



Pembroke Fire Department 2022 Annual Report



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Fire Chief Selle's Message

This introduction to the second Annual Report the Pembroke Fire Department has presented, in my short tenure as Chief, has left me somewhat perplexed as to how to describe the previous year.

Mapping a new path forward for the fire service in Pembroke, post pandemic, is proving to be challenging and exciting at times while appearing daunting and disappointing at others.

The efforts of the firefighters at PFD represent the exciting portion of the path forward. They prove time and time again to be true professionals, conducting literally 1000s of fire prevention and public education interactions within the City, responding to all types of hazards in all types of conditions and training constantly to not only improve as firefighters but to improve as people. They understand their role in the community both on and off duty and strive to make Pembroke a better place to live for everyone.

2022 was the first full calendar year for myself as Chief and also Community Emergency Management Coordinator. It is challenging trying to be proactive in addressing larger issues that occur once in a calendar year, while completing the more mundane tasks that keep PFD operating. The fire service has historically been a reactionary service. To serve better, the PFD needs to be a proactive department, mitigating the emergencies before they occur. This is replicated in Emergency Planning, ensuring action plans are in place before events happen, not developing them in their aftermath.

Mapping the future path to asset acquisition and maintenance has proven daunting. Huge cost increases are evident in all sectors. Costings have exceeded original cost forecasts for equipment we plan on replacing years from now. In 2020, forecasted replacement of a front-line pump truck was \$750,000 for a top-of-the-line product. A year and a half later, the cost for the same product, approximately \$1.2 million. Adequately planning for these increases, as mentioned above, is daunting.

2022 introduced mandatory certification for all firefighters in Ontario. The lack of support to bring the province's fire service to the required standards, has been disappointing. Course layouts and delivery are undergoing testing and constant revamping, accessing courses is difficult and the process for smaller departments is expensive, especially for departments that relied on the former OFC campus located in Gravenhurst. The Fire Service is another example of the increasing burdens on municipalities and other lower tier governments are seeing across Ontario.

To end on a positive note, we have welcomed some new members to the PFD family in 2022, namely our first full time administrative assistant, Wendy Hewitt. Her positive attitude and dedication are on display continually, providing exactly what we needed at the beginning of 2022!

Scott Selle,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Selle".

Fire Chief



Core Values, Mission and Vision

Professionalism

The fire department demands the highest standards of excellence, integrity, commitment, and dedication from all its employees. As professionals, we must treat all others with respect and dignity. The public and taxpayers deserve nothing less.

Integrity

The fire department is entrusted with protecting the public and enforcing fire and other related codes. Each member has a personal responsibility to demonstrate the highest ethical standards to inspire confidence and trust in each other and also in the public we serve.

Respect

Each member of this department should be treated with consideration and respect. Personnel must be free to contribute fully to this fire department without any fear or disrespect. All employees must respect the dignity and rights of co-workers and the public they serve.

Accountability

In carrying out our mission, all employees must hold themselves accountable to the public, taxpayers and personally for their actions.

Partnership

The Pembroke Fire Department recognizes that its success requires a diverse, coordinated team committed to the highest standards of trust, hard work, co-operation and communication working together with external stakeholders to achieve common goals.

Innovation

The fire department strives to work creatively, proactively and effectively in providing services to the public. We are committed to finding flexible, efficient and innovative approaches to providing fire safety.

Mission

It is our mission to continually strive to provide fire and life safety protection, prevention and education to the residents and visitors of the City of Pembroke with dedication, teamwork, civic pride and professionalism.

Vision

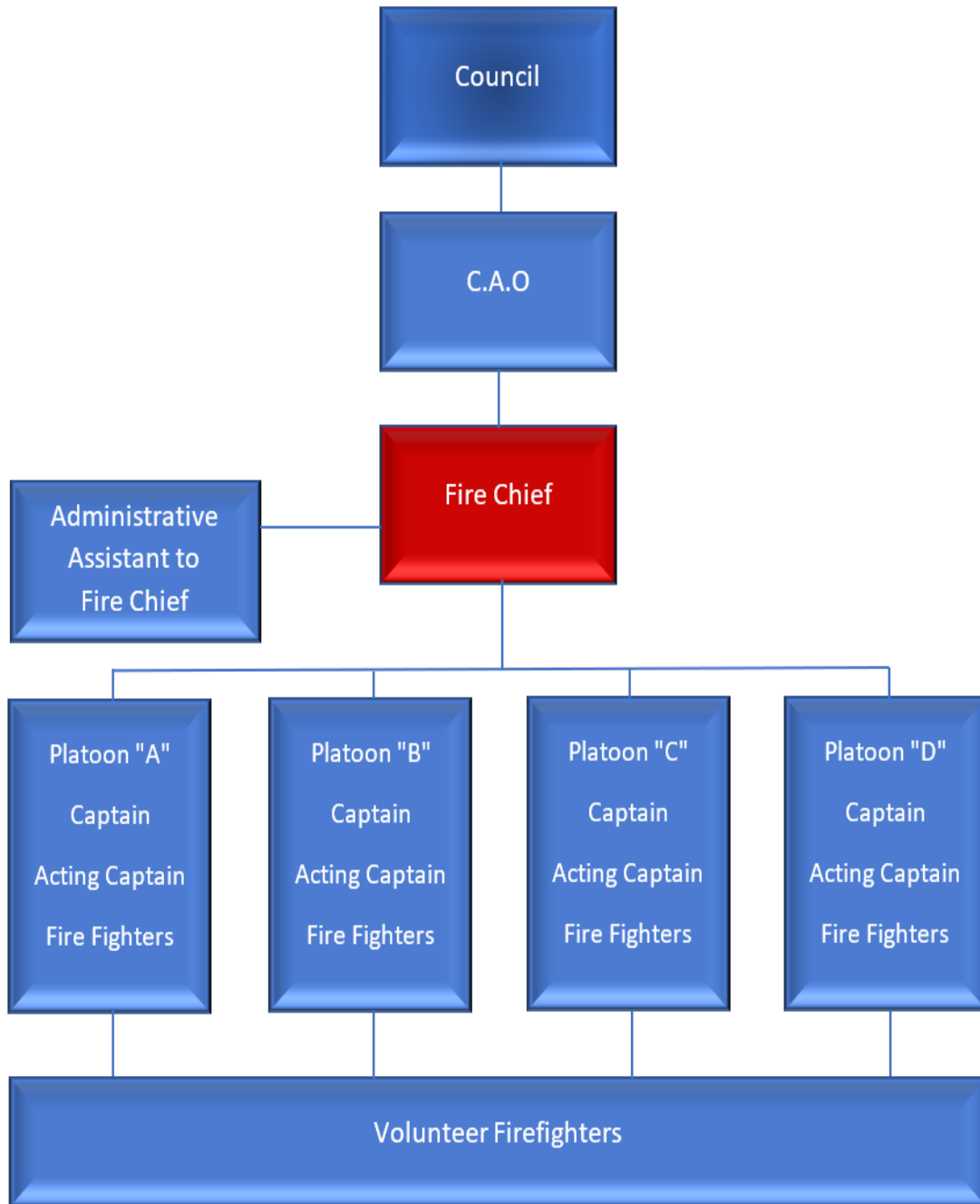
The Pembroke Fire Department is dedicated to continually improving the quality of life to the people we serve with exemplary service in a cost effective and efficient manner.



Organizational Structure

Pembroke Fire Department Chain of Command

The Pembroke Fire Department is a composite department consisting of 16 career and 16 Volunteer Fire Fighters, a Fire Chief, and an Administrative Assistant.





Department Staff

Career Fire Fighters (includes volunteer & career service as of Dec. 31, 2022)

Name	Rank	Service
Scott Selle	Chief	20 years, 10 months
Edward Beaupre	Captain	34 years, 5 months
Gary Lowe	Captain	28 years, 11 months
Shawn Morgan	Captain	16 years
Chance Colquhoun	Captain	15 years, 7 months
Darrell Andrews	Acting Captain	29 years, 1 month
Kyle Zimmerman	Acting Captain	14 years, 6 months
Jason Kelly	Acting Captain	14 years, 4 months
Brent Verdiel	Acting Captain	13 years, 9 months
Ian Caughey	Fire Fighter	20 years, 6 months
Tom Watkins	Fire Fighter	19 years, 9 months
Luke Dunne	Fire Fighter	16 years, 9 months
Matt Troutman	Fire Fighter	11 years, 3 months
Tanner Rutz	Fire Fighter	11 years, 3 months
Brad Lapierre	Fire Fighter	7 years, 8 months
Emma Gibbon	Fire Fighter	5 years, 2 months
Riley Poirier	Fire Fighter	3 years, 4 months

Table 1 career firefighters rank and service time

Approximate Average years of service: **16.75 years** and includes volunteer service time.

The combined years of service of the career firefighters was **283 years, 1 month**.

Captains approximate average years of service: **23 years**

Acting Captains approximate average years of service: **17 years**

Firefighters approximate average years of service: **11 years**

9 of the **17** members were part of our volunteer corps (Beaupre, Selle, Andrews, Watkins, Morgan, Caughey, Kelly, Dunne & Lapierre) and **3** of the members were co-op students with our department (Rutz, Troutman & Lapierre).

Years of Service Awards

Staff were presented awards for their years of service at the Christmas luncheon. These awards were for those that have served 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years. Darrell Andrews, Edward Beaupre, Ian Caughey, Chance Colquhoun, Jason Kelly, Gary Lowe, Shawn Morgan, Brent Verdiel, Kyle Zimmerman and Scott Selle were the recipients.





Administrative Assistant to the Fire Chief

On February 28, 2022, Wendy Hewitt accepted the first full-time position created as the Administrative Assistant at the Pembroke Fire Department. Prior to this employment, she worked in a variety of different fields such as education, law, healthcare, and politics. She was an elected school board trustee serving from 2010-2018 and most recently was elected as a Councillor in Laurentian Valley in 2022.

Promotions and Appointments

Fire Fighters Emma Gibbon and Brad Lapierre completed their annual promotional testing and were promoted to the rank of 2nd class on January 4th and April 23, 2022 respectively.

Volunteer Fire Fighters (average years of service is 8.7 years)

Name	Rank	Service
Richard Larocque	Volunteer	28 years
David Stresman	Volunteer	21 years
Reid Lewis	Volunteer	19 years
Paul McMillan	Volunteer	19 years
Dave Roach	Volunteer	14.5 years
Shawn Mahood	Volunteer	10 years
Trevor Popke	Volunteer	7.5 years
River Beaupre	Volunteer	6 years
Matthew Wagner	Volunteer	4 years
Dereck Beaupre	Volunteer	4 years
Noah Maika	Volunteer	2.5 years
Dillon Watts	Volunteer	2.5 years
Matthew Smith	Volunteer	4 months
Jakob Therrien	Volunteer	4 months
Shane Schneider	Volunteer	4 months
Justin White	Volunteer	4 months

Table 2 Volunteers and service time

Volunteer Fire Fighter Resignations & Hiring

In 2022, our Department was handed 4 resignation letters depleting our volunteer compliment.





Six new volunteers were hired in September. Of the six, four completed all the required training and evaluations to become responding members. The new volunteer hires were Matthew Smith, Jakob Therrien, Shane Schneider and Justin White.

Incident Response Times

The Pembroke Fire Department responded to a total of 352 emergency incidents in 2022.

The importance of time is critical in responding to any emergency. The average response time to incidents in the City of Pembroke in 2022 was 4:53. This represents the time from the receipt of the call from 911 dispatch to the on-scene arrival time by the fire department.

The Pembroke Fire Department responded to nine (9) incidents outside of the City of Pembroke for Mutual Aid, Vehicle Extrication or Water Rescue. Our average response time for incidents outside of the City was 9:05 in 2022.

The following charts compare the average response times for incidents within the City and out of the City boundaries over the past five years.

Emergency Incident Response Times (within the City) 2018 – 2022

Year	# of Emergency Incidents	Response Time
2018	390	4:14
2019	378	5:04
2020	327	4:44
2021	360	4:48
2022	343	4:53

Emergency Incident Response Times (outside the City) 2018 – 2022

Year	# of Emergency Incidents	Response Time
2018	10	10:14
2019	10	6:49
2020	9	8:56
2021	7	8:00
2022	9	9:05

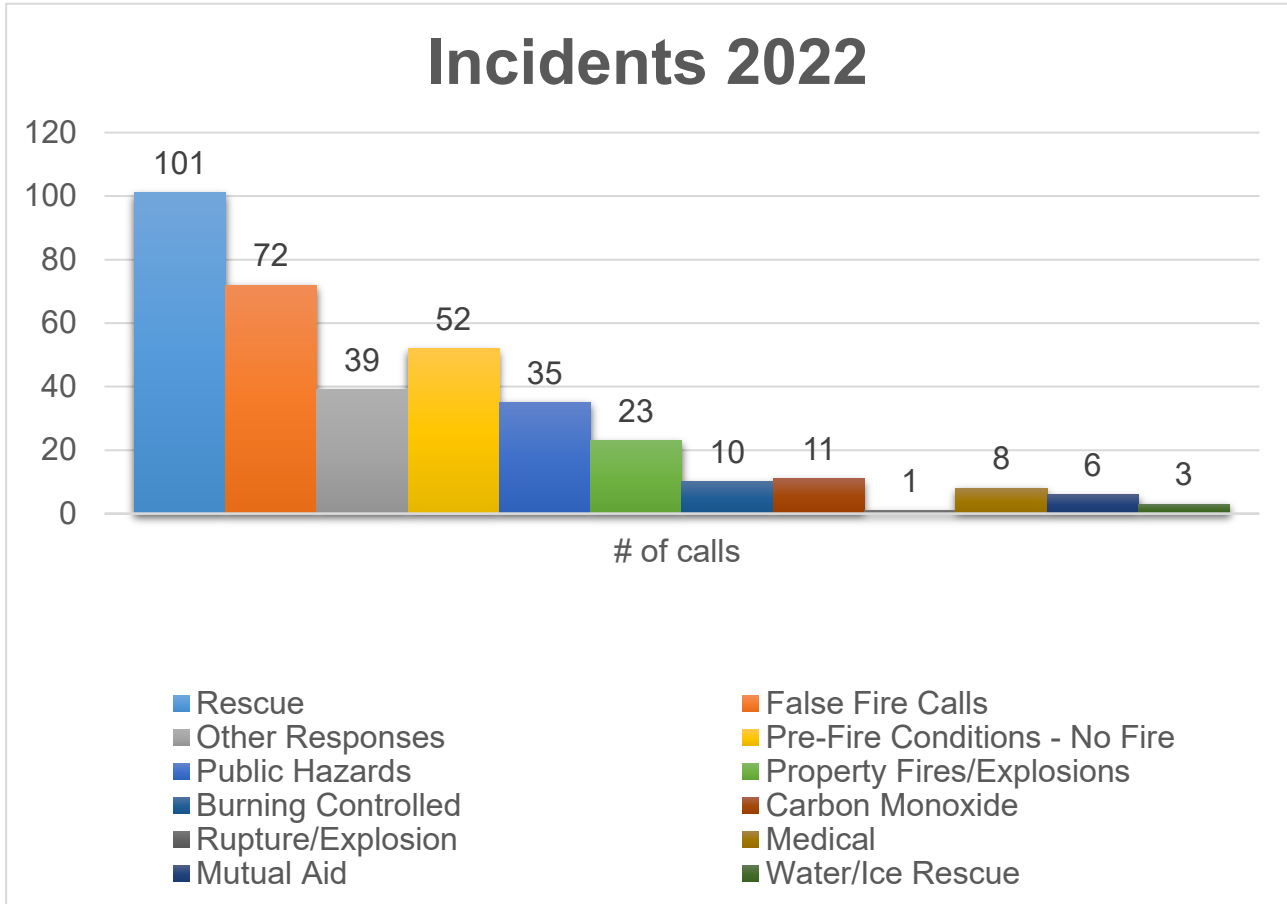


Incident Types

The Pembroke Fire Department responds to many different types of incidents.

The following graph demonstrates incidents by event type.

Incidents



Breakdown of Incidents in 2022

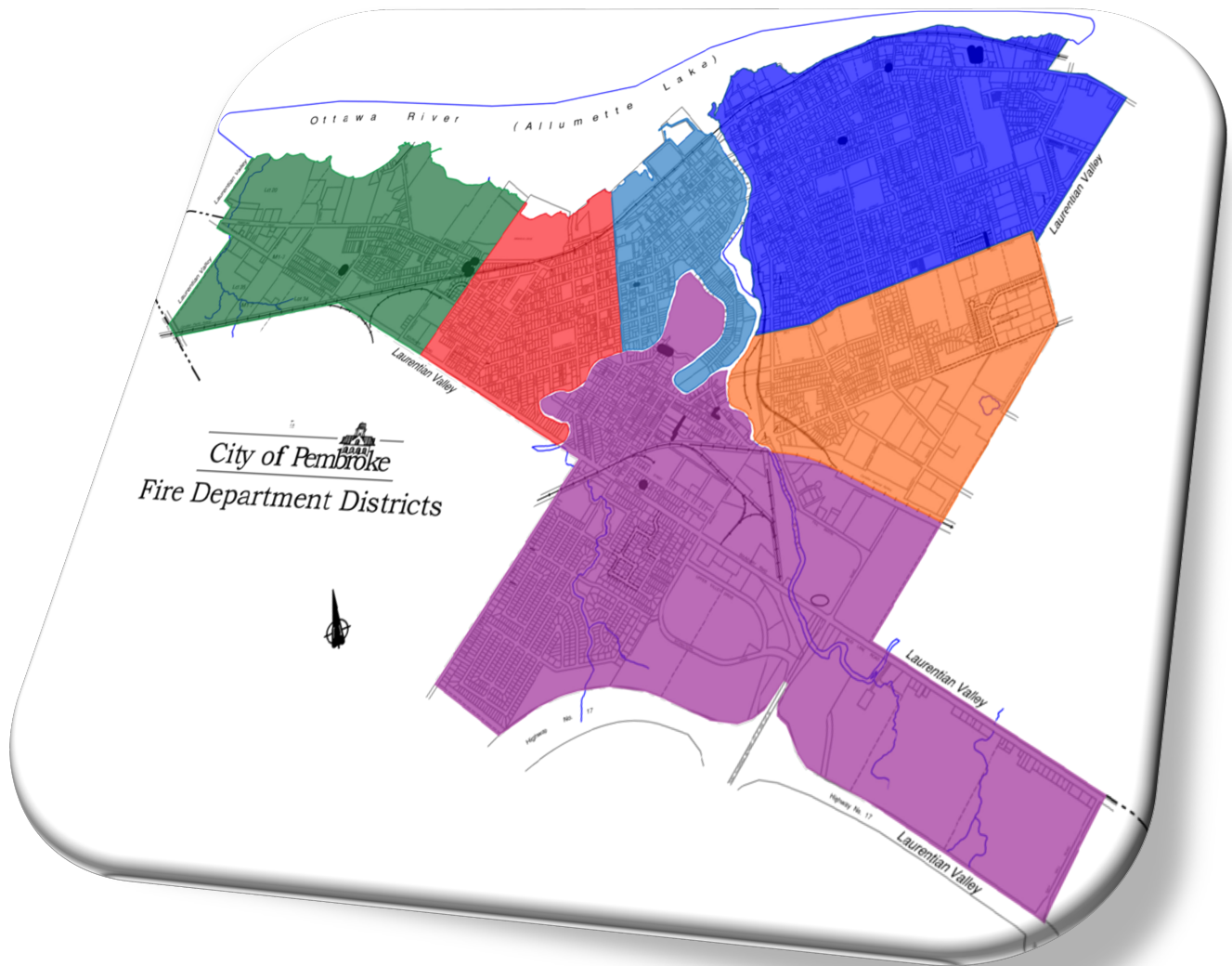
Type of Incident	# of Calls	Type of Incident	# of Calls
Rescue	101	Burning Controlled	10
False Fire Calls	72	Carbon Monoxide	11
Other responses	39	Rupture/Explosion	1
Pre-Fire Conditions-No Fire	52	Medical	8
Public Hazards	35	Water/Ice Rescue	3
Property Fires/Explosions	23	Mutual Aid	6



Incident by Districts

The Pembroke Fire Department maintains an records management system which divides the City into six districts. All statistics are broken down to identify trends in fire loss and call volume by district.

Districts in the City of Pembroke





Summary of Incidents by District

District 1 – Downtown core Christie Street, east to Muskrat River and south to Indian River

Incident Count	70
Percentage of Incidents	19.9%
Estimated Loss	\$3,000
% of Dollar Loss	0.2%
Average Response Time	4:51

District 2 – west of Christie Street to Forced Road and south to Boundary Road.

Incident Count	32
Percentage of Incidents	9.1%
Estimated Loss	\$310,000
% of Dollar Loss	18.3%
Average Response Time	4:50

District 3 – Forced Road west to city limits and north to Ottawa River.

Incident Count	37
Percentage of Incidents	10.5%
Estimated Loss	\$342,000
% of Dollar Loss	20.2%
Average Response Time	5:45

District 4 – Boundary Road bridge, east to city limits and north including Eganville Road.

Incident Count	31
Percentage of Incidents	8.9%
Estimated Loss	\$84,000
% of Dollar Loss	5%
Average Response Time	3:53



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District 5 – east of Muskrat River to city limits and south to Bell Street.

Incident Count	139
Percentage of Incidents	39.4%
Estimated Loss	\$951,000
% of Dollar Loss	56.2%
Average Response Time	5:09

District 6 – east of Muskrat River from Bell Street to the city limits.

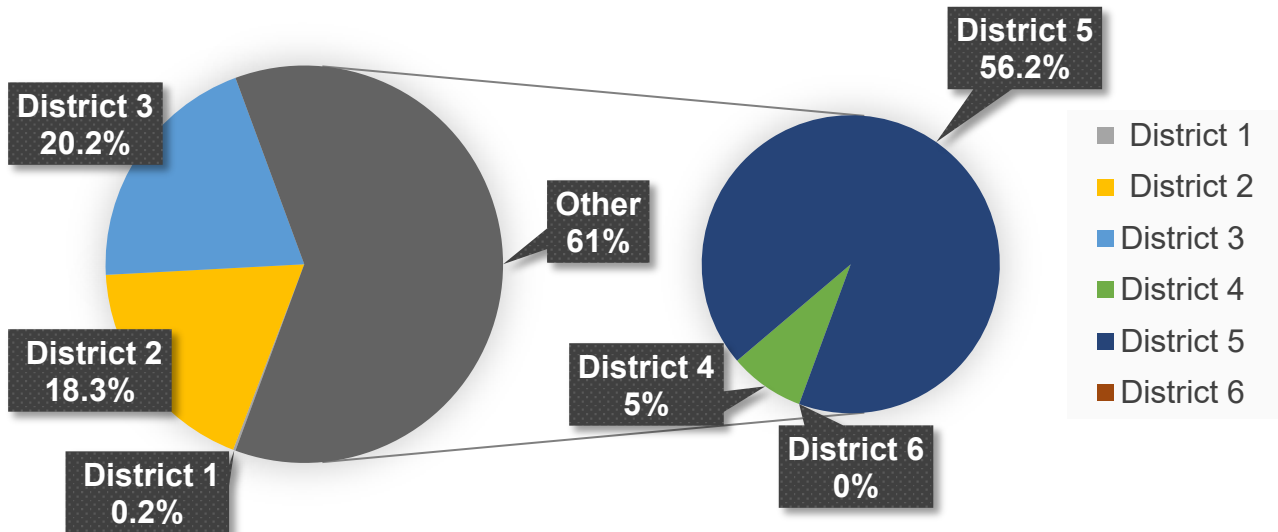
Incident Count	34
Percentage of Incidents	9.7%
Estimated Loss	\$0
% of Dollar Loss	0%
Average Response Time	4:24

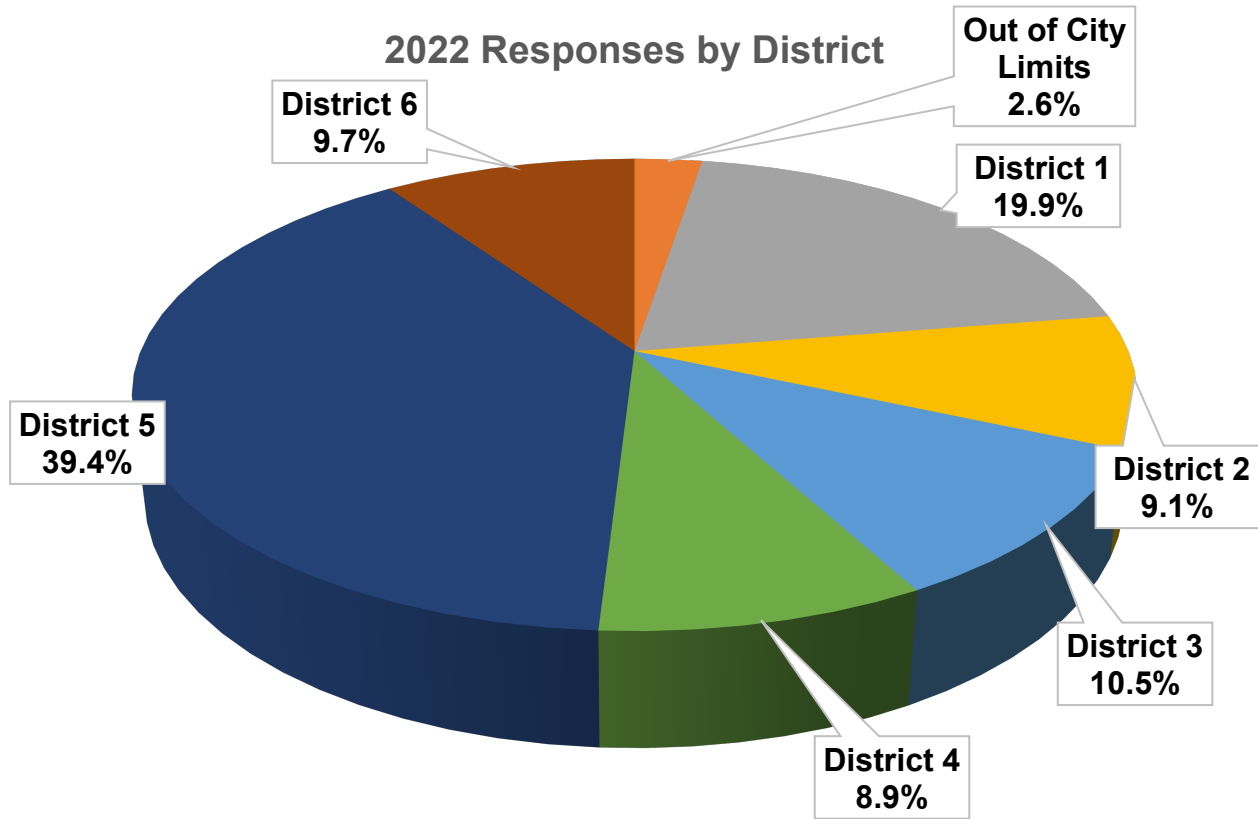
Out of City Limits (losses are recorded by Laurentian Valley Fire Department)

Incident Count	9
Percentage of Incidents	2.6%
Estimated Loss	N/A
% of Dollar Loss	N/A
Average Response Time	9:05

Note: Percentage of dollar loss per district reflects all loss, including structural fire loss

Dollar Loss Value 2022





THE FOLLOWING CHART DEMONSTRATES THE CALL VOLUME BY DISTRICT

2022 Incident Responses By Month

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
# of Responses	27	17	17	31	38	37	27	28	35	30	37	28
% of Responses	7.7%	4.8%	4.8%	8.8%	10.8%	10.5%	7.7%	8%	9.9%	8.5%	10.5%	8%

2021 Incident Responses By Month

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
# of Responses	24	14	29	22	27	38	32	42	45	41	31	26
% of Responses	6.5%	3.8%	7.9%	6%	7.4%	10.3%	8.7%	11.4%	12.2%	11.1%	8.4%	7.1%



2020 Incident Responses By Month

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
# of Responses	29	15	27	28	38	17	29	36	31	28	32	19
% of Responses	8.8%	4.6%	8.2%	8.5%	11.6%	5.1%	8.8%	10.9%	9.4%	8.5%	9.7%	5.8%

2019 Incident Responses By Month

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
# of Responses	39	24	35	27	25	23	33	37	30	30	32	45
% of Responses	10.3%	6.3%	9.2%	7.1%	6.6%	6.1%	8.7%	9.7%	7.9%	7.9%	8.4%	11.8%

2018 Incident Responses By Month

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
# of Responses	53	26	33	17	26	27	47	48	36	26	25	29
% of Responses	13.5%	6.6%	8.4%	4.3%	6.6%	6.9%	12%	12.2%	9.2%	6.6%	6.4%	7.4%

5 Year Average Monthly Responses

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Avg # of Responses	34	19	28	25	31	21	34	38	35	31	31	29
Avg % of Responses	9.5%	5.3%	7.8%	6.9%	8.5%	5.9%	9.3%	10.5%	9.8%	8.5%	8.7%	8.1%



Emergency Responses

Property Value Saved/Loss

Continuing to measure the effectiveness of our Fire Department, we track all aspects of statistics in the fire service. We track both dollar loss and property saved as does the Ontario Fire Marshal’s Office.

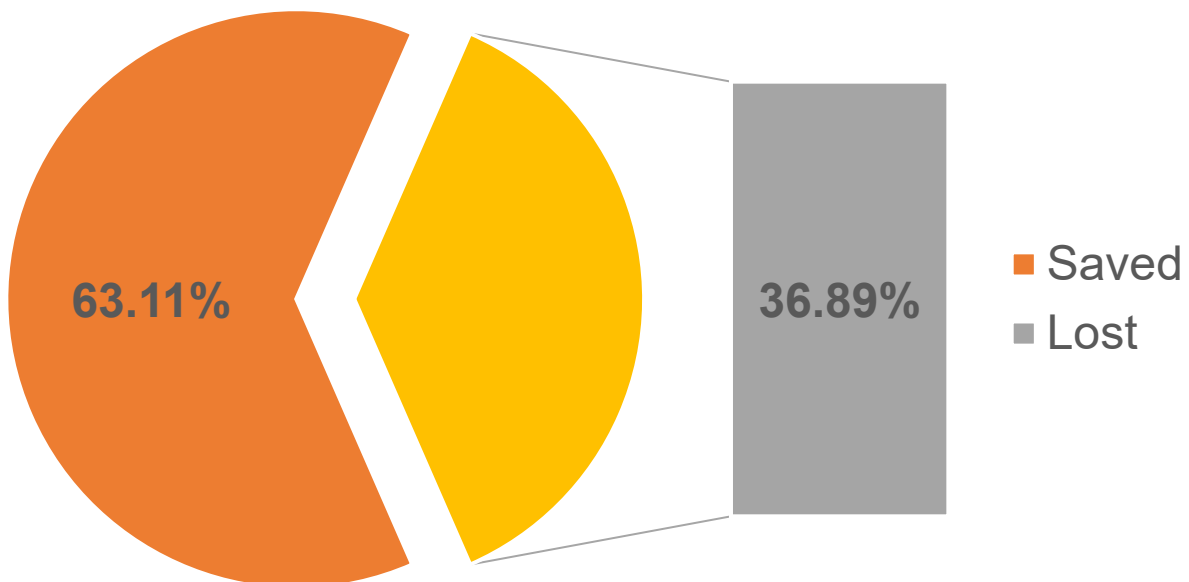
This year the percentage of property value saved was 63.11% (\$2,891,000) versus the percentage of property loss of 36.89% (1,690,000).

There were no major injuries to civilians or staff at fires.

The chart below indicates total property value saved as well as property value loss over the past 5 years.

Year	#of Incidents	Dollar Loss structure fire only	% of Loss	% Saved
2018	390	\$548,150.00	4.73%	95.27%
2019	378	\$2,392,000.00	22.5%	77.47%
2020	327	\$1,072,525.00	41.98%	58.02%
2021	367	\$803,750.00	7.54%	92.46%
2022	352	\$1,690,000.00	36.89%	63.11%

2022 Property Value Saved/Lost





Significant Incidents

963 Bronx St. Structure Fire – House April 7



The Pembroke Fire Department received a call from Renfrew Dispatch shortly before 2:00 am reporting a structure fire. While responding, an update was received confirming smoke and fire was visible. A Code 4 was initiated during the response which calls in off duty staff (both career and volunteer) to provide support to the responding crew. Upon arrival, the rear exterior of the home was completely engulfed in flames, leading to damage to some neighbouring structures. All occupants had vacated the building after being alerted by neighbours. Unsuccessful attempts were made by the homeowner to extinguish the fire. With the aid of the wind, the fire extended up the exterior wall, then penetrated the interior second floor causing extensive damage. Loss estimated at \$339,000.

204 McAllister St. Structure Fire – House May 14



The Pembroke Fire Department received the report for this structure fire from Renfrew Dispatch just before 7:00 pm. Once again, the responding crew requested additional resources immediately with a Code 4. On arrival, flames had engulfed the rear exterior of the building and the car in the driveway was burning as well. Reports from neighbours indicated the occupants were not home, however there were pets inside. Firefighters attacked both the house and car, slowing the progress of the flames, however, due to the location of the fire and the construction, there was extension into the interior of the home once again. Extensive damage from both fire and smoke occurred throughout the home.

Two dogs and a cat perished in this fire.

Loss was estimated at \$300,000.



**172 Dunlop St.
Structure Fire – House
May 21**



At approximately 11:30 pm, the Pembroke Fire Department responded to the report of a house fire. The power in the City had been off for quite some time that day. On arrival, smoke was visible issuing from the second floor of the home. Upon entry, it was apparent the fire was on the first floor. The occupants of the home were gone as they were camping due to the power outage. After considerable effort, the fire was brought under control. As with the previous fires in 2022, there were no injuries at this fire. Damage to the home was extensive.

Loss was estimated at \$269,000.

**630 Centre St.
Structure Fire – House
June 7**



The Pembroke Fire Department received a call from Renfrew Dispatch just before 10:00 am for a report of a structure fire and responded Code 4. On arrival, heavy smoke and flames were visible in the attached garage. Crews began attacking the fire however, again due to the construction of the home, flames spread rapidly into the roof and attic structures. The occupants were alerted to the fire and had evacuated the home prior to PFD's arrival. One occupant was treated for minor smoke inhalation and was subsequently transported to hospital by ambulance. The home sustained major smoke, heat and water damage.

This fire displaced a family of 7.

Loss was estimated at \$355,000.



**611 McGee St.
Structure Fire – House
December 4**



Just after 10:30 pm, the Pembroke Fire Department was called to a house fire with smoke and flames visible. A Code 4 was paged during response and on arrival, flames were issuing from two sides of the home. An aggressive attack to knock down the flames was initiated. Reports from responding OPP indicated the occupant was not living in the house at this time. Searches confirmed there was no one in the home. The fire did extend again into the attic and roof.

Loss was estimated at \$260,000.

Fire Cause Determination

Fire Cause Determination plays an important role in all fire incidents. Captain Ed Beaupre, who is a Certified Fire Investigator, currently takes the lead role in all post fire investigations. In 2022, Captain Beaupre was lead investigator on all the fires mentioned above. Acting Captain Jason Kelly and Acting Captain Kyle Zimmerman are continuing the process to become certified investigators and have worked closely with Captain Beaupre on these incidents. In 2022, the most common cause of ignition for fires was improperly handled or discarded smoking materials.





Incidents Involving Vehicles

Vehicle Collisions and Fires

The Pembroke Fire Department responded to 51 motor vehicle collisions in 2022.



Vehicle Extrications

The Pembroke Fire Department provides lifesaving heavy hydraulic extrication rescue for victims entrapped in automobile accidents within the City of Pembroke and to portions of the Township of Laurentian Valley. The Pembroke Fire Department responded to a total of 5 extrication calls in 2022.

The costs for response to extrication outside the City are recovered through an Agreement with the Township of Laurentian Valley. The Pembroke Fire Department responded to 4 extrication calls in Laurentian Valley in 2022. PFD recovered a total of \$2,257.84 for these extrication incidents.





Water/Ice Rescue Incidents

The Pembroke Fire Department provides Water and Ice Rescue services to the residents and visitors of the City of Pembroke. Water and Ice Rescue emergencies are dynamic events. Fire fighters may have to enter the water in extreme circumstances to remove those in distress. Our equipment is comprised of a DR 520 Water Rescue Boat & motor, a Rapid Deployment Craft for ice rescue incidents, and various other tools and equipment specific to these operations. The Pembroke Fire Department responded to 3 water rescue calls in 2022.

The first call was to provide assistance to a stranded boat in May.

In June, PFD assisted Laurentian Valley and the OPP in searching for possible victims after a vehicle accident that resulted in the lone vehicle involved ending up on its roof in the river. The driver managed to escape the vehicle and once stabilized at PRH was able to confirm they were the lone occupant in the vehicle.

The 3rd call occurred at the end of October. The Whitewater Fire Department and the OPP requested our assistance in a search on the Muskrat River between Muskrat Lake and Mud Lake for missing persons.

False Alarms

A total of 72 false alarms were received in 2022. False alarms are considered incidents of human error, perceived emergencies, accidental activations and malfunctioning alarms equipment. A good number of the false alarms will not be reflected in the table below in that they are not preventable automatic alarm issues. In order to reduce operating costs and false alarms, the Pembroke Fire Department has a False Alarm By-law which allows for the recovery of costs associated with certain false alarms.

# of Letter Warnings	# of Invoices	Year	Total
42	19	2018	\$8,550.73
23	11	2019	\$6,102.00
22	6	2020	\$3,051.02
29	7	2021	\$3,051.02
16	12	2022	\$7,246.15

Since the introduction of our False Alarm By-law in 2004 we have recovered a total of \$118,172.49.





Prevention

The Pembroke Fire Department has identified major risks within the community and have prioritized them below. Each Platoon carries out certain responsibilities to mitigate these identified risks.

The top seven identified risks are:

1. Malfunctioning or disabled smoke alarms
2. Compliance of fire code in multi-unit apartments
3. Residential Fires
4. Senior Citizen Vulnerability
5. Escape Planning for Multi-Unit Dwellings
6. Evacuation of large, vulnerable occupancies
7. Major industry fire loads

Below are the responsibilities of the individual platoons in 2022. There were no changes to the responsibilities from the previous year.

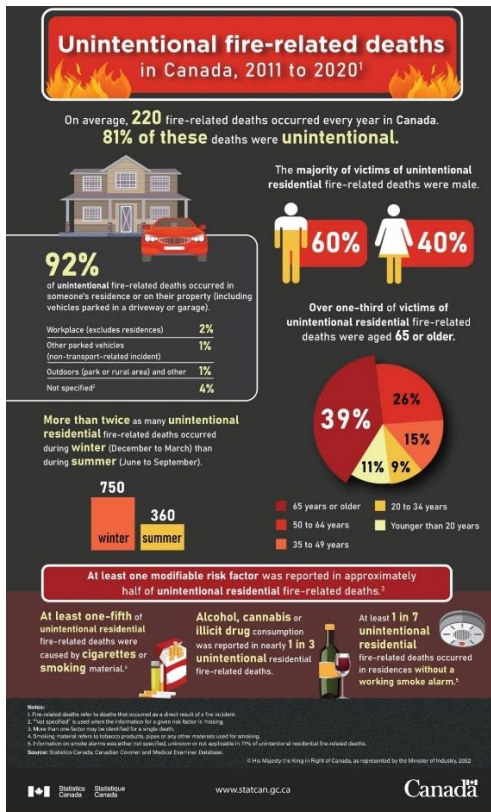
“A” Platoon – Health Care and Long-Term Care

“B” Platoon – Restaurants and Compliance of Ontario Fire Code in Multi-Unit Dwellings

“C” Platoon – Industrial occupancies

“D” Platoon – Commercial and Compliance of Ontario Fire Code in Multi-Unit Dwellings and Other Residential Occupancies

All platoons take part in general inspections and the smoke alarm program. For career development and a deeper understanding of the Ontario Fire Code and its application, Platoons may branch out and expand their inspection portfolios at the Fire Chief’s discretion.





Inspections & Consultations

A total of 1,563 inspections and consultations were completed. During these inspections, approximately 106 violations have been repaired or corrected. In 2022, the PFD reviewed and/or approved 58 Fire Safety Plans. These plans are written documents outlining roles and responsibilities during a fire emergency. These plans are mandated by the Province for many buildings within the City. A fire safety plan also addresses and attempts to mitigate many of the risks we have identified above.

Property Use	# of Inspections
Assembly	314
Health Care and Long-Term Care	331
Residential	660
Mercantile & Business	135
Industrial	93
Hotel/Motel	30
Total	1,563

Smoke Alarm Program

Working smoke alarms are essential in preventing the loss of life due to fires in the City of Pembroke. Disabled or malfunctioning smoke alarms are identified as the number one risk to the safety of our community residents. The Pembroke Fire Department began an intense smoke alarm program in 2021 and continued into 2022. This year we combined mitigation efforts for Risk #1 and Risk #2 and have started with the largest residential buildings in the City. 282 individual apartments were visited in 2022.



Carbon Monoxide Alarm/Program

The requirement for carbon monoxide alarms in all residences in Ontario became law in 2014 and became an enforceable offence in 2015. This is now a regular part of our public education and fire safety inspection programs.

Sparky the Fire Dog

For the past thirteen years, Josh Woermke has donated his time to don the Sparky costume at most of our public relation events. From the Open House to supporting young children at our Junior Firefighters Program, Sparky continues to the delight the



PEMBROKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

young and young at heart. There is a tremendous appreciation for the role Josh plays and the friendship he provides here at the PFD.



Public Service Announcements

The Pembroke Fire Department continues to broadcast Public Service Announcements (P.S.A.s) on local radio stations. These announcements change monthly and are relevant to seasonal hazards. The P.S.A. messages are recorded by the Firefighters, Officers, Wendy, and the Fire Chief. Some examples of topics covered include the importance of Smoke and Carbon Monoxide alarms, family escape planning, water safety and driver safety.

For the last three years, the Pembroke Fire Department has partnered with local radio stations to present the 12 Days of Holiday Fire and CO Safety Campaign. Over a 12-day period leading up to Christmas, a specific holiday season fire safety message is played each day. Listeners are then invited to comment on social media for a chance to win a daily prize of fire safety equipment donated by the Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council.

We also continued our partnership with other Renfrew County fire departments to promote fire safety in the Eganville Leader newspaper. Once again, these fire safety messages are season specific.

TAPP-C (The Arson Prevention Program for Children)

The Pembroke Fire Department delivers this program to children identified to have an "unhealthy" fascination with fire starting. It is a voluntary program, although it can also be a requirement of the courts. Thankfully, the PFD did not have any enrolment in the TAPP-C program in 2022. We did however have discussions with a neighbouring municipality in regards to possibly providing this service. In the end, as the program is voluntary in most cases, the opportunity to enroll was declined by the family.

Mock Disaster Exercise

The City of Pembroke conducted a mock disaster exercise in October of 2022 under the leadership of CEMC Scott Selle. With new faces on the community emergency management team, Chief Selle took the opportunity to introduce the IMS, Incident Management System, to the Municipal Control Group. The day consisted of a lecture and presentation on the roles and responsibilities within the IMS. The exercise featured flooding conditions and evacuations with the response and mitigation efforts supported through the IMS structure.



Fiddle Park

The Annual Fiddling and Step Dancing Competition along with Fiddle Park was once again cancelled in 2022. We will resume this event in 2023.

Fire Prevention Week October 3rd – 9th “Fire Won’t Wait. Plan Your Escape”

This year’s Fire Prevention Week built on activities we have done in the past and saw us return to the in-person fire drills and interactions with the students of the City. Our Firefighter for a Day contest, conducted in partnership with all elementary schools in the city, led us into FPW. Grades 4 and 5 students from the City are asked to develop slogan messages based on the theme of FPW. The winning slogans are displayed on the PFD half ton. The winners also spend an afternoon at the firehall working and training with the firefighters. This year’s winners with their messages are:

Shaye (Highview) “Big or small, fire safety for all”



Guillaume (l’equinoxe) “When you’re cookin’, keep lookin’.”



Prior to the start of the week, Mayor LeMay delivered a proclamation recognizing the importance of the week at the Council Meeting held October 4th. We also prepared specific messaging on the radio and our social media platforms promoting FPW activities. We also used these mediums to expand upon the basic messaging for planning a proper escape during fire emergencies.

Due to the timing of this year’s FPW, our kickoff event for the week was our Open House. This year we were extremely lucky to partner with Co-operators, Perri-Rae Boell & Associates Inc. We opened our doors to welcomed friends and family to this fantastic event. We were also able to donate monetary funds as well as food to St. Joseph’s Food Bank.



Perri-Rae Boell & Associates

Our social media pages were focused on fire prevention messaging including a “Where’s Sparky” contest that was well received. We were fortunate to receive numerous donations from local businesses for our prize draws and purchase of smoke alarms.



Our smoke alarm exchange and information booths were held throughout the week at the West End Mall and the Pembroke Mall. This year we added Giant Tiger to our list of locations again, hopefully providing spots throughout the City to allow access for all. Saturday of FPW saw Sparky and staff participate in Fire Prevention Week activities at the Pembroke Public Library.

The close of the week was held at the Pembroke Lumber Kings game with an information booth and smoke alarm exchange program. Mayor LeMay and Chief Selle joined Sparky for the ceremonial puck drop at center ice. This year we even remembered a puck! Again, a huge thank you to the Pembroke Professional Firefighters Association (P.P.F.F.A.), who sponsored the Chuck-A-Puck event.



Vulnerable Occupancy Drills

In accordance with the Ontario Fire Code all seniors' homes, care and treatment homes and hospitals are required to have at least one fire safety inspection and one fire drill, attended and critiqued by the PFD each year. These fire drills are conducted simulating staffing levels at their lowest in these facilities. Completing these inspections and drills this year proved to be challenging as the pandemic still held a grip on many of the vulnerable facilities. By the end of the year, we managed to complete the inspections and drills for all Vulnerable Occupancies in the City of Pembroke.

Social Media



After a successful first year of establishing a voice on Facebook and Twitter, we have attempted to use these two platforms to educate people. The focus of the education portion is primarily on fire related topics, however, with the role of Emergency Management falling within the scope of the Fire Chief, the education has been expanded to touch on emergency management topics as well. We have also attempted to utilize social media to promote events and topics important to the City of Pembroke and other partners in the community. June of 2022 marked our one-year anniversary.

Throughout the rest of the summer, we used the platforms to promote fire safety messaging and a few throwback pictures. The platforms again were used for a contest to promote our Fire Prevention Week Open House with a "Where's Sparky" contest. A picture of Sparky, promoting the use of smoke alarms, was taken at a location in the City of Pembroke. To be entered into the draw for another prize package generously donated by local merchants, contestants had to attend the Open House and fill out the ballot form correctly identifying Sparky's location. The use of our social media pages certainly contributed to the attendance at the Open House and again we saw our followers grow.

Again, throughout the fall, messaging was released on our pages to coincide with the PSA messaging on the local radios.

Mid-December saw the launch of the 12 Days of Holiday Fire and CO Safety Campaign in partnership with myFM and the Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council. Each day beginning on December 12th, a specific holiday fire and/or CO safety message aired on myFM while we released the same messaging on our social media pages. This ran over the course of the next twelve days.

Messaging focused on:

- o Use of proper lights when decorating and checking for worn or damaged cords
- o Keeping decorations away from candles
- o Installing and testing smoke alarms
- o Installing and testing Carbon Monoxide alarms
- o Watering trees daily
- o Safe use of extension cords
- o Candle safety

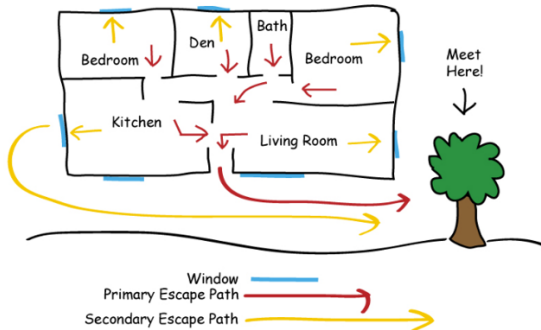


PEMBROKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

- o Preparing and practicing an escape plan for your home
- o Fire safety in the kitchen
- o Keeping heating sources away from anything that can burn
- o Safe smoking tips
- o lithium battery safety

Staff developed and produced some short P.S.A. videos which were released on our social media pages. These videos were well received, leading to YourTV to offer their professional services. With YourTV taking the lead, we were able to develop public service announcements for Emergency Preparedness Week, a fantastic piece on how to properly check your smoke alarms and a holiday fire safety campaign that coincided with the 12 Days of Holiday Fire and CO Safety. Thank you to YourTV for the great work they do in the community!

In September, the Ontario Fire Marshal’s Office released “Cause for Alarm”. At that time, 96 lives had been lost to fires in the Province of Ontario. In the words of the Fire Marshal, John Pegg, “The “Cause for Alarm” video is a gut-wrenching, hard-hitting message of the importance of working smoke alarms.” The video may be difficult to view, but the message is very real. By the end of the year, 2022 saw the most fire fatalities in the province in the past two decades.



Other Public Relation Events

The Pembroke Fire Department continues to strive to be a valuable part of the community and understands the role public relations plays in developing lasting and positive relationships throughout the City of Pembroke. It is one of the roles as Fire Chief to help foster these relationships and see that the Fire Department sets an example of what responsible members of the community should and can do.

There have been many events the PFD have contributed to or assisted with in various ways. In place of the Polar Bear Dip, Sparky assisted staff in supporting the Pembroke and Laurentian Valley Handibus with the Ice Water Challenge.



PEMBROKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Over the past decade during spring break in March, the Pembroke Fire Department has held our Junior Firefighter program in conjunction with the Pembroke Public Library March break programming. When we were located on Victoria St., the event was held at the library. Since the move and the beginning of the pandemic, the event has been hosted at 200 International Dr. Ten children attended the event held at the Pembroke Fire Department.

In April, the Pembroke Fire Department welcomed the McFarlane family to the Fire Hall. This was part of a fund-raising initiative held late in 2021 for the Robbie Dean Counselling Centre. The evening centered on the family who were treated to dinner prepared by the firefighters and allowed them a behind the curtain look at life in a fire station. Many of the activities are based on the Junior Firefighter program.



May saw the Pembroke Fire Department attend the Community Expo hosted by the PBIA and held at the PMC. With Emergency Preparedness Week just ending, our booth had a variety of information pertaining to both Emergency Preparedness and fire prevention and public education.

Chief Selle was fortunate in May to be a part of the happiest day of the year! He partook in McHappy Day, assisting local McDonald's staff is raising funds for Ronald McDonald House and other children's charities across Canada. Since the first House opened in 1981, Ronald McDonald House Canada has helped over 436,000 families with sick children stay together.



For the first time in a few years, the Pembroke Fire Department once again was invited to join our school communities for their fun night events. The "Fun Night Season" kicked off in May and ran right through to the end of June, celebrating the closing of a successful school year.



PEMBROKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

A very special thank you goes to Karthi Rajamani from the Pembroke Library, for inviting us to be a part of the Multicultural Festival. Our information booth provided the opportunity for those attending the festival to ask any fire related questions, Emergency Preparedness questions, and get to know what the Pembroke Fire Department is all about. Four 72 Hour Emergency Kits were given to winners drawn from those that attended our booth and filled out a ballot.



On top of the Fire Prevention Week events, staff attended the Fall Fair at Wise Owl Day Care Centre.

Also that month, we supported the Hospital Gala on-line auction for the Cancer Care Campaign. The Pembroke Fire Department partnered with RyJs Climbing Adventures and 7th Heaven Sweets to sponsor a 9-1-1 Birthday Party. The birthday party was planned for early 2023 and closely resembles the Firefighter for a Day Contest and the Junior Firefighter Program.



The Pembroke Fire Department continues to sit on the Algonquin College Firefighter Pre-Service Advisory Committee, and we have also partnered with the Fire Team at K-9 Headquarters to offer support and assistance in developing service dogs.

In 2022, the PFD continued to act as a drop off site for the CPAN Snow Suit Program.



Public Education

Public Education is a partner to Fire Prevention and encompasses all efforts of the fire service to educate the public regarding fire hazards, fire safety practices and general safety. We strive to continually improve and increase our public education programs to reach all age groups. All members play an integral part in the delivery of these programs and any interaction with the community affords us the opportunity for education.

Beginning the year under lock down did not benefit our public education activities. There has been a slight uptick in requests for educational sessions. This is due to easing of restrictions and resuming somewhat normal operations, especially with some of our community clients that regularly took advantage of our training programs prior to the pandemic.

Public Education Activities

Activity	Number of Events Held	Number of Participants
Fire Safety Training Including Fire Extinguisher Training	24	246 Adults/214 Children
Fire Hall Tours	7	26Adults/152 Children
Fire Drills	35	N/A

Training

The Pembroke Fire Department continues to follow the provincial standard of training, the N.F.P.A. (National Fire Protection Association) Fundamentals of Firefighter Skills certified standard training program.

The Ontario Fire College program and courses are based on the NFPA Standards programs.

In January of 2021, fire departments across Ontario were notified of the closure of the Ontario Fire College campus in Gravenhurst. Although the physical campus has closed, training and education of Ontario’s firefighters moved forward with online courses and Regional Training Centers (RTCs) located throughout the province. Online learning is a useful substitute in some respects, however, this platform does not meet the needs of all learners and there have been growing pains as the on line catalog is expanded. Unfortunately, there are no RTCs in Renfrew County requiring staff to travel for in person learning. Once again, some of these courses are in their infancy and being modified on the fly. Despite the difficulties, the Pembroke Fire Department continued to enroll staff in required courses.



PEMBROKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Practical training on vehicle extrication was once again conducted in the spring for the career fire fighters. The spring session is held on site, while a local wrecking yard, AIM Recycling, has allowed us to conduct specialized training throughout the year off site.

In early May, our Ice/Water Rescue training was conducted at the Pembroke Marina. This full training session was intense, mirroring what staff could expect when entering the water to effect rescue. As water rescues are extremely fluid, dynamic, and dangerous, our staff train vigorously to meet the standards required in order to ensure all our rescue efforts are successful.



Water Rescue Training

In addition to our regular training on all aspects of firefighting, larger, more involved and detailed training sessions were held on:

- Staff attended an online seminar regarding CAN282-15 Generator Operation and Maintenance.
- Purchased at the end of 2021, 2022 saw focused training on our new SCBAs which were rolled out at the beginning of April. The implementation of our new equipment was seamless, and all staff diligently reviewed all manuals, and trained, gaining hands on experience through practical drills.
- Through the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office and Wounded Warriors, staff were enrolled in a self-directed course focusing on mental health and wellbeing for first responders.
- Emergency Response and Preparedness for propane and other fuel emergencies at bulk facilities.
- Pre-planning City of Pembroke facilities
- Firefighter Caughey attended the Defazio Taylor Health and Safety Seminar presented by the Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association.
- Workplace Violence and Harassment training.



PEMBROKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Office of the Ontario Fire Marshal continues to present short webinars throughout the year. Topics presented in sessions included:

- Basic Fire Investigation
- Hoarding
- Practical Photography for Fire Investigations
- Immediate Threats to Life
- Fire Department Authority under the FPPA
- Flammable and Combustible Liquids (S.4 of the Ontario Fire Code)
- Fire and Explosion Investigation

As these webinars are held during the weekdays, staff attend these webinars when their inspection and prevention schedules allow.

Ontario Fire College Courses and Seminars

As mentioned earlier in the Report, the campus of the Ontario Fire College in Gravenhurst officially closed in January of 2021. The OFM has continued to offer courses online and has developed different learning and educational models to compensate for the Gravenhurst closure.

Acting Captain Jason Kelly and Brent Verdiel attended and completed the NFPA 1021 Fire Officer I course virtually.

Captain Colquhoun attended and completed an online course on Part 9 of the Ontario Fire Code.

Captain Colquhoun and Captain Morgan completed NFPA 1031 Fire Inspector I.

Acting Captains Kelly and Zimmerman attended the NFPA 1033 Fire Investigator.

Captain Beaupre attended an online course on Parts 3 & 5 of the Ontario Fire Code.

Acting Captain Zimmerman attended the Incident Safety Officer course.

Acting Captain Kelly, Firefighters Dunne and Firefighter Troutman attended Hazmat 1072 refresher training.

Firefighter Poirier completed the Legislation 101 for Firefighters.

Firefighters Lapierre and Troutman completed the NFPA 1041 Fire Instructor course.

Acting Captains Kelly and Verdiel completed a course on Parts 2 & 6 of the Ontario Fire Code.

Acting Captain Verdiel and Captain Morgan completed NFPA 1006 Water Rescue I & II.

Wendy Hewitt attended the EM 200 Basic Emergency Management course.



Chief's Training



During the month of January, the Fire Chief virtually attended the Labour Relations Seminar.

Chief Selle attended the 2022 United for Resilience: First Nations Emergency Management Symposium, the 2022 Fire Co-Ordinator's Symposium, and the 2022 OPG Dam Safety EPRP Copyholder Meeting. All these events were virtual.

The Fire Chief attended an online course on Parts 3 & 5 of the Ontario Fire Code.

Staff attended the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs Trade Show in Toronto.

Chief Selle completed the NFPA 1035 Public Information Officer course.

Chief Selle completed the EM 300 course and has now completed all required training for the Community Emergency Management Coordinator's position.

The City's HR Department provided Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; Indigenous Reconciliation; and Investigating Harassment Claims training.





Volunteer Fire Fighter Training

The Pembroke Volunteer Fire Fighters train bi-weekly to the NFPA 1001 Firefighter I & II standard. The career firefighters provide training to the volunteer corps. Training was delayed for the first few weeks of 2022, but resumed by the end of the month. With the addition of new recruits in September, the training has been intense and productive. Training topics for the year were:

- Review of Personal Protective Equipment
- Donning and Doffing SBCA
- Building Construction
- Fire Extinguishment Theory/Fire Control & Fire Behaviour
- Search, Rescue and Victim Removal
- Firefighter Survival, Mayday Operations, Firefighter Rescue
- Loss Control
- Small Engine Operations on the Fire Ground
- Water Supply
- Ground Ladders
- Water Rescue
- Hose Line Deployment and Operation
- Master Streams
- Forcible Entry
- Portable Fire Extinguishers
- Ropes and Knots

As mentioned above, all volunteer training is based and taught to expectations of NFPA 1001 Firefighter I and II.





Apparatus and Equipment

The Pembroke Fire Department maintains a fleet of six apparatus. Below are the operating costs for the individual apparatus.

Apparatus	Operating Costs (Excluding fuel Costs)
2018 Pierce Pumper	\$2005.63
2006 Spartan Pumper	\$2133.34
2013 Pierce 100' aerial platform	\$3489.39
2012 Rescue Vehicle	\$2464.14
2020 Dodge Ram (Inservice April 2021)	\$1484.39
2008 Mercury Rescue Boat	\$1033.11

Total diesel costs for all apparatus and small engine equipment was \$8,490.73.

Total gasoline costs was \$1,681.38.

Apparatus	Fuel Usage (Litres)
2018 Pierce Pumper	3687.27
2006 Spartan Pumper	1046.14
2013 Pierce 100' aerial platform	1137.73
2012 Rescue Vehicle	198
2020 Dodge Ram (Inservice April 2021)	1048.75 (Gasoline)
2008 Mercury Rescue Boat	145.33 (Gasoline)



Equipment and Building

Equipment maintenance and upgrading is conducted annually. We continue to follow a stringent equipment and apparatus maintenance program.

The table below shows the equipment and apparatus replacement schedule. Planning for such future costs has become a difficult task due to inflation and other factors like pandemic and staffing shortages.

Table of Capital Replacement Schedule

Breakdown of Capital Components	Estimated year of implementation
2020 Dodge Ram	2031
2008 Rescue Boat	2023
2012 Ford Rescue Utility vehicle	2025
2006 Spartan Pumper	2026
2013 Pierce Aerial Platform	2038
2018 Pierce Pumper	2043
S.C.B.A.	2032 (10 yrs.)
Breathing Air Compressor	2030 (20 yrs.)
Extrication Equipment	2029 (10 yrs.)
Communications Equipment	2030 (10 yrs.)
Thermal Imaging Equipment	2025 (10 yrs.)
Fire Fighting Bunker Gear	2024 (5 yrs.)



PEMBROKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

In 2022, we encountered equipment failures in our heating equipment resulting in over half of the budget allotted for building maintenance being spent on repairs. We also modified the heating system to ensure appropriate levels of humidity are maintained in the building. Since construction, humidity levels in the building were extremely low in the winter months. This has had a negative impact on the building itself, operating under excessively dry conditions. The installation of the humidify devices was also a step towards combatting air borne transmission of disease and ensuring the health and wellness of the staff and the building. In 2023, we are planning on some slight repairs to the water heating system and expect to replace a few more pieces of the heating system.

New and Exciting

Scott 3M X3 Pro SCBA

In 2021, the Pembroke Fire Department replaced our entire inventory of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus with the purchase of 3M Scott SCBAs. Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) is an essential piece of personal protective equipment utilized by firefighters. SCBAs allow firefighters to enter hazardous fire environments to perform victim searches, rescues, fire attack, ventilation, and overhaul. They are also used in other dangerous environments where threats of toxic fumes and oxygen deficiency make rescue and emergency mitigation efforts impossible without them.

Since the City first purchased Self Contained Breathing Apparatus for the Fire Service, the Pembroke Fire Department has used the 3M Scott brand of SCBAs. This product has proven durable and has provided longevity through the years of service. Their product also meets or exceeds all SCBA Standards and provides ease of use for the firefighter.



Our new SCBA's were delivered by M&L Fire Safety on March 31, 2022. The transition was seamless. Staff tirelessly prepared for the new equipment, studying manuals, attending and viewing online lectures, and trained with some loaner SCBAs provided by the company. The dedication to their craft showed through as you can see from this report, the next couple of months proved extremely busy for the PFD.

This was the beginning of a ten (10) year upgrade and replacement program for SCBAs. This schedule and standardization ensures replacement before SCBAs become obsolete or unrepairable. To add to this, the SCBAs being replaced should still provide the Department with trade in value.



Mutual Aid for the Fire Services of Renfrew County

Chief Selle has now been in the role as Fire Coordinator for Mutual Aid for the Fire Services of Renfrew County for almost 2 years now.

The duty encompasses coordinating mutual aid responses and providing direction for larger scale hazardous materials spills or rescue emergencies for twenty-one Fire Departments within the County.

Chief Selle has attended all training sessions along with Coordinator webinars and meetings throughout the year.

The Renfrew County Fire Chiefs' Association holds quarterly meetings throughout the year and Chief Selle provides a Coordinator's report at each meeting. Starting in 2023 the meeting will be held in March, June, September and December. Some meetings may occur in between when issues arise such as communications.

Pembroke Fire Department Mutual Aid

Although we responded to 9 calls outside of the City in 2022, these responses are covered under agreements and fall outside of the scope of mutual aid.

The Pembroke Fire Department continues to fulfill their Fire Service Agreements with Laurentian Valley Fire Department for Heavy Rescue (Extrication), Water & Ice Rescue and Aerial response. For these services, our Department receives an annual administration fee from Laurentian Valley as well as an hourly service fee for each individual call. The fees for heavy rescue and ice/water rescue are reviewed and increased annually as per the CPI rate. For 2022, we saw an increase of 5% for these two agreements. The Aerial agreement addresses CPI rates in the costing formula and remains the same year to year.





Pembroke Professional Fire Fighters Association (Local 488)

Listed below are the many local charities and organizations that benefitted from the efforts and generosity of the P.P.F.F.A. this past year.

- Donated to the St. Joseph's Food Bank
- Donated to the Coldest Night of the Year
- Donated to Muscular Dystrophy Canada, the 58th year supporting this organization.
- Sponsored families with registration fees for Pembroke Minor Hockey
- Donated to the Heart and Stroke Foundation
- Donated to the Cancer Society Daffodil campaign
- Donated to the school hockey programs at Bishop Smith and Fellowes
- Participated and donated to Tim Horton's Camp Day
- Sponsored Men's Night at the Pembroke Golf Club
- Donated to Meals on Wheels
- Donated to Boys & Girls Club
- Donated to the purchase of Fellowes Football jerseys
- Donated to Canadian Mental Health Association
- Donated to Krista Johnson Memorial Run for Change
- Donated to the local OSPCA
- Participated in the Canada Day Fireworks
- Supported Legion Branch 72 with Remembrance Day Wreath
- Donated to the Kiwanis Club Christmas Toy and Food Drive
- Donated to the Christmas Angel program
- Participated in the CPAN Snowsuit Fund program by utilizing the Pembroke Fire Hall as a collection drop off point
- Hosted the annual Chili Fest
- Continued their annual donation to the Silver Stick
- Participated and donated to the Movember campaign
- Participated and donated to a special Yoga event for Mental Health and Prostate Cancer
- Sponsored programs for the production of Newsies
- Participated in the Elwyn Duchrow Memorial Hockey Tournament
- Sponsored Fire Prevention Week campaign
- Participated in the Santa Clause Parade
- Sponsored Chuck-A-Puck Event
- Sponsored Public Skating Event

The Pembroke Professional Fire Fighters Association (Local 488) is one of the longest affiliated fire departments to support Muscular Dystrophy Canada with over 58 years of annual donations.

The P.P.F.F.A. is also a major sponsor for our annual Open House event and without their assistance, our Fire Prevention Week activities would not succeed. A special thank you goes to the members of Local 488 and their families for taking the time to help with this great event!



Summary

The path forward begins in earnest in 2023. The start of the year for the City of Pembroke has been filled with possibilities and potential. We have welcomed a new Mayor, a new Council, a new CAO, a new Director of Parks and Recreation, and numerous staff in various positions throughout the City. At the PFD, we welcomed four young volunteer firefighters into our ranks, energizing our training program as all new recruits do. Our career staff has gained another year of experience which will manifest in increased professionalism, productivity and efficiency in both prevention and response activities.

This coming year we will replace our boat, aiming to find a product better suited to life on the Ottawa River. We will take steps toward the mitigation of hazards to staff in the form of carcinogen exposures during emergency incidents. My personal goal is to ensure every new member brought into this fire hall has a long and healthy retirement. We will also take steps to ensure our staff is mentally fit and ready for duty by increasing our focus on overall wellbeing. Staff recognition initiatives have been developed as my way of saying thank you.

In 2023, the PFD will continue to work towards certifying our staff to meet the provincial requirements in the most appropriate way for the City of Pembroke. We will also develop a plan forward to cope with exorbitant costs and timely equipment replacement. We will do our best to negotiate a fair and equitable deal with the firefighter's bargaining unit.

All of this hinges on teamwork and support from the City and staff. We cannot attain the goals identified moving forward without full commitment from the members of the Pembroke Fire Department. As I make this comment, the disappointments and daunting tasks of past and future seem less so with the assurances that the PFD have the best staff in the County and quite possibly the province.

Thank you for the opportunity to lead this Department for 2022 and looking forward to 2023!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Scott Selle".

Scott Selle, Fire Chief

