

To: Chairperson Patterson and Trustees
From: Chief Tom Bremner
Date: March 17th / 2014
Sub: SSIFR Monthly Report (February / 2014)



- It was a busy month for responses.
- The SSIFR membership responded to **55 calls for assistance**.

Response types were:

First Responder	22
Hydro	16
Motor Vehicle Incidents	6
Miscellaneous	4
Chimney Fires	3
Alarms	3
Hazmat	1

- Considerable time was spent working with FDM, as well as on our burn permit procedure making the process more user friendly and working towards future online access.

Training Division Report: Captain Jamie Holmes

- Recruit firefighters were issued personal protective equipment this month and started adding practical skills to their theory sessions. They were educated relating to fire behavior, how it grows and what to expect, along with the finer physical details and how to stay safe. They also started their medical training certification in CPR with AED and the first weekend of their First Responder training; which is our training to assist BCAS with emergency calls.
- Our regular members took part in firefighter rescue drills working on procedures for lost or trapped firefighters and auto extrication, specifically stability using struts for vehicles balancing in ditches, over banks, or on their sides.
- We also revisited our Superior Tanker Shuttle Service Accreditation, which lowers homeowner's fire insurance within the coverage zones. Members practiced the drop tank and drafting set-up to keep their skills in place for future retests and emergency situations.
- Special operations, the Rope Rescue and the Auto X team held training sessions this month reviewing core skills in both disciplines.

➤ **Fire Inspection / Prevention Division Report: Captain Dale Lundy & Lieutenant Mitchell Sherrin**

Commercial Inspections	17
Residential Inspections (Requested)	24
Re-inspections	1
Responses to Emergencies	30
Fire Safety Plan Reviews	2
Smoke Alarms	3
Burning Permits	41 (for 2014)
Paperwork / Administration	Endless



- Captain Lundy attended a Zone 1 Fire Prevention meeting which took place in Nanaimo and co-instructed one Tuesday night training session
- Some changes are being made with the support vehicle decaling program of our Prevention Division which saw the Sear's logo come off after several years of advertising with us with other new supporters being invited to participate.
- Wednesday's mornings continue to be career training time and in the afternoon apparatus inspections.
- Lt Sherrin taught a Red Cross Emergency First Aid course for 12 students in the Trades Apprenticeship programme at Gulf Islands Secondary School.
- Lt Sherrin attended a three-day certified course on the provincial Juvenile Fire-Setter Intervention programme
- Lt Sherrin installed a smoke alarm with a homeowner who had suffered a chimney fire (no functioning alarm present) and worked with ArtSpring ushers in two sessions for fire-drill training and emergency planning.
- SSIFR hosted a visit by 20 Brownies along with six parents and group leaders as well as staff & POC members taught a seven-day First Responder course to the new recruits.
- The Rotary Smoke Alarm program is still in active availability. We continue to remind residents it is the law that all single family dwellings require working smoke alarms.
- Burning permits are required effective April 15th each year until October 15th each year. They are good until April 15th of the following year before renewal is required for all classes of burning except Class 3. Permits can be obtained (for free) at the Ganges Fire Station during regular office hours. All classifications of burning are currently open
- To report poachers and polluters (which include poor venting smoke complaints), please call the Ministry of Environment RAPP line @ 1-877-952.7277 for assistance.