

Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue

Fire Chief's Report

Nov./Dec. 2023



Vision

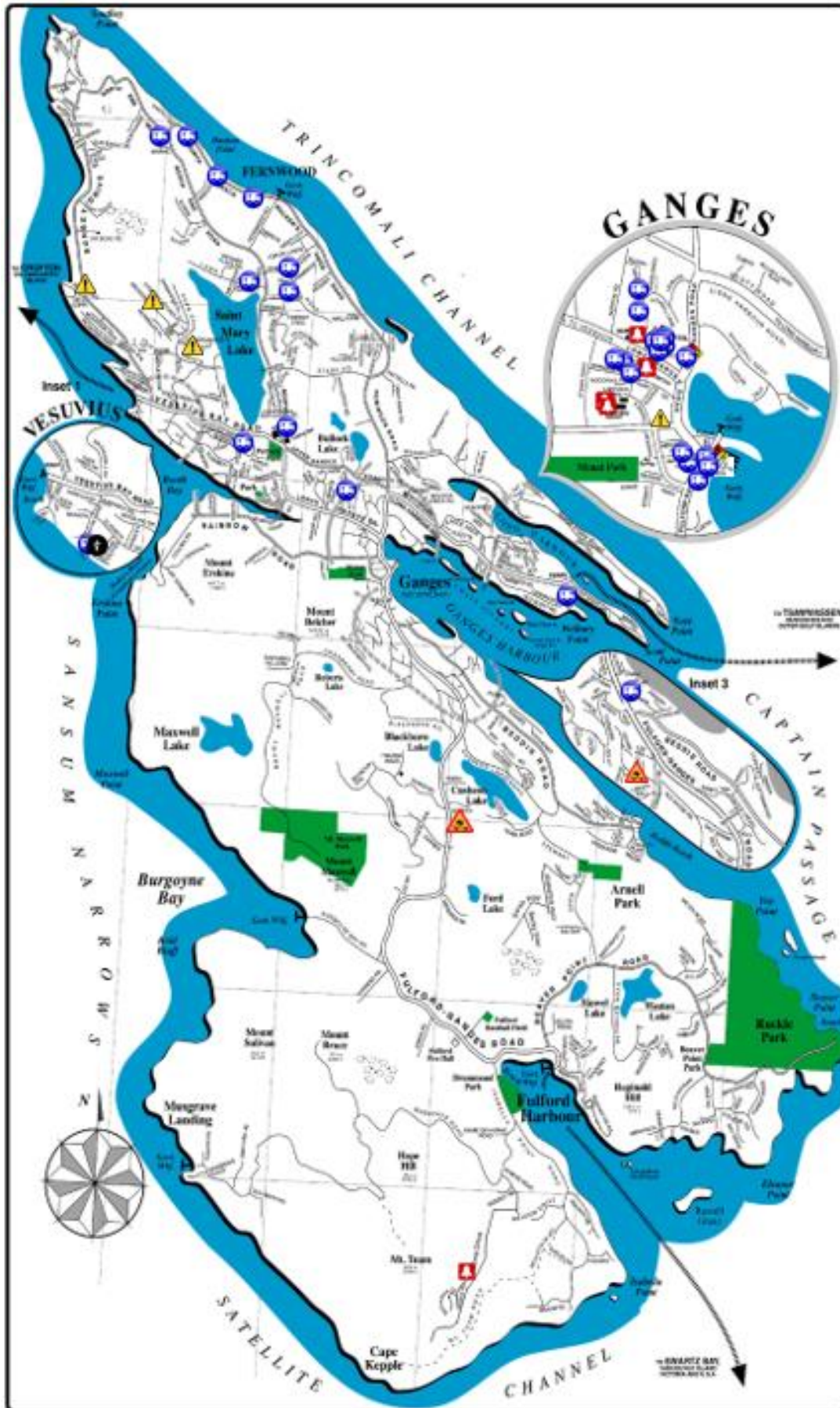
A responsive and sustainable fire-rescue service, effectively meeting community needs and valued by those we serve.

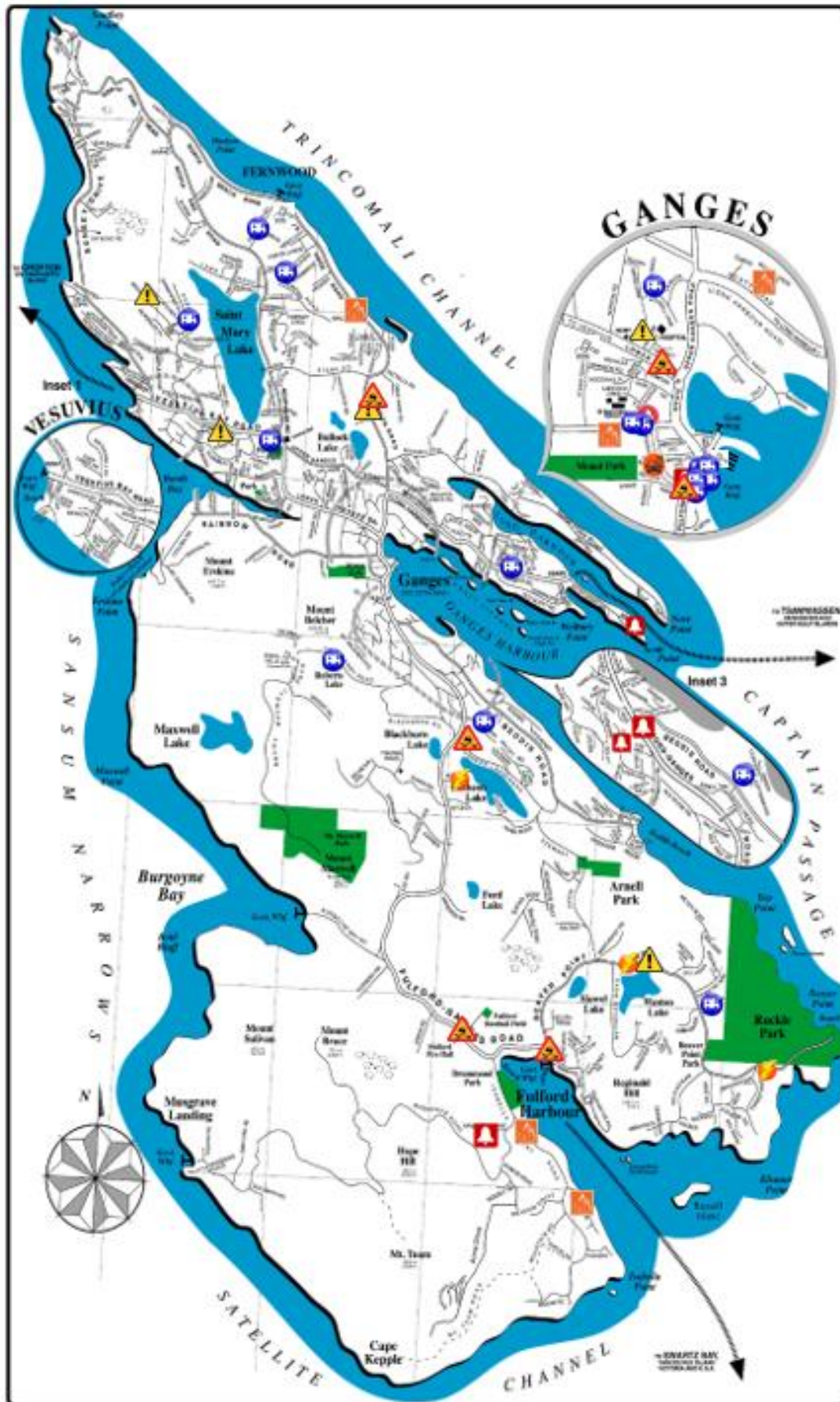
Mission

Always learning, engaging and adapting to be response ready.

Response Report

INCIDENT LEGEND		Dec-23												TOTAL CALLS: 735
Act/Bylaw		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
	Complaint	5		4	5	14	12	16	15	7	1	2	4	85
Aircraft	Emergency													
Alarm	Alarm	6	4	7	4	6	5	6	2	6	2	5	5	58
Assistance	Assistance	4	5	4	3	10	18	14	19	16	4	4	5	106
Explosion	Explosion													
Fire	Brush			1	2	2	1		1	1				8
	Chimney	1											3	4
	Misc	2	3	3		2	3	1		6	2		1	23
	Structure	2	2	1			1	1	3				2	12
	Boat				1		1							2
	Vehicle	1		2		2							1	6
HazMat	HazMat								1		2	2		5
Hydro	Hydro	4	12	4	1	1		3	2	2	3		3	35
Medical	Medical	21	11	20	24	30	40	29	21	29	18	29	18	290
MVI	MVI	7	3	5	1	5	4	4	5	8	5	2	6	55
Rescue	Rescue	1		1				2	3	1		1		9
Smoke/Smell/Sighting	Brush			2	4	3	8	3	4	5				29
	Structure	1			1		3	2	1					8
Total Calls for the month:		55	40	54	46	75	96	81	77	81	37	45	48	735
	2014	35	51	50	27	39	48	67	59	45	31	56	31	539
	2015	32	36	44	31	44	69	56	54	45	41	44	49	545
	2016	46	35	34	46	72	50	59	88	52	65	52	48	647
	2017	63	66	46	39	74	55	72	76	58	44	45	63	701
	2018	47	38	45	41	62	59	71	108	79	49	34	183	816
	2019	59	58	49	64	61	58	52	58	66	32	54	44	655
	2020	62	52	57	53	30	38	40	60	81	73	39	89	674
	2021	43	52	60	46	43	81	93	103	65	64	63	46	759
	2022	33	29	32	53	85	42	78	77	66	62	61	50	668
	2023	55	40	54	46	75	96	81	77	81	37	45	48	735
	2023													
	FIRE	11	17	13	9	10	17	10	12	14	7	2	10	132
	RESCUE	13	3	10	6	19	16	22	23	16	6	5	10	149
	MEDICAL	21	11	20	24	30	40	29	21	29	18	29	18	290
	ASSISTANCE	10	9	11	7	16	23	20	21	22	6	9	10	164
		55	40	54	46	75	96	81	77	81	37	45	48	735





Operations

November and December saw our regular increase in Chimney Fires and a couple of Structure Fires.

All of the fires were detected early and with quick response from our membership they were extinguished with mostly minor damage.

Dec. 5, 2023 at 0026 crews were called to Bullock Creek Rd. for a outbuilding on fire. The 10x10 laundry shed was fully involved upon arrival but the fire was knocked down quickly by the initial crew before in could spread to adjacent exposures. Eleven members spent two hours using 500 gallons of water to extinguish the fire.

Dec.24, 2023 at 0843 reports of a structure fire on Rainbow Rd were received. Upon arrival crews found smoke throughout the large structure and located the source in the rear sunroom. Twenty-four members spent two hours extinguishing the fire and completing overhaul. A wall element heater seems to be the source of the fire which had been smoldering for quite some time before bursting into flames.

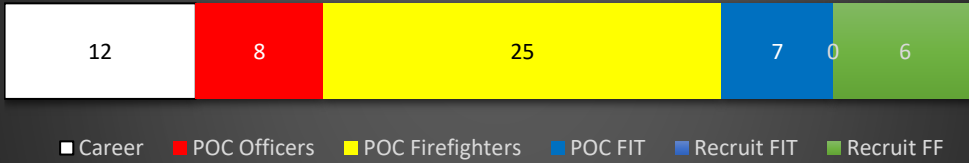


Our Christmas display with the antique truck won the top prize in all three categories! Best use of lights, most creative and best all-round. Thank you to Janet Cliffe who provides amazing displays year after year.

Our year wrapped up with the firefighter appreciation dinner. Thanks to Trustee Hetherington, Nancy and Alex the venue looked amazing, and the night went off without a hitch. A special thank you to Honorary Member Dave Bartle for taking some wonderful pictures throughout the night. The event brought me pride as the Fire Chief and I want to congratulate all our members on a fabulous year serving our community.



Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue Roster



Training

November was an average month of training with **599.25** hours total. POC's completed **441.75** hours, and the career members completing **157.50** hours. Several members enrolled in ongoing courses, (Fire Officer 1&2, Fire Inspector 1.) FF Proudfoot was off island to complete his Emergency Scene Management 1 at JIBC in New Westminster.

We have initiated our 2024 recruit campaign process, with 6 names being put forward to be a part of the 2024 class. The recruit training will be taking place on Sunday mornings, to free up instructors and apparatus on Tuesday nights. I would like to thank LT Hohn for spearheading the interview process, and Captain Gaudet, and FF Dewar McClelland for organizing the physical assessments.

Our 2023 recruits started their First Responder training in November, which will carry on into December. This is currently a 40-hour course, but with provincial changes to licencing, there will be an additional 24 hours added to the course, making this a 64-hour course!



849.25 training hours for the month of December. The increase over last month was mostly due to the recruit class finishing up their First Responder medical training. POC training was **708.25** hours, and the career training hours on shift were at **141** hours. A couple of our career members completed their Fire Inspector training and are now certified at Level 1. A great accomplishment! We still have 4 members at various stages of completion.

We have hire 6 new recruits for our 2024 class, with regular training start up on January 7th. We have moved our recruit training schedule to Sunday mornings, for a variety of reasons, (doesn't conflict with Tuesday night training as far as apparatus, equipment, venues, and trainers go). We are also looking at moving our monthly Special Teams training to Sunday afternoons, as opposed to various evenings through out the month.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Holmes, Fire Chief