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NOVEMBER **NEWSLETTER**

*Marystown Volunteer Fire Department
November 2020*

In the second last month of 2020, we continued public fire safety education, held the Monthly Membership Meeting and by-elections, responded to emergency calls, presented the annual scholarship, carried out fundraising activities and received a generous donation, completed maintenance and inventory, conducted training, presented the annual donation to Muscular Dystrophy, recognized Remembrance Day, had systems inspected and serviced, and completed interior renovations to accommodate our new Rescue.

Our Department completed the following in-house training during November: Equipment and Vehicle Familiarization and First Aid review of practical skills such as Patient Packaging, Vitals, Slings and Splints. When the pandemic status in our area changed, an online review in Accountability on our online Firefighter Training portal, as well as a Zoom meeting session on Fire Behaviour took place on the Monday evenings to end the month. The movement back to online sessions is a temporary act in an abundance of caution by our Department as prevention measures for COVID-19.

At the start of our Monthly Membership Meeting on November 2nd, former Fire Chief Alex Coady was in attendance to officially hand over command to incoming Chief, Justin Bolt. Thank you again to Chief Coady for everything you've done for our department, and good luck to Chief Bolt in your new position.

During the meeting on November 2nd at 7:28PM, we received a call regarding a Road Hazard on Route 220. A crew of 1 Officer and 5 Firefighters responded with Unit #1 and Mobile #5 to address the hazard. Upon further investigation, the crew found a tree down near the road as the result of high winds. The Department of Transportation and Works were contacted and our crew returned to the Fire Hall.

Elections were held at the end of the November Monthly Meeting to backfill Officer and Executive positions until our Annual General Meeting in January. Firefighter Paul Snook was elected to the position of Captain, while Lieutenant

Jordan Hannam was elected Secretary/Public Relations. Congratulations to both and thank you to all members who put their names forward!

Jo Ella Power, the daughter of now-retired Firefighter Michael Power was announced as the recipient of the Melvin Lambe Memorial Scholarship this year. At the regular meeting of the Town Council on Tuesday, November 3rd, she was presented with the scholarship - Congratulations Jo Ella and all the best with your studies!

The Muscular Dystrophy Committee led a Boot Drive on Saturday, November 7th adhering to public COVID measures. Thank you to the general public for helping us successfully fill the boot again this year with over \$1,100! Monetary donations such as yours allows Muscular Dystrophy Canada to support those who are affected from over 150 neuromuscular disorders through research, equipment and support. Thank you to everyone who assisted or contributed to the cause!

On Sunday, November 8th at 2:48PM, we received a report of a possible Fire on Tolt Road. 4 Officers and 9 Fire Fighters responded. Upon Unit #1's arrival, the report was found to be a controlled fire with no issues and the response was cancelled. Engine #3 and Rescue #4 stood down. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police(RCMP) also attended to the location.

During our Monthly Maintenance Drill on Monday, November 9th, Mr. Eugene Spencer from the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District stopped by with a School Bus that is equipped with a lift. This allowed our Firefighters to view and raise their awareness of such systems in the event of an emergency response, in addition to recent Bus Extrication Drills. Thank you again to Mr. Spencer for stopping by!

After our Maintenance Drill was completed, the Muscular Dystrophy Committee presented their annual donation to Muscular Dystrophy Canada. This year's donation, presented by Chairperson Walter Vallis, totaled \$1,500. Thank you to everyone who supported the committee throughout the year! The Committee also sold the annual Christmas ornaments in November.

Unfortunately due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Annual Remembrance Day Ceremony could not be held in person on November 11th, it was instead done virtually. While we were unable to attend in person, our members still recognized the special day - we will always remember them! Thank you for your service and sacrifice, lest we forget!

On Sunday, November 15th at 2:40PM, we received a report of a Fire at 384 Ville Marie Drive. 5 Officers and 9 Firefighters responded. Upon Unit #1's arrival on scene it was confirmed there was no fire department response required, then Engine #3 and Rescue #4 stood down.

As Firefighter health and safety is a priority for us, our breathing air systems were inspected and serviced on Tuesday, November 17th. Thank you to Acklands-Grainger for providing the important service!

On Friday, November 20th at 1:50PM, we received notification of a residential Fire Alarm activation at 1 Back Road, Jean de Baie. 1 Officer and 4 Firefighters responded with Engine #2 and Mobile #5. Upon arrival it was determined to be a false alarm and they returned to the Fire Hall.

As COVID affected many activities this year, so was the same for our Annual Food Drive. The Food Drive was postponed from the original date until a date to be assessed, but we encourage everyone to support the Food Banks who are still accepting drop-off donations to help others!

Avery's No Frills presented the Department with a generous monetary donation of nearly \$1,000 on Thursday, November 26th. Thank you to No Frills for running this campaign and for your donation to our Department, through the support of the public, it is greatly appreciated!

Late in the evening on Thursday, November 26th at 11:38PM, we received notification of a Motor Vehicle Accident(MVA) at 466 Ville Marie Drive. 5 Officers and 6 Firefighters responded. Upon Unit #1's arrival, it was determined a fire department response was not needed and Ladder #1, Engine #3, and Rescue #4 stood down. The RCMP and Marystown Ambulance also attended to the scene of the single vehicle accident.

On Saturday, November 28th at 9:57AM, we received a commercial Fire Alarm activation for No Frills at the Marystown Mall on Ville Marie Drive. 4 Officers and 11 Firefighters responded with Unit #1, Engine #3 and Rescue #4. Upon a thorough investigation the cause of the alarm was determined and isolated, then the scene was cleared and all Firefighters returned to the Fire Hall.

Marystown Ambulance and the RCMP also attended to the scene.

In preparation for the arrival of our new Rescue #6 expected soon, Firefighters and town workers completed renovations to the Rescue #6 bay area to accommodate the vehicle. Thank you to the Fire Hall and Training Grounds Maintenance Committee and all involved in the preparations!



Picture 1. Chief Coady officially hands over command to Chief Bolt.



Picture 2. Jo Ella Power receives the Melvin Lambe Memorial Scholarship.



Picture 3. Firefighters at our annual Boot Drive for Muscular Dystrophy.



Picture 4. Thank you Mr. Eugene Spencer for bringing along the bus!



Picture 7. Avery's No Frills presents the Department with a monetary donation.



Picture 5. Chairperson Walter Vallis presents our annual donation to Muscular Dystrophy Canada.



Picture 8. Firefighters on scene of a Commercial Fire Alarm at Marystown Mall.



Picture 6. Firefighters performing practical First Aid training in Patient Packaging.

The Marystown Volunteer Fire Department serves approximately 5400 residents from the centrally located Fire Hall at 97-105 McGettigan Boulevard. The Fire Department has 30 very dedicated firefighters and a fleet of a Fire Chief's Vehicle(Unit #1), 1 Ladder Truck(Ladder #1), 2 Pumpers(Engine's #2 & #3), 2 Rescue Vehicles(Rescue's #4 & #6), 1 Pick-up Truck(Mobile #5), a Hovercraft(Rescue #1) and an Antique Pumper(Engine#1). Visit our website at www.marystownvolunteerfiredept.com, or you can also visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MystVolFireDept and Twitter @MYSTVolFireDept.

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