

# Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue

## Fire Chiefs Report

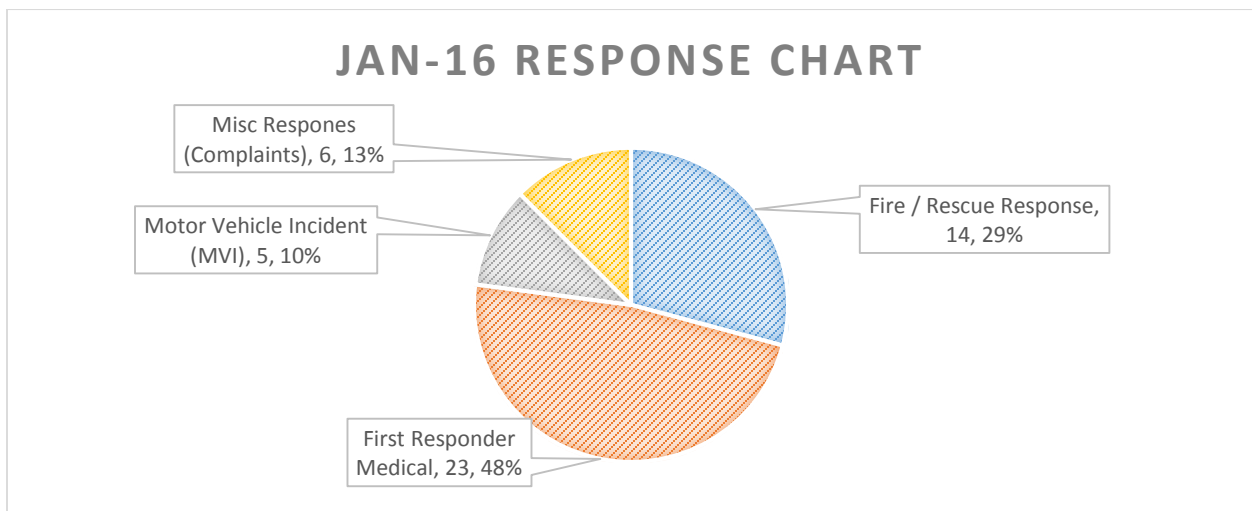
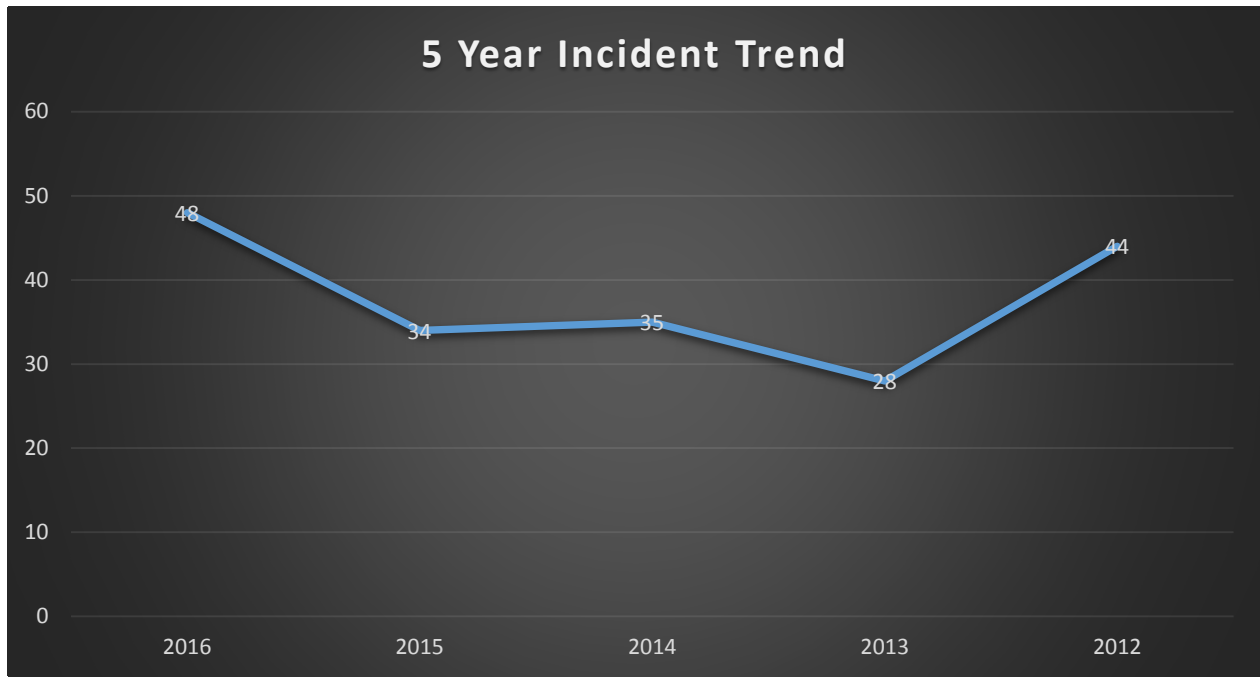
### January 2016

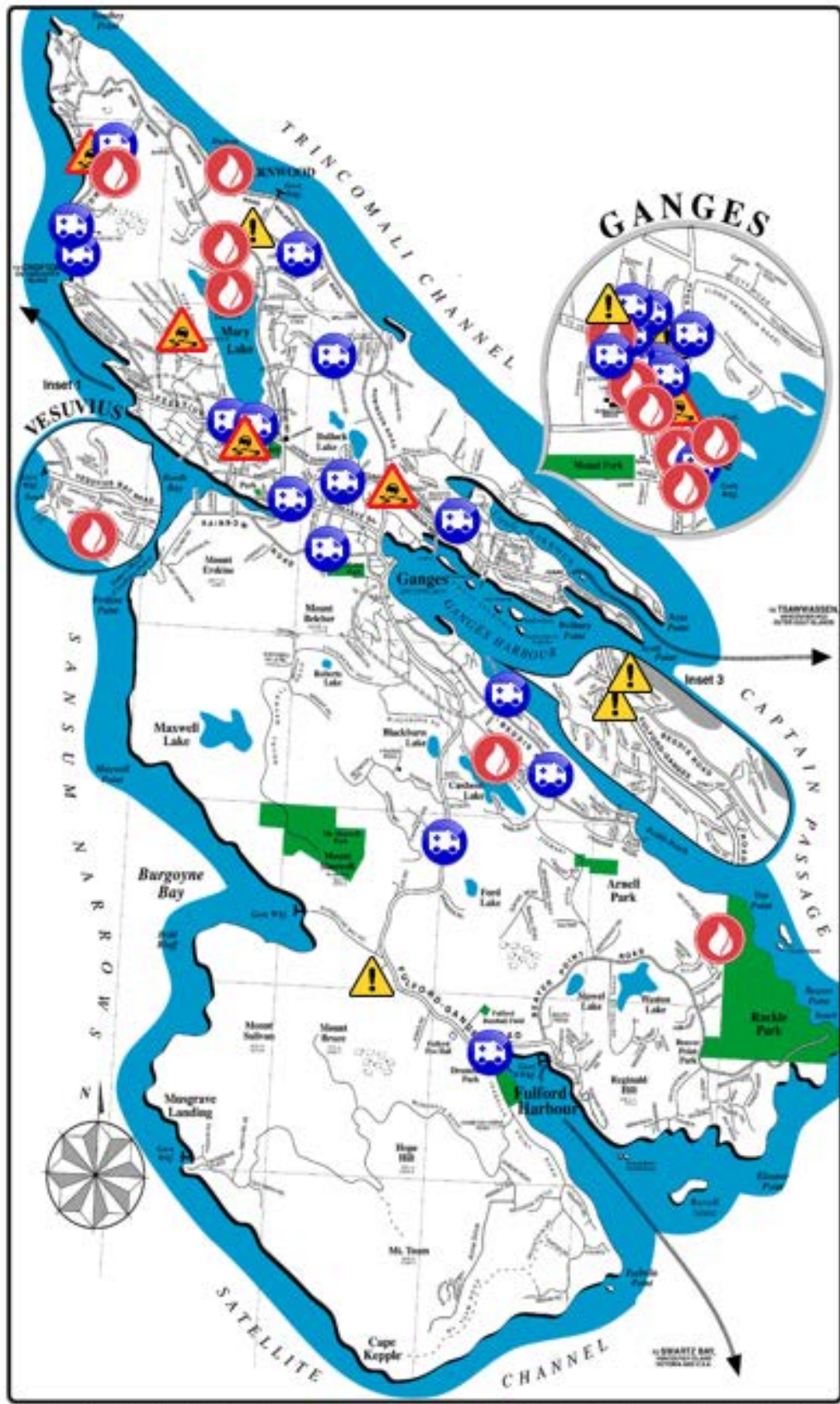


#### Response Report

January 2016 was the busiest month in the past five years for incidents, with a total 48 calls in January.

5 Year Trend for Incidents occurring in January.



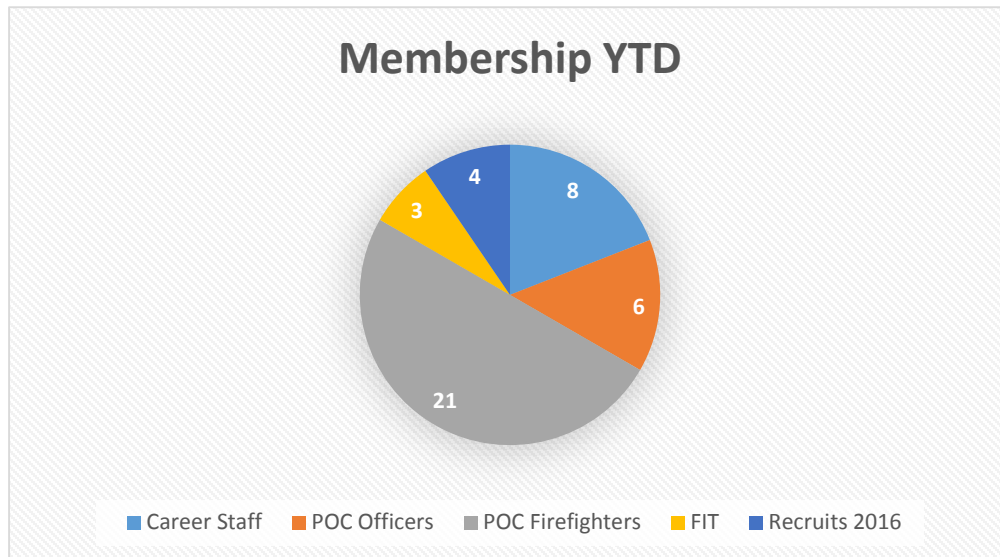


-  Fire
-  First Response
-  MVI / Rescue
-  Assist

## Operations Update

Two Requests for Proposals (RFP) have been completed and posted. One RFP for Fire Hall Landscaping closes Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 2016. The Second RFP for a replacement Tender apparatus closes March 15<sup>th</sup> 2016.

## Membership



Our current membership as of January 2016 is 42 members. We have one Paid-On Call Firefighter on a 3 month leave of absence. Our recruit class of 2016 is progressing great and working on their NFPA 1001 Firefighter certification. Meet our Class of 2016. (From left to right: Gord Fraser, Shawn Stevens, David Manz, Patrick Byrne)



## Training Division

In January preparation was underway for the North End Road acquired structure for training. There was some preparation work to be done to ensure firefighter safety and reducing hazards and environmental

concerns. The Live Fire training day is planned Feb 6<sup>th</sup> 2016. More details on the training will be provided in the February Chiefs report.

Our Recruit class of 2016 is currently working on Module 1 of the NFPA standard for Firefighting. This module includes Safety, accountability, History, and personal protective equipment. All four of the recruits are progressing great.

### **Public Education and Fire Inspections**

Our Inspection division completed 16 commercial inspections with only one requiring a re-inspection for code compliance. January was the start of our local Schools inspection cycle. The Inspection division also inspected 2 driveways in January for Fire Department access requirements.

Our Public Education portion of the Fire Prevention Division attended a number of public presentations in January. We attended Family Place (A local parent support group) to teach them on poison prevention.

We also presented to over 30 parents and preschoolers at Fernwood and Salt Spring Elementary Schools household hazard prevention.

The Department also presented a FireSmart presentation to our local Neighbourhood POD Leaders group. The discussion was based around preparing your property and house in preparation for wildfire season. For more information on FireSmart please contact the office or download the manual at

<http://www.bcwildfire.ca/prevention/docs/homeowner-firesmart.pdf>



For the second year Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue in conjunction with Salt Spring Wood Chipping offered a safe way to dispose of old and dry Christmas trees. The event is to provide residents with an alternative to burning. All donations collected from the chipping were donated to the Salt Spring Island Food Bank.

January our public education team taught the last of this year's Grade 9 students CPR/AED. With this year's programme complete we have successfully trained every Grade 9 GISS student how to perform CPR and to use an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED).

Included is a letter we received from Real 9 Teacher Mr D Collombin.

***The first semester at Gulf Islands Secondary is coming to a close and that means the end of the Real 9 class as well. This is a course made up of 5 sections and in the "Careers" section something exciting has started.***

***The SSI Firefighters have been coming into my classroom and teaching CPR and AED training to the grade nines. The students have to demonstrate the practical part of CPR and use the AED as well as score well on a written test. Because the SSI Fire Department has been willing to come into my class twice every 3 weeks it has***





*now resulted in every grade nine at GISS becoming certified in Red Cross CPR/AED which is good for 3 years.*

*There is no question that without the SSI Fire Dept. doing this at a very subsidized cost and providing such great instruction in an interesting manner this would not be a smooth as it was. The Real 9 program also covered the costs of the certificates so that a bare minimum was passed onto the students to be covered by them.*

*The Firefighters were excellent. The students enjoyed the course, were excited to get certified and appreciated acquiring such helpful life long skills. It was a major success and if the plan to continue to do this can be a reality then in a few years it will be possible to say that because of a SSI Fire Department and GISS partnership "every teenager in the Gulf Islands is certified in CPR and AED".*

*On behalf of my grade nine students and myself a huge thanks to the SSI Fire Dept. to help make this possible.*

*David Collombin*

### **Upcoming Events**

February 6<sup>th</sup> we have a rare opportunity to conduct Live Fire training at an acquired structure on North End Road. This opportunity will provide our members, junior and senior with hands on real life firefighting exposure in a controlled safe manner.

Training and planning is underway for our 5 year Superior Tender Shuttle Accreditation (STSS) re-test. I have had preliminary discussion with Fire Underwriters (FUS) but no date or test procedures have been confirmed. We are also dealing with a new FUS representative for this STSS test. Our current STSS accreditation expires April 2015. For more information on the STSS and how it can help you please visit <http://www.saltspringfire.com/fus.php>

Respectfully Submitted



Arjuna George

Acting Fire Chief

