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JANUARY **NEWSLETTER**

*Marystown Volunteer Fire Department
January 2022*

Last month, January 2022, the Marystown Fire Department continued public education and messaging, reflected on 2021, responded to emergency calls, completed virtual training sessions, online learning and continued internal communications/updates.

Due to the latest wave of COVID-19 and increased safety precautions, we were unable to complete our Annual General Meeting with Elections this month for the Executive and Committee Chairpersons, and we moved to virtual training. Our Department completed the following in house group training online during January: Cold and Ice Water Rescuer Levels I and II theory, and also availed of our Firefighter Training Corner virtual learning center among other online education and a Firefighter completed their Air Brake Endorsement.

2021 was a busy year for our Fire Department! We responded to ninety-two (92) calls for service, categorized as follows: Alarm Activations = 32, Motor Vehicle Accidents = 12, Structure Fires/Related Calls = 11, Reports of Fire/Smoke = 10, Assistance Requests = 6, Landfill Fires = 5, Pole Fires/Wires Down = 5, Brush Fires = 3, Chimney Fires = 2, Vehicle Fires = 2, Propane Leaks = 2, Mutual Aid = 1 and Rescue = 1. This compares to sixty-two (62) emergency calls in 2020, a 48% increase. Measures continued for everyone's health & safety during the pandemic, while ensuring the public received our assistance when requested. COVID-19 continued to impact our activities of the past year & training was no different. We transitioned to online learning & communications when necessary and adapted our in-house/regional training with precautions as needed. Like you, we were grateful to see the return of some community activities. Fortunately, we managed to run our Junior Program for its 5th year along with other regular Department events like the Annual Banquet and a Memorial Service. We continued to utilize our social media for public safety education, as well as working with community partners such as Sacred Heart Academy

(SHA) who provided resources for virtual Fire Prevention presentations and Home Hardware for partnering in the monthly contests. Fundraising efforts also continued with generous public support for our Department and other important causes we support. Not to be overlooked, is the significant work of our Firefighters at our facilities to maintain operations, readiness and heritage, among more. Our Firefighters logged nearly 9,800 volunteer hours! We know there's many more hours given besides those recorded, as being on call year-round is not accounted for in that tally. To our members, we graciously appreciate your commitment & dedication - your adaptability, understanding & service was exceptional again this past year! Thank you to our families & the Fire Wrens for all your support too! We'll conclude with extending a sincere thank you to our Town Council, government officials and the community for your tremendous support - it's recognized & always much appreciated! We're here to serve you 24/7/365, and in the event you need us call 911 and we'll be on the way!

On Wednesday, January 12th at 9:25AM, we received notification of a commercial Fire Alarm activation at 95 Ville Marie Drive, Marystown Mall. Upon the arrival of Engine #3 at the scene, it was confirmed to be a false alarm, and Ladder #1 and Rescue #4 stood down. All incoming Firefighters were notified and Engine #3 returned to the Fire Hall.

We are pleased to partner with Aylward's Home Hardware on our monthly Fire Safety contest again this year. This month's contest asked the public to comment with a Portable Heater Safety tip. Congratulations to Leon Walsh on being selected as January's winner! Thank you to Aylward's Home Hardware for partnering with us again on such a valuable community outreach effort!

The Virtual Tour of our Apparatus Bays is available on our website under Our Fleet, and the

tour of our Heritage Museum is on our History/ Museum page on our website.

On Friday, January 21st at 1:30PM, we received a report of a Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA) at the intersection of Route 220 and Ville Marie Drive. We responded to the scene with Unit #1 and Engine #3, and upon arrival of Unit #1 at the scene, Ladder #1 and Rescue #4 were stood down at the Fire Hall. Upon arrival on scene, Firefighters cleared hazards, assisted with traffic control and assisted personnel with Marystown Ambulance. Once our assistance was no longer required, Unit #1 and Engine #3 returned to the Fire Hall. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) remained on scene until the vehicles were removed.

A few days later on Tuesday, January 25th at 8:47AM, we received a report of another MVA also on Route 220 in the vicinity of Charlotte Avenue. We responded with Unit #1 and Engine #3, and upon the arrival of Unit #1 at the scene, Ladder #1 and Rescue #4 were stood down at the Fire Hall. Upon arrival on scene between the Greenwood Street and Creston Boulevard intersections, Firefighters cleared hazards, assisted with traffic control and assisted Marystown Ambulance personnel. Once our assistance was no longer required, we cleared the scene and returned to the Fire Hall. The RCMP also attended to the scene.

We had Firefighters participate in the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) Leadership for First Responders online program on Tuesday, January 25th.

On Monday, January 31st at 9:58AM, we received a report of a Chimney Fire at 953 Ville Marie Drive. 4 Officers and 16 Firefighters responded with Unit #1, Ladder #1, Engine #3 and Rescue #4. Upon arrival on scene Firefighters quickly extinguished any fire remaining in the chimney and performed overhaul operations on the chimney ensuring there were no more hazards. Once completed all units cleared the scene and returned to the Fire Hall. Marystown Ambulance and the RCMP also attended to the scene.

To finish off the month, later on the evening of January 31st at 5:54PM, we received a report of a Vehicle Fire at Smallwood Crescent. 6 Officers and 19 Firefighters responded with Ladder #1, Engine #3 and Rescue #4. Upon arrival on scene, Firefighters made quick work ensuring the reported fire in the engine compartment had been completely extinguished. Once clear, all units left the scene and returned to the Fire Hall.



Photo 1. MVA on Route 220, past the Greenwood Street Intersection.



Photo 2. Chimney Fire on Ville Marie Drive



Photo 3. Vehicle Fire at Smallwood Crescent.

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) & 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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