



Owen Sound Fire and Emergency Services

Operations Update

Operational Updates: Mid-Year 2023



Incidents

Calls by Type	
Fire Calls	13
CO/ Fire Alarm Activations	120
Medical/Resuscitator Calls	168
Rescue/ Water Rescue	56
Other (Public Hazard, Public Service, Burn Complaints)	61
Totals	418

Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives – Every residence in Ontario must have a working smoke alarm on every level and outside all sleeping areas.



Notable Incidents/ Community Impact of Incidents:



Training

Training Highlights	
Training Sessions	206
Total hours of training	481
Subjects Covered	57

Notable Certifications Achieved, Specialty Courses/ Training:

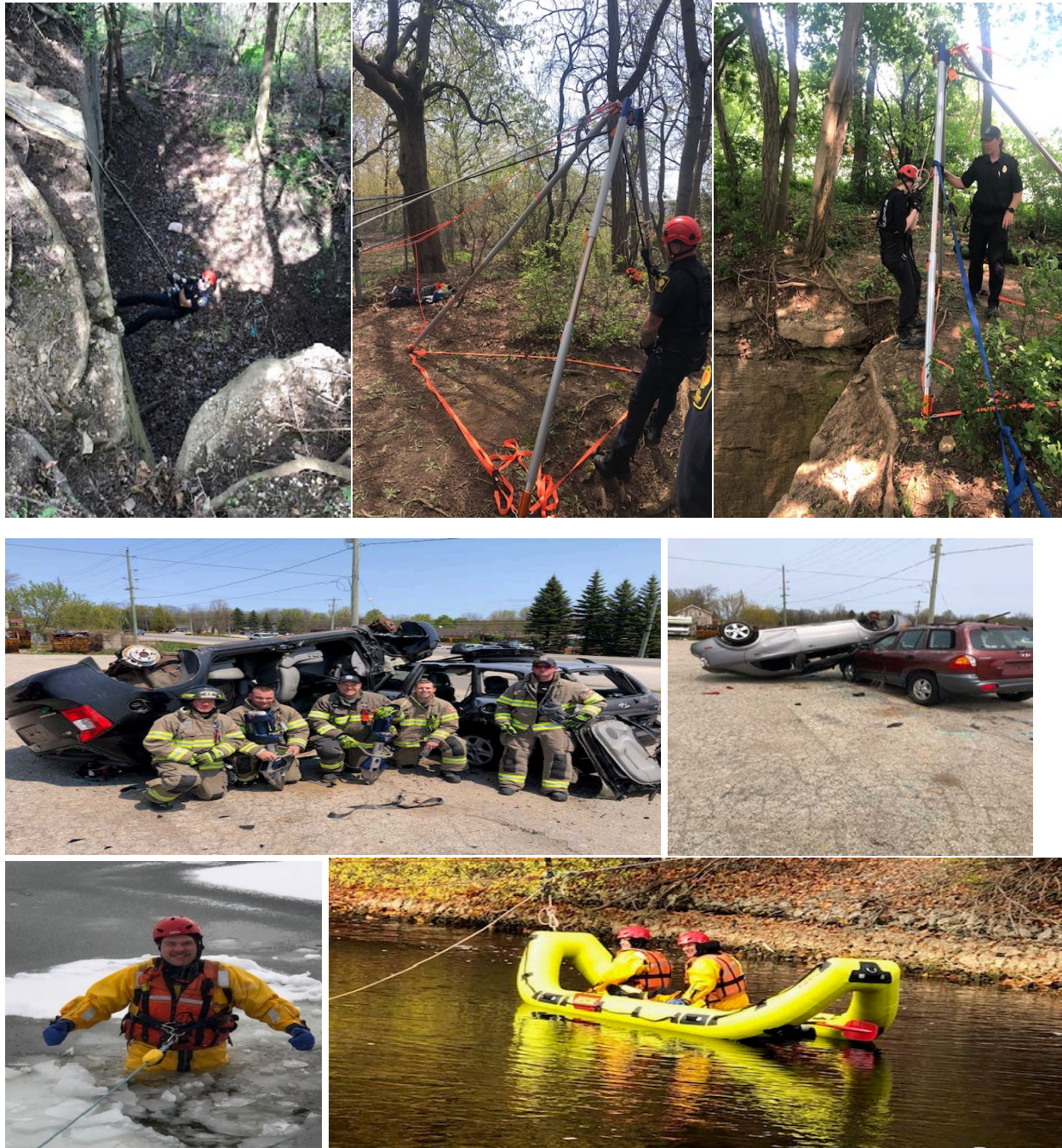
The Office of the Fire Marshal is now requiring Fire Fighters to become certified in all disciplines of service they offer. Owen Sound Fire and Emergency Services has accepted the challenge and are working to become Certified in the following areas: Water Rescue, Ice Rescue, High Angle Rope Rescue, Auto Extrication, and Pumper Operations. With these specialized skill sets comes many hours of training and recertification. With the purchase of new equipment, and updates made to existing equipment, firefighters have spent the past several months training with the new equipment, enhancing skills and working towards certification in all the areas listed above.

Ontario Fire College Legislation Course - Joe Forbes, Kevin Aleinik, Beth Pilkington, Coy Kulich, Matt Pullen, Brian Bridges

Ontario Fire College Fire Officer 1 – Josh Nicholson, Kyle Bowers

Ontario Fire College Water Rescue Awareness – Kyle Bowers, Troy Adair, Matt Pullen, Mitch DaCruz, Jason Redmond

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Prevention

Highlights	
Inspections (Jan-Jun)	571
Public Education Events/Attendance	37/1285

Notable Activities: To date, 19 public education sessions have been conducted, and have had over 430 participants at our city schools and nursing homes.

We are delighted to also include our first-ever Jr. Fire Fighter Program, where forty kids in grades five and six participated in a six-night program that included fire safety education, CPR, first aid and other firefighting-related technical skills. We look forward to making this program an annual event.

Once again, the Home Inspection Program was started after a long delay due to Covid. This program, managed by the fire prevention office, sees our fire crews visit close to 1600 homes within the City of Owen Sound between May and September. The Home Inspection Program has the on-duty suppression crews go door to door within the city, checking smoke, and carbon monoxide alarms and offering fire safety tips to residents. The crews will test smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, replace batteries if required, and install a new alarm in some cases.





Participation in OSDSS Fun Day allows us to engage with our city's diverse student base and allows us to showcase some of the firefighter skills required for a career in the fire service.



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Equipment, Apparatus & Facility Maintenance

Inspection/Maintenance Highlights	
Equipment Inspections/ Repairs	52
Facility Updates	6

Notable Projects:

All equipment and apparatus are inspected and repaired based on an annual schedule that complies with government-regulated standards and mandates. Some of our notable mechanical and facility projects include:

Annual Ministry of Transportation (MTO) (Yellow Sticker) Safety Inspections on Apparatus and Boat Trailers.

Annual Fire Pump Capacity Testing as per National Fire Protection Act (NFPA) 1911/1901 Standards.

Aerial Ladder Testing/Maintenance as per NFPA 1914 Standards.

Ground Ladder Inspection and Testing as per NFPA 1932 Standards.

Navigation Electronics Repair & Update on Marine Rescue 7.

Full Annual Maintenance Service on Marine Rescue 7.

Semi-Annual Maintenance on Breathing Air Compressor as per CSA Z180.1-19

Maintenance Services on Speciality Rescue Tools and Firefighting Equipment.

Mechanical repairs on multiple pieces of equipment and apparatus.

Updated Radios for fire ground communications. This included a new speaker system throughout the fire hall.

Overhead doors were replaced on the apparatus floor at the rear of the building as part of the 2023 Capital Projects.

Staffing Announcements

New Hires

We were excited to welcome two new members to the team at Owen Sound Fire on January 3rd of this year. Both have completed their orientation and training and have been on shift working with other crew members since the middle of February.



a. Kevin Aleinik

Aleinik, local to Owen Sound, had been a volunteer firefighter with the Town of Saugeen Shores Fire Service since 2019 before joining Owen Sound Fire. In addition to his firefighting experience, he is a Kinesiologist and has worked in this field since 2016.

b. Bethany Pilkington

Pilkington served most recently as a part of the Orangeville Fire Service team and prior to that, was a volunteer firefighter in Listowel. In addition to her firefighting experience, she has been a Paramedic with Dufferin County Paramedic Services since 2021.



Co-Op Student Program

Owen Sound Fire is proud to continue the co-op student program with two local high schools. This program is an excellent opportunity for students interested in firefighting, and emergency services, to get hands-on experience in the field. Our most recent co-op student, Erica Huizinga, is a testament to the program's success. She has been accepted into Conestoga's Pre-Fire Service program. She will be attending in the new year to pursue a career in firefighting after her positive experience at Owen Sound Fire and Emergency Services.

