



ANNUAL REPORT
2006

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MUSQUASH FIRE - RESCUE

2006 Annual Report

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FIRE CHIEF'S MESSAGE

Once again, I am pleased to present the annual report for the Musquash Fire Department. The success of any organization depends mainly on its people, and Musquash Fire is very fortunate to have members with such a wide variety of skills.

A major change was made in 2006 that brought the members from both stations together for training, maintenance and social activities. This has not only provided a better quality of training but has also developed a stronger camaraderie within the department.

The department has grown in membership during 2006 and has reached an all time high of 53 firefighters, 5 honorary and 11 auxiliary.

Plans for 2007 will be to continue with an aggressive training program and the expansion of Station 1 to enable it to become an emergency centre.

Wayne Pollock
Fire Chief

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ORGANIZATION

During early 2006 the decision was made to consolidate all operations and training within the department at Station One in Musquash. As a result, there were some changes to the number of officers, including the elimination of one Deputy Chief position.

Crews were redistributed, and now consist of members from what were traditionally two stations.

The Chief of Department is Wayne Pollock, assisted by Deputy Chief Gilles Arseneault.

Officer positions within the department are nine Captains consisting of six Crew Leaders, two Training Officers and one Public Information Officer who also serves as a Fire Investigator. There are four lieutenants - a Fire Prevention Officer, two Assistant Training Officers, and a Fire Investigator. At the end of 2006 there were a total of fifty three firefighters in the department including all officers. The Social Committee consisted of 11 members. Five firefighters who have been with the department for at least fifteen years have become Honourary members.

BUDGET

The budget for the fire department for 2006 was \$161,469. This amount represents \$134,366 for operational expenses, and a \$27,103 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 over twenty subjects, with many new subjects added during 2006. 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

TRAINING (Continued)

attended through out the year by firefighters. During 2006, firefighters received certified training in CPR; Medical First Responder; WHMIS & Occupational Health & Safety; Auto Extrication; Industrial Firefighting; Wildland Firefighting; and Fire Ground Command. Two members who became members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary took their Intro and RBM-1 training courses.

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. A live fire training session was held at the Point Lepreau Fireground in November, and an Ice Rescue training session, which was dispatched as if it was an actual call, was held on February 12.

Fifteen members of the department attended the annual NBCC Training Workshop held in Miramichi on September 15 and 16, 2006. Four members of our department taught a Boat Rescue Course during the weekend, while eleven took part in the workshops.

Firefighters toured the Public Safety Communications Centre on Monday nights to become familiar with the operations of the centre.

GENERAL and OTHER MEETINGS

The department held four general meetings during the year on March 20, June 19, September 11 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 March 8, June 14 and August 31.

A special meeting was called on October 2 where members approved the purchase of a 2003 GMC Silverado 4x4 pick up to replace Rescue 2.

A representative of the department attended most meetings of the Royal Fire Fighters Association. Training Officers attended the Royal Zone 2 Training Group meetings on January 18, March 18, September 6 and December 13. Coast Guard Auxiliary meetings were attended on March 18 and September 9.

TRAINING STATISTICS

As of the end of 2006 firefighters had training in the following courses:

FIREFIGHTER LEVEL I.....	48
FIREFIGHTER LEVEL II.....	39
STANDARD FIRST AID & CPR.....	45
RED CROSS FIRST RESPONDER & CPR	39
FIRE ATTACK.....	36
INDUSTRIAL FIREFIGHTING	1
INDUSTRIAL FIRE TRAINING at PLGS.....	42
V.F.I.S. DRIVER TRAINING	24
AUTO EXTRICATION.....	45
HAZMAT AWARENESS	47
HAZMAT OPERATIONAL.....	19
ADVANCED S.C.B.A.	9
BOAT RESCUE - FIRST RESPONDER.....	22
ICE RESCUE	40
ROPE RESCUE - High Angle	9
ROPE RESCUE - Low Angle.....	17
AIR BRAKE	28
DEFENSIVE DRIVING.....	22
V.F.I.S. DRIVER TRAINING	24
DRIVING INSTRUCTOR (V.F.I.S.)	3
FLAGGING.....	17
COAST GUARD AUXILIARY	9
FIRE INSTRUCTOR	4
FIRE COMMAND.....	11
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY (OH&S)	22
W.H.M.I.S.....	25
WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER	43
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	30
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TYPES OF RESPONSES

The Department saw an increase in the number of calls during 2006 compared to 2005, a trend which has continued over the last several years. The Musquash Fire Department responded to a total of 79 incidents during 2006, an increase of 46%, consisting of:

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>% 2006</u>
Structure Fire	2	2	2.5%
Chimney Fire.....	3	3	3.8%
Vehicle Fire	6	1	7.6%
Brush / Grass / Forest / Rubbish Fire	14	5	17.7%
MVA - Hwy 1 - Extrication Required	0	1	0.0%
MVA - Other Hwy - Extrication Required	1	0	1.3%
MVA - Hwy 1 - No Extrication	10	9	12.7%
MVA - Other Hwy - No Extrication	6	4	7.6%
Gasoline, other Hazardous Materials Spill	0	1	0.0%
Fire Alarm Activated.....	13	9	16.5%
Medical Assistance (First Responder)	11	1	13.9%
Ambulance Assistance	3	6	3.8%
Water or Ice Rescue	0	0	0.0%
Rescue Boat Response	0	0	0.0%
Other Rescue - Not Motor Vehicle.....	1	1	1.3%
Mutual Aid Response.....	0	1	0.0%
False Alarm - Good Intention.....	3	3	3.8%
False Alarm - Malicious	0	0	0.0%
Other	6	7	7.6%
Totals	79	54	

RESPONSES BY COMMUNITY

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>% 2006</u>
Chance Harbour.....	5	2	6.3%
Dipper Harbour	7	4	8.9%
Lepreau	18	14	22.8%
Little Lepreau	4	1	5.1%
Maces Bay	13	5	16.5%
Musquash	24	16	30.4%
New River Beach	2 *	0	2.5%
Prince of Wales.....	6	11	7.6%
Pocologan	0	1	0.0%

* Calls to New River Beach were dispatched as being in our coverage area, but on arrival were found to be in Pennfield Fire Dept area.

MAJOR INCIDENTS

June 29, 2006 - Firefighters were dispatched to a motor vehicle accident on Route 790 in Chance Harbour, near the old dump. On arrival, firefighters found a car that had overturned with a lone male still in the car. The occupant was removed from the vehicle using hydraulic rescue tools and the Res-Q-Jack equipment which had just been put into service a few months prior. He was transported to hospital with critical injuries, but has since made a full recovery.

October 5, 2006 - A call originally dispatched as a fire in the woods was upgraded to a structure fire while firefighters were en route. Firefighters found a camp at 2844 Route 790 in Chance Harbour fully involved in fire on arrival. Firefighters were on scene for several hours, but the building was destroyed.

December 12, 2006 - Firefighters responded to an Industrial Accident at Hansen Stream in Little Lepreau. A worker from a company that was contracted to build a portion of the International Power Line was pinned by a piece of crane equipment. The worker, who was from Nova Scotia, was quickly extricated and transported to hospital, but died from his injuries the next day.

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. Regular monthly meetings are held between the Department and LSD on the second Monday of each month.

POINT LEPREAU GENERATING STATION

NB Power at Point Lepreau continues to be a greatly appreciated supporter of the Musquash Fire Department. During 2006, Point Lepreau assisted the fire department by purchasing a monitor gun for use on Engine 2. Engine 3 was on standby at Point Lepreau during part of June while upgrades were made to the hydrant system.

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 on October 14.
- The annual Appreciation Dinner for the firefighters and their spouses was held at Station One on Saturday, December 2.

LONG SERVICE AWARDS

Three members of the department received their 20 year Federal Medals during the Annual Appreciation Dinner. These were awarded to Captain Greg Dixon, Captain Bruce Enkel and Firefighter Troy Russell.

A Fifteen year Provincial Pin was presented to Captain Andrew Sanojca.

A Ten Year Pin was presented to Lieutenant Dwayne Melanson.

Five Year Pins were presented to Lieutenant Helen Comeau, Lieutenant Lester Hyslop and Firefighters Vanessa Dixon, Wade Rogers and Ben Warner.

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

Qualified members of the community and nearby areas are welcome to apply at anytime to be a volunteer firefighter. During 2006, four firefighters resigned from the department, two members became honorary members, and six new members were welcomed to the department.

COMMUNICATIONS

Our radio system was upgraded in November to allow us direct radio communication on Channel 1 with our dispatchers located at the Public Safety Communications Centre in Saint John.

Firefighters each carry a voice pager to be notified of an alarm. Several officers are assigned a portable radio. Each apparatus carries a mobile radio and a minimum of two portable radios. Radios are taken from other units for use on the boat and ATV as required. 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 which is now monitored by the PSSC, two simplex fireground channels, two E.M.O. channels and a fire ground channel for use at the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station.

FIRE PREVENTION & PUBLIC EDUCATION

Lt. Steven Thompson served as a Fire Prevention Officer before his resignation from active duty in May. Lt. Helen Comeau is the department's Fire Prevention Officer, and arranged school visits, store displays, community signage and a display of materials at the annual fall supper. A new roadside sign was erected in Lepreau which allows for timely safety messages to be posted. A supply of smoke alarms were obtained from the Fire Marshal's Office to provide to residences that do not have smoke alarms.

FIRE & ARSON INVESTIGATION TEAM

The Fire & Arson Investigation Team currently consists of Captain Andrew Sanojca and Lieutenant Grady Curtis, with Captain Cliff Ells taking formal training to join the team. During the year two structure fires and six vehicle fires were investigated.

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 (Maritimes). 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.

The members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary are: Gilles Arsenault, Cliff Ells, Neil Galbraith, Jack Lambert, Dwayne Melanson, Philip Melanson, Mike Mersereau, Paul Poirier and Andrew Sanojca.

One member took part in the annual Rescue Challenge which was held in Shediac in September.

NEW EQUIPMENT - 2006

As in previous years, several pieces of new equipment were obtained, including:

- < 8 MSA 4500 psi (One Hour) SCBA Units
- < 2003 GMC Silverado 2500 4x4 with four door cab to replace Rescue 2
- < Monitor Gun for Engine 2
- < 6 sets of New Bunker Gear
- < Res-Q-Jack Stabilization Equipment
- < Boat equipment - including life jackets, life ring, flares & radar reflector
- < 40 ton air bags & regulator
- < Exhaust extraction system installed at Station 2
- < 2 Emergency Scene Ahead road signs

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 first, second and sixth place at the Grand Manan muster, and fifth and sixth place at Long Reach.

PLANS FOR 2007

Training - The workshop form of training has been very successful for our department, and will be expanded upon with new workshops added as required. PowerPoint presentations will be prepared for those workshops where it will aid in the delivery of the material.

New Equipment - The department has received approval to replace Engine 1. At the end of 2006, this unit was out for tenders. A delivery date has not yet been set.

Mutual Aid - Although rarely used, mutual aid with our neighbouring departments of Pennfield and Saint John is a valuable asset. We hope to hold more training sessions with these departments so we are better prepared to assist them when requested, and so they are familiar with our operations when we call for their assistance.

Pre-Fire Planning - In past years, the department has visited several businesses, churches and the school in an effort to know these buildings better in case of fire. Preplanning will be updated during 2007 to identify hazards firefighters may face in these buildings, as well as to identify water sources and possible tactics that may be used to battle a fire in any of these larger buildings in our area.

Smoke Alarm Campaign - Firefighters will be visiting residences in our coverage area to test smoke alarms. If a house is not equipped with a smoke alarm, the fire department will provide a smoke alarm for the residence. Batteries will also be provided if required.

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.
A 2003 GMC Silverado 2500 4x4 with four door cab was purchased by the membership in October to replace this unit.

Station 2 is located at 1270 Route 790 Highway in Dipper Harbour.

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.

Rescue 3 1998 Plymouth Voyager seven passenger van equipped with Medical First Responder equipment.

FIREFIGHTERS

<u>Member</u>	<u>Since</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Since</u>
Adam, Horst	2006	McKinley, Tom	2004
<i>Arseneault, Emile</i>	1996	Melanson, Wayne	1996
Arseneault, Gilles	1985	Melanson, Jim	1998
Comeau, Helen	2000	Melanson, Kevin	2000
Curtis, Grady	1999	Melanson, Philip	2002
Curtis, Ryan	2002	Mersereau, Michael	1998
Dixon, Greg	1986	Oliver, Don	2006
Dixon, Vanessa	2001	O'Neil, Carl	2005
Durdan, Ryan	2000	Palmer, Russell	2000
Ells, Cliff	1993	Poirier, Paul	2004
Enkel, Bruce	1986	Pollock, Wendy	1985
Fillmore, Amanda	2002-2006	Prince, Brenda	2002-2006
Fudge, Barb	2004	Robichaud, Milton	2006
Galbraith, Neil	1985	Robichaud, John	1985
Gass, Diane	1985	Robichaud, Linda	1985
Gass, Gerald	1985	Rogers, Wally	2001
Hanlon, Brian	1995	Russell, Tim	1986
Hewey, Mac	1985	Sanojca, Andrew	1991
Hitchcock, Clay	2000	Short, Harold	2000
Hitchcock, Mitchell	1985	Stevenson, Brian	1985
Hoddinott, Edna	1988	Thompson, Steven	1986
Hoddinott, Sean	2002	Tiner, Ellen	2005
Hyslop, Lester	2001	Tiner, Jim	2001
Janes, Dave	2005	Vautour, Mark	2002
<i>Jonah, Ken</i>	2006	Wakefield, Bob	2006
Lambert, Jack	2006	Wakefield, Diane	2006
Lomax, Derek	2002	Walker, Ryan	2004
<i>Lomax, Sheldon</i>	1988	Warner, Ben	2001
Lordon, Brian	2005-2006	Westfield, Jon	2002
Mawhinney, Stewart	2001-2006	Westfield, Kirk	2004
McFarlane, Hilton	2005-2006	Westfield, Rick	1998

Italics denote Honorary Member

AUXILIARY MEMBERS

<u>Member</u>	<u>Since</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Since</u>
Bawn, Kathryn	1988	Mawhinney, Eileen	1988
Burke, Sherry	2006	Mawhinney, Mary Jane	1995
Curtis, Susan	1991	Mersereau, Sue	2003
Enkel, Leona	2003	Palmer, Phyllis	2003
Galbraith, Tracey	2001-2006	Pollock, Judy	1988
Hyslop, Helen	2003-2006	Stevenson, Dale	1988
Lambert, Wendy	1991		