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## **DECEMBER** **NEWSLETTER**

*Marystown Volunteer Fire Department  
December 2020*

In the last month of 2020, the Marystown Volunteer Fire Department responded to emergency calls, held the last Monthly Membership Meeting of 2020, placed a new rescue apparatus into service, welcomed new recruits, conducted training and continued promoting safety in the community. Due to the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic, we did not have our usual gatherings during the Christmas season, and most community events such as the annual Christmas Parade were cancelled. However, that did not dampen our holiday spirit as we passed along our wishes to everyone for a safe Merry Christmas and Happy New Year too.

Our Department completed the following in-house training during December: Orientation, Minimum Standards, and Equipment and Vehicle Familiarization.

Early in the morning on Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:06AM, we received notification of a residential Fire Alarm activation at 28 Atlantic Street from an alarm monitoring station. 6 Officers and 8 Firefighters responded with Engine #3 and Rescue #4. After an inspection of the residence, it was determined our response was not needed and we returned to the Fire Hall.

On Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:28PM, we received notification of an ATV Accident on the Main Road in Beau Bois. 5 Officers and 12 Firefighters responded to the Fire Hall, where a crew was then dispatched with Mobile #5 and Rescue #6. Firefighters remained on scene until Emergency Medical Services(EMS) cleared the scene. Once our assistance was no longer required, we returned to the Fire Hall. Marystown Ambulance and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police(RCMP) also attended the scene.

Our new apparatus, a replacement for the 1990 Rescue #6, arrived on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. On December 5<sup>th</sup> it was officially handed over to the Department and placed into service. A small key presentation was hosted at the Fire Hall adhering to public health measures, followed by a "Push In" ceremony where firefighters pushed the apparatus into its bay at the hall. Thank you to all members

who helped with the transition process. Also, thank you to the Town of Marystown and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador for your continued support – it's much appreciated!

The Department officially welcomed 4 new recruits on December 8<sup>th</sup> - Blake Colbran, Rebecca Soper, Jared Synard and Jody Nolan. Following completion of their Orientation and Minimum Standards Training, the new recruits were outfitted with their personal protective equipment(PPE) and given a tour of our hall and apparatus. This onboarding was a proud moment for the Department as Blake was a graduate of our Junior Firefighter Program and is now a member. Thank you to the recruits for your interest, welcome aboard - we look forward to working with you!

We were pleased to join the Town of Marystown for the transfer of our old Rescue #6 to Burin Peninsula Ground Search and Rescue(BPGSR) on December 11<sup>th</sup>. We hope this vehicle serves them and the residents of our region well for years to come!

On December 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:25PM, we received notification of trees contacting power lines and on the Main Road in Spanish Room due to high winds. 5 Officers and 15 Firefighters responded to the Fire Hall, where a crew was then dispatched with Engine #2 and Rescue #6. Upon arrival, Newfoundland Power was contacted to advise of the situation and request a response. Once we received confirmation Newfoundland Power was responding and there was no further threat to public safety, we cleared the scene and returned to the Fire Hall.

In the afternoon on December 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 3:06PM, we received notification of a Vehicle Fire at 19 Creston Boulevard. 6 Officers and 13 Firefighters responded with Unit #1, Engine #3 and Rescue #4. Upon arrival, Firefighters quickly extinguished the fire and minimized damage to the vehicle. After a short overhaul ensuring the fire was completely extinguished, Firefighters cleared the scene and returned to the Fire Hall. The RCMP also attended the scene.

In addition to promoting Fire Safety in the community, the Fire Department continued

partnerships with groups like Mothers Against Drunk Driving(MADD) Burin Peninsula. Project Red Ribbon focuses on prevention of impaired driving, especially during the holidays, and we are always proud to support their campaigns.

Our Fundraising Committee, led by Chairperson Richard Nolan, would like to thank the businesses and the general public who made donations and supported us in any way over the past year. With this being an extremely difficult year for fundraising activities, everything received was extremely appreciated. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year are extended to you and yours!

The best way to fight a fire is to prevent it from happening in the first place! Therefore, our Department places great emphasis and commitment into Fire Prevention activities and outreach every year. Again this was more of a difficult year for everything, including Fire Prevention activities which were led by Committee Chairperson Jordan Hannam. The Committee and Department would like to thank you for your continued interest in Fire Safety through 2020. Without the support of the businesses and residents in the community, Fire Prevention would not be successful. The Committee wishes you all a fire safe holiday season, with a healthy and safe 2021 to follow!

In 2020, our Firefighters continued tireless efforts for the community because we care for everyone we serve. Many hours were spent responding to emergency calls and training. Thank you to our Firefighters for everything you do every day – your dedication and resilience through this pandemic has been phenomenal. To our family members, we always appreciate your support and understanding!

Fire Chief Bolt, the Officers and Firefighters of the Marystown Volunteer Fire Department would like to acknowledge the awesome support the Fire Department receives from the Town of Marystown, businesses and residents year in and year out. The support we receive helps make us the Department we are, with the success that we have. This holiday season, know we appreciate you and hope it's the best one yet!

On Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 4:17PM, we received notification of a Motor Vehicle Accident(MVA) on Route 210, just south of the intersection with Route 220. 6 Officers and 15 Firefighters responded to the scene with Unit #1, Ladder #1, Engine #3 and Rescue #4. Upon arrival, Fire Department response was not required and we returned to the Fire Hall. The RCMP was also on scene.



Picture 1. New Rescue #6



Picture 2. Key Presentation for new Rescue #6



Picture 3. New Recruits (Left to Right) Jared Synard, Blake Colbran, Jody Nolan and Rebecca Soper



**Picture 4. New Rescue #6 on scene of trees contacting power lines in Spanish Room.**



**Picture 5. The Fire Department supporting MADD Burin Peninsula's Project Red Ribbon**

*\*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 #7) & Antique Pumper(Engine#1). Visit our website at [www.marystownvolunteerfiredept.com](http://www.marystownvolunteerfiredept.com), or you can also visit us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MystVolFireDept](http://www.facebook.com/MystVolFireDept) and Twitter @MYSTVolFireDept.\**

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