



ANNUAL REPORT
2005

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MUSQUASH FIRE - RESCUE
2005 Annual Report



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FIRE CHIEF'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to present the 2005 Annual Report for the Musquash Fire Department. This year marked the 20th anniversary of the formation of our department. I want to extend a thank you to those members who have completed 20 years of service. Their dedication and commitment has greatly assisted in making our fire department what it is today, as has the dedication of all members.

The past year has resulted in some positive changes. Our Fire Prevention program has moved from one week a year to a year round program. Also, our younger group of members have really generated more interest for the older members and have boosted the department moral to an all time high.

Training continues to be the life of our department, and we have a first class in-house program that accompanies the training we take at the NB Workshops and the ongoing training at the Point Lepreau Generating Station. I would like to extend a special thank you to our Training Division.

Looking ahead, there are two goals I would like to achieve. I hope to gain new members, and work towards developing our stations as emergency centres during times of need.

Wayne Pollock
Fire Chief

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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 2005 there were a total of forty eight firefighters in the department including all officers. The Social Committee consisted of 12 members. Four firefighters who have been with the department for at least fifteen years have become Honourary members.

BUDGET

The budget for the fire department for 2005 was \$143,388. This amount represents \$106,412 for operational expenses, and a \$36,976 loan payment for Engine 2. 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 2005, firefighters received certified training in CPR and First Aid, Medical First Responder, Firefighter 1, Haz Mat Awareness, Haz Mat Operational, Ice Rescue and Wildland Firefighting.

Firefighters had the opportunity to use the Royal Firefighters Association Zone 2 training trailer which was at Station 1 for several weeks. Firefighters also participated in joint exercises with the Point Lepreau Response Team and the Saint John Fire Department at Point Lepreau during October and November.

TRAINING (Continued)

Twelve members of the department attended the annual NBCC Training Workshop held in Miramichi on September 16 and 17, 2005. Four members of our department taught a Boat Rescue Course during the weekend, while eight took part in the workshops.

TRAINING STATISTICS

As of the end of 2005, firefighters had training in the following courses:

FIREFIGHTER LEVEL I	46
FIREFIGHTER LEVEL II	33
STANDARD FIRST AID & CPR	46
RED CROSS FIRST RESPONDER & CPR	32
FIRE ATTACK	35
INDUSTRIAL FIREFIGHTING	38
V.F.I.S. DRIVER TRAINING	24
AUTO EXTRICATION	39
HAZMAT AWARENESS	44
ADVANCED S.C.B.A.	9
BOAT RESCUE - FIRST RESPONDER	23
ICE RESCUE	34
ROPE RESCUE - High Angle	9
ROPE RESCUE - Low Angle	16
AIR BRAKE	27
DEFENSIVE DRIVING	23
DEFENSIVE DRIVING INSTRUCTOR (VFIS)	3
FLAGGING	18
COAST GUARD AUXILIARY	8
FIRE INSTRUCTOR	4
FIRE COMMAND	11
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY (OH&S)	17
W.H.M.I.S.	18
WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER	38
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
FIRE APPARATUS PRACTICES	29
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TYPES OF RESPONSES

The Department saw an increase in the number of calls during 2005 compared to 2004. The Musquash Fire Department responded to a total of 54 incidents during 2005 consisting of:

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>% 2005</u>
Structure Fire	2	2	3.70%
Chimney Fire.....	3	2	5.56%
Vehicle Fire	1	2	1.85%
Brush / Grass / Forest / Rubbish Fire.....	5	3	9.26%
MVA - Hwy 1 - Extrication Required	1		1.85%
MVA - Other Hwy - Extrication Required	0		0.00%
MVA - Hwy 1 - No Extrication	9		16.67%
MVA - Other Hwy - No Extrication	4		7.40%
Motor Vehicle Accident		13	
Gasoline or other Hazardous Materials Spill..	1	1	1.85%
Fire Alarm Activated.....	9	9	16.67%
Medical Assistance (First Responder)	1	0	1.85%
Ambulance Assistance.....	6	3	11.11%
Water or Ice Rescue	0	0	0.00%
Rescue Boat Response	0	1	0.00%
Other Rescue - Not Motor Vehicle	1	0	1.85%
Mutual Aid Response.....	1	0	1.85%
False Alarm - Good Intention	3	2	5.56%
False Alarm - Malicious.....	0	0	0.00%
Other	7	3	12.96%
Totals	54	41	

RESPONSES BY COMMUNITY

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>		<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Chance Harbour.....	2	3	Musquash	16	8
Dipper Harbour.....	4	7	New River Beach.....	0	1
Lepreau	14	14	Prince of Wales	11	5
Little Lepreau	1	2	Pocologan.....	1	0
Maces Bay	5	1	Saint John.....	0	0

MAJOR INCIDENTS

March 18, 2005 - Firefighters were dispatched to a report of a structure fire on the Wetmore Creek Road. On arrival, a small shed was found burning on a property that had been vacated by the owner. Firefighters were on scene for less than an hour.

April 8, 2005 - Occupants of two vehicles escaped with minor injuries following a collision at the corner of the Lepreau Village Rd. (Route 795) and Route 790 in Lepreau. A car struck a pick up travelling south on Route 790, causing it to overturn in a ditch. All occupants were out of their vehicles on arrival of the fire department, and were transported by ambulances to hospital.

August 19, 2005 - A major fire destroyed a mobile home with built on extension located at 20 Prince of Wales Rd. Firefighters arrived on scene shortly after 10 p.m. to find heavy fire coming from the back of the trailer. Hose lines were advanced to protect a nearby house and to knock down the flames. The occupant of the home was able to escape unharmed, one firefighter suffered a knee injury. Mutual aid responded from Pennfield, and the ambulance was on standby at the scene. An investigation the following day with the assistance of an accelerant sniffing dog from the Fredericton Fire Department determined the fire to be of suspicious origin.

September 10, 2005 - A van travelling west bound on Highway 1 left the road at the end of the four lane and overturned in Lepreau. The lone male occupant, a resident of Ontario, was deceased on arrival of the fire department. Firefighters used extrication tools to remove the victim from his car.

September 30, 2005 - Firefighters were dispatched to a report that a car had driven off the end of the wharf at Five Fathom Hole in Prince of Wales. One occupant of the car was on the wharf and told firefighters one person had not exited the car. Firefighters searched the water and shoreline using our rescue boat, and also did a search on foot of the shoreline area. RCMP divers recovered the victim, still in the car the next day.

During the year, the Musquash Fire Department responded to ten motor vehicle accidents on Highway 1. Five of these accidents were the result of vehicles striking moose on the highway. Fortunately, in all cases the injuries appeared to be minor.

GENERAL and OTHER MEETINGS

The department held four general meetings during the year on March 21, June 20, September 19 and December 19 for the purpose of discussing financial and operational business of the department. There were three officers meetings held during the year on January 6, June 16 and September 8.

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 March 19 and October 15.

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 15.
- The annual Appreciation Dinner for the fire fighters and their spouses was held at Station One on Saturday, December 10.

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.

DEPARTMENT CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY

The Musquash Fire Department recognized its twentieth anniversary during the annual appreciation dinner held on December 10.

Eight charter members of the department received their 20 year Federal Medals from Member of Parliament Greg Thompson. These were awarded to Fire Chief Wayne Pollock, Deputy Fire Chief Gilles Arseneault, Captain Mac Hewey, Captain Linda Robichaud, and Firefighters John Paul Robichaud, Diane Gass, Gerald Gass and Brian Stevenson.

Fifteen year Provincial Pins were presented by Municipal Services Representative Brain Lamb to Captain Jack Lambert, Lt. Grady Curtis, Firefighters John Carroll, Ken Jonah and Sheldon Lomax.

Ten Year Service Pins were presented by Fire Chief Wayne Pollock to Captains Cliff Ells and Brian Hanlon, and Firefighter Derek Lomax. Five Year Pins were also presented by Chief Pollock to Firefighters Horst Adam, Neil Galbraith, Edna Hoddinott, Jamie Melanson, Kevin Melanson, Mike Mersereau, and Russell Palmer.

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.

POINT LEPREAU GENERATING STATION

NB Power at Point Lepreau continues to be a greatly appreciated supporter of the Musquash Fire Department. During 2005, Point Lepreau assisted the fire department by purchasing a set of 40 ton air bags, regulators and hoses for use at the plant as well as at motor vehicle accidents, and donated several surplus SCBA bottles.

FIRE PREVENTION & PUBLIC EDUCATION

The department appointed two new Fire Prevention Officers in 2005. Lt. Helen Comeau, and Lt. Steven Thompson arranged school visits, store displays, community signage and a display of materials at the annual fall supper. New Fire Prevention check lists were introduced and made available to homeowners with handy tips. An emphasis will be placed on year round fire prevention activities.

Child Fire Safety Window Decals are available for use on the outside window of a child's bedroom, allowing us as firefighters to concentrate our initial rescue efforts on these rooms. These reflective decals are available from the Fire Prevention Officers, at each fire station, and some were left at the school for students.

FIRE & ARSON INVESTIGATION TEAM

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

A major structure fire at 20 Prince of Wales Rd was investigated, with the assistance of the RCMP, Fire Marshal's Office, and an Accelerant Sniffing Dog from the Fredericton Fire Department. Several samples were taken for analysis at the RCMP Crime Lab.

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.

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.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

There were 22 firefighters present for the annual Remembrance Day ceremony at the monument located at Station 1. A luncheon was hosted by the department at Station 1 following the ceremony.

NEW EQUIPMENT - 2005

The department took delivery in December 2004 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 housed at Station 2 in Dipper Harbour. Firefighters trained extensively with the truck during the early part of 2005.

Other new equipment obtained during the year included:

- forestry pump can
- 3 forestry mop up kits
- 1000 feet of forestry hose
- Mini Striker pump for forestry use
- 3 forestry shovels & 6 brooms
- Nomex coveralls for wildland fire use
- Stortz fittings to convert old forestry hose
- ventilation prop was built for training use behind Station 1
- 10 pagers
- 6 Streamlight flashlights
- fax machine for Station 2
- 9 used MSA air paks
- Hand held depth finder for use on rescue boat
- 2 sets Sav-a-Jake multi purpose rescue tools
- 2 Ice Commander suits
- portable radio batteries
- multi media projector
- turn out gear lockers were built at Station 2

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

Qualified members of the community and nearby areas are welcome to apply at anytime to be a volunteer firefighter. During 2005, three firefighters resigned from the department, while seven new members were welcomed to the department. New members are needed for the Station 2 coverage area, and recruiting efforts will continue to focus on this need.

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 Grand Manan, and the annual muster hosted by Zone 2 of the Royal Firefighters Association. The Musquash Fire Department teams won second and forth place at the Grand Manan muster.

CAMP & COTTAGE CIVIC NUMBERING SYSTEM

A numbering system has been 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 have been given the opportunity to purchase at cost a reflective numbering sign, similar to those used for the civic addressing program. Owners have been asked to post the sign so it is 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. Large maps have been posted in each fire station showing the location of each number. Of the 106 camps on these waterways, 86 owners purchased a blue civic number sign, a participation rate of 81%.

PLANS FOR 2006

Training - New training props will be constructed to allow for hands on training by firefighters. On going Monday night training will continue with weekly reviews of the many skills and techniques the department is trained to perform.

New Equipment - A capital purchase application has been approved to allow our department to purchase eight One Hour Self Contained Breathing Apparatus units. These units will be compatible with the units used at the Point Lepreau Generating Station, and by the Saint John Fire Department. These will be placed into service as soon as possible in 2006.

An application has been submitted to replace Engine 1.

Work will commence towards an improved radio system.

Mutual Aid - Training and planning will continue on our Mutual Aid agreement which is in place with the Pennfield Fire Department, and it is hoped a similar agreement may be reached with the Saint John Fire Department to provide assistance to us in the eastern end of our coverage area, as well as to the city anytime they may need our assistance.

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** 1999 Honda 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	Mawhinney, Stewart	2001
Aubin, Dale	2004 - 2005	McFarlane, Hylton	2005
Arseneault, Gilles	1987	McKinley, Mike	2004
Carroll, John	1990 - 2005	Melanson, Dwayne	1996
Comeau, Helen	2001	Melanson, Jamie	1998
Curtis, Grady	1989	Melanson, Kevin	2000
Curtis, Ryan	2002	Melanson, Philip	2002
Dixon, Greg	1987	Mersereau, Michael	1998
Dixon, Vanessa	2001	O'Neil, Crystal	2005
Durdan, Ryan	2004	Palmer, Russell	2000
Ells, Cliff	1993	Pollock, Wayne	1985
Enkel, Bruce	1986	Porier, Paul	2004
Fudge, Barb	2004	Prince, Brenda	2005
Galbraith, Neil	1998	<i>Robichaud, John</i>	1985
Gass, Diane	1985	Robichaud, Linda	1985
Gass, Gerald	1985	Rogers, Wade	2001
Hanlon, Brian	1995	Russell, Troy	1986
Hewey, Mac	1985	Sanojca, Andrew	1991
Hitchcock, Mitchel	2002	Short, Hayward	2000
Hoddinott, Edna	1998	Stevenson, Brian	1985
Hoddinott, Sean	2002	Thompson, Steven	1986
Hyslop, Lester	2001	Vautour, Mark	2002
Janes, Dave	2005	Walker, Ryan	2004
<i>Jonah, Ken</i>	1988	Warner, Ben	2000
Lambert, Jack	1988	Westfield, Jon	2002
Lomax, Derek	1995	Westfield, Kirk	2004
Lomax, Sheldon	1988		
Lordon, Brian	2005		

Italics denote Honorary Member

AUXILIARY MEMBERS

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

***THANK YOU to all past & present members for their dedication!
THANK YOU to the residents of the Community for Your Support***