



Owen Sound Fire and Emergency Services

Operations Update

Operational Updates: Mid-Year 2024



Incidents

Calls by Type	
Fire Calls	12
CO/ Fire Alarm Activations	135
Medical/Resuscitator Calls	180
Rescue/ Water Rescue	17
Other (Public Hazard, Public Service, Burn Complaints)	112
Totals	457

Notable Incidents/ Community Impact of Incidents:

During the storm on June 13th, which left many residents without power for several hours, Owen Sound Fire responded to 17 calls for assistance in the twenty-four-hour period.

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



Training

Training Highlights	
Training Sessions	140
Total hours of training	1,163
Subjects Covered	46

Notable Certifications Achieved, Specialty Courses/ Training:

In 2024, we continue to focus on several Technical Rescue disciplines, including Ice & Water Rescue, Marine Navigation & Open Water Rescue, Technical High Angle Rope Rescue, and Confined Space Rescue. Thanks to the support from Georgian College, a Confined Space training trailer was provided, and all members took part in training with it. Having this training trailer was an excellent opportunity for the firefighter to re-fresh skills while working in a safe training environment.

All members completed re-certification on First and CPR to a level of BLS/HCP for Fire Fighters.

Josh Nicholson, Brian Bridges and Jason Redmond were given the opportunity to attend the 2024 Canadian Highrise Conference in Barrie. This training event was one day of training packed with several hands-on practical skill stations, including

- Vertical Stretch
- Wet/dry stretch in Hallway
- Hose City: Flow & GO
- Standpipe Operations



Prevention

Highlights	
Inspections (Jan-Jun)	759
Public Education Events/Attendance	42/1141



Notable Activities:

We have already conducted 41 public education sessions in 2024, with over 1100 people attending.

We are delighted to continue the Jr. Fire Fighter Program, in which forty kids in grades five and six participated for five nights in a program that included fire safety education, CPR, first aid, and other firefighting-related technical skills. We look forward to continuing this annual event.

Our office worked with Owen Sound Police and Grey County Housing due to two significant fires in our community. The fire at 248 7th Ave E was investigated, and FPI McEwen worked very closely with Grey County Housing officials to ensure that the occupants were housed. In light of the preventable fire in the apartment, we are looking into further educational opportunities.

Our office attended the Owen Sound Chamber of Commerce Seniors Fair.

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Equipment, Apparatus & Facility Maintenance

Inspection/Maintenance Highlights	
Equipment Inspections/ Repairs	50
Facility Updates	5

Notable Projects: Refurbishment of an SL75 Ladder Truck partnered with Sutphen Fire Trucks out of Urbana, Ohio, to replace the current 2004 American LaFrance Aerial#4 75-foot ladder truck. The truck committee has been working hard to ensure that all mechanical, safety, and equipment alterations and legislated Canadian requirements are met to meet and exceed the safety of our firefighters and the community they serve.

Updated 4 Gas detection equipment has been implemented to replace the outdated gas detection equipment.

All equipment and apparatus are inspected and repaired based on an annual schedule that complies with government-regulated standards and mandates.

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

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.



Staffing Announcements

Retirements



After thirty years of service, Captain Ken Lawrence celebrated his retirement on April 1st, 2024. Ken began his career as a Fire Prevention Inspector on May 9th, 1994, before transferring to a suppression role and rising through the ranks to Fire Captain, a position he held for over 20 years. His contributions to the Fire Service will always be valued and remembered. His hard work, commitment, and dedication are worthy of admiration, and filling his bunker year will be almost impossible. Congratulations on your retirement, Ken!

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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.



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