  
a 450  
four  
wheel

ATV  
with  
tandem  
axle  
all  
terrain  
off  
road  
trailer  
,  
carried  
on  
a  
tandem  
axle  
Scott  
built  
trailer  
.

**Boats** 1999 16  
foot rigid hull  
Zodiac Cherokee  
with 50 hp four  
stroke Yamaha  
outboard motor.

Eight foot zodiac  
cadet with 2 hp  
Honda four stroke  
motor for use in  
remote areas and  
for ice rescue.

**Rescue 2**  
1995 GMC  
Silverado 4x4  
extended cab  
pickup.

Fire Station 2 is located at 1270  
Route 790 Highway in Dipper  
Harbour. This station has a  
cascade system used for refilling

Self Contained Breathing Apparatus bottles, and houses the following apparatus:

**Engine 2**

2004 Sterling / Allain Equipment pumper equipped with a 1050 g.p.m. pump, 1200 gallons water, 25 gallons Class "A" foam and 25 gallons Class "B" foam.

**Engine 3**

1991 GMC Topkick / Metalfab tanker / pumper with a 325 g.p.m. pump and 1350 gallons of water. Besides firefighting gear, this truck carries first aid, immobilization and hydraulic extrication equipment.

**Rescue 3**

1998 Plymouth Voyager seven passenger van equipped with Medical First Responder equipment.



**FIREFIGHTERS**

	<u>Member Since</u>	<u>Member Since</u>	
Adam, Horst	2000	Lomax, Dale	1995
Aubin, Dale	2000	Lomax, Sharon	1988
Arseneault, Gilles	1987	Mawhinney	
Carroll, John	2001	Stewart	2001
Cox, Becky	2002 - 2004	McKinley, Mike	2004
Curtis, Grady	1989	Melanson, Dwayne	1996
Curtis, Ryan	2002	Melanson, Donnie	1998
Dixon, Greg	1987	Melanson, Kevin	2000
Dixon, Vanessa	2001	Melanson, Phillip	2002
Durdan, Ryan	2004	Mersereau, Michael	1998
Ells, Cliff	1988	Palmer, Russell	2000
Enkel, Bruce	1986	Pollock, Wayne	1985
Fudge, Barb	2004	Porier, Paul	2004
Galbraith, Neil	1988	Robichaud, John	1985
Gass, Diane	1985	Robichaud, Linda	1985
Gass, Gerald	1985	Rogers, Wayne	2001
Gray, Helen	2001	Russell, Tom	1986
Hanlon, Brian	1985	Sanojca, Andrew	1991
Hewey, Mac	1985	Short, Hayden	2000
Hitchcock, Mitchel	2002	Stevenson, Brian	1985
Hoddinott, Edna	1988	Thompson, Steven	1986
Hoddinott, Sean	2000	Tiner, Jim	2004
Hoddinott, Vern	2003 - 2004	Vautour, Mark	2002
Hyslop, Lester	2001	Walker, Robert	2004
Jonah, Ken	1988	Warner, Bruce	2000
Lambert, Jack	1988	Westfield, Kirk	2002
		Westfield, Kirk	2004

**AUXILIAR  
Y  
MEMBER  
S**

	<u>Member Since</u>	<u>Member Since</u>	
Bawn, Kathryn	1988	Mawhinney, Eileen	1988
Curtis, Susan	1991	Mawhinney, Mary Jane	1995
Dixon, Nancy	1991 - 2004	Mersereau, Sue	2003
Enkel, Leona	2003	Palmer, Phyllis	2003
Galbraith, Tracey	2001	Pollock, Judy	1988
Hyslop, Helen	2003	Stevenson, Dale	1988
Lambert, Wendy	1991		

**THANK YOU to all past & present members for their dedication!**

***THANK YOU to the residents of the Community for Your Support***