

Fire Department



The Chilliwack Fire Department is committed to community safety through public education, code enforcement, fire suppression and rescue services.

Third Quarter Report, 2019



CITY OF
CHILLIWACK

Administration - Personnel

Career Staff:



New Appointment:

Deiter Andre, Training Officer
Captain
July 29, 2019



Community Activities

The Fire Department continues to be actively involved in many community events and fundraisers. This quarter, Chilliwack firefighters and the Chilliwack Firefighters Charitable Society (CFFCS) volunteered and raised money for the Society at the following events:

- Canada Day Pancake Breakfast
- Mountain View Harley Davidson breakfast events
- Fraser Valley Regional District Employee Appreciation lunch barbeque
- CADREB and City of Chilliwack Two Pitch Baseball Tournament
- Barn Burner Breakfast in Yarrow
- Sardis Sports complex opening
- PTSD Golf Tournament
- Saccomaniacs, Agriculture for Autism Golf Tournament
- Ann Davis Society Barbeque

The CFFCS donated in support of the following during this quarter:

- Chilliwack Bowls of Hope
- Brain Injury Canada
- Pacific Autism Family Network
- Community Cupboard Fundraiser
- Ride to Live, Men's Health
- First Responder PTSD Awareness
- BC Professional Firefighters Burn Fund



Donation to Burn Fund

from Keira McKenzie
(Chilliwack burn survivor) and
Chilliwack Firefighters Charitable Society



Barn Burner BBQ Event Pancake Breakfast

July 2019

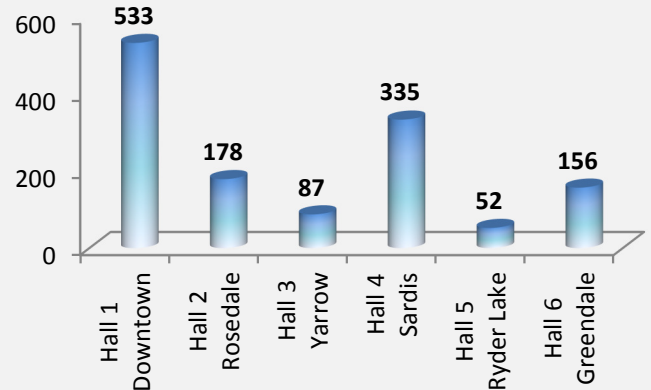


Operations – Incident Responses

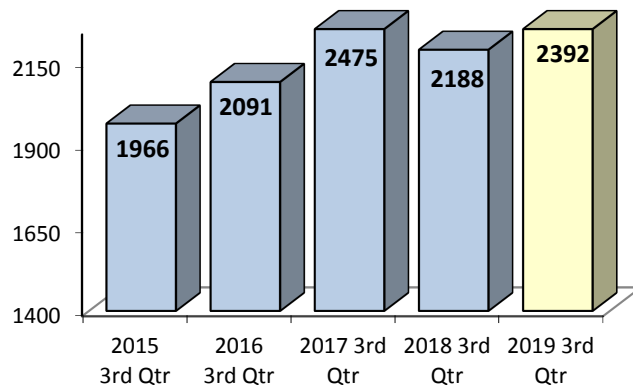
Incident Responses

The Chilliwack Fire Department responded to 833 calls for service in the third quarter (2,392 year to date). This was an increase of 204 calls compared to this time in 2018. Incidents for this quarter included 76 fires, 129 motor vehicle incidents, 48 emergency medical aid calls, and 70 burning complaints. Thus far in 2019, the three leading calls for service were public service, alarms activated, and motor vehicle incident responses. These three incident response types accounted for 1,596 incidents or 67% of the total calls responded to date.

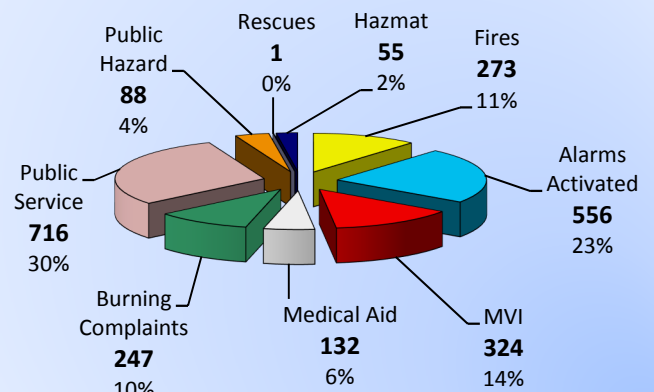
2019 Paid-on Call Responses by Hall



Incident Responses January - September



2019 Incident Responses - Year to Date



Vehicle Fire, Dyke Road
August 2019



Vehicle Fire, Industrial Way
July 2019

Operations - Incident Responses

	Monthly Summary			3rd Quarter	2nd Quarter	1 st Quarter	Year to Date
	July	Aug.	Sept.				
FIRES	24	35	17	76	111	86	273
Structures	4	11	9				91
Vehicle	8	8	6				47
Outdoor / Other	12	16	2				135
ALARMS ACTIVATED	76	66	68	210	183	163	556
Single family residential	37	17	24				198
Multi-family residential	18	21	22				147
Non-residential	21	28	22				211
MVI (NO FIRE)	42	38	49	129	120	75	324
Auto Extrication	0	2	1				8
Provide Medical Care	29	18	27				168
Routine Cleanup / No injuries	12	15	18				131
Cancelled/Fire not required	1	3	3				17
EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID	12	17	19	48	29	55	132
BURNING COMPLAINTS	18	31	21	70	111	66	247
Illegal	18	31	20				222
Legal	0	0	1				25
PUBLIC SERVICE	80	91	81	252	231	233	716
Investigate safety complaints and hazards	17	14	16				161
Assist other agencies (BCAS, RCMP etc.)	49	59	51				429
Home smoke alarm/Carbon monoxide alarm	6	11	8				52
Post Fire Recheck/ Post Fire Investigation	0	2	0				26
Trapped in Elevator	6	3	3				22
Other	2	2	3				26
PUBLIC HAZARD	14	8	9	31	22	35	88
RESCUES	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	3	7	6	16	27	12	55
MUTUAL AID	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	269	294	270	833	834	725	2,392

Previous Years:

2018
2017
2016
2015
2014

3 rd Qtr	2nd Qtr	1 st Qtr	YTD
812	693	683	2,188
858	730	887	2,475
777	678	636	2,091
764	671	531	1,966
659	488	445	1,592

Fire Prevention – Public Education & Code Enforcement

The Chilliwack Fire Department is proactively working to reduce fire losses and injuries through education, engineering, code enforcement, and fire investigations.

Fire & Life Safety Education

A total of 71 fire and life safety sessions were delivered to the community thus far in 2019. In 2019 to date, 3,563 residents have been educated or trained in fire and life safety, and emergency preparedness. Fire hall tours have allowed firefighters to proactively educate children and their parents on the hazards of fire, and how they can better prepare their family if a fire occurs in their home.

2019 Public Education Activities	# of Events	Persons Educated
Juvenile Fire Setter Interviews		
Fire Safety Classes	17	546
Fire Extinguisher Training	23	528
Fire Hall Tours	15	368
Emergency Preparedness Classes	7	171
Other Public Education Sessions	9	1,950
Totals	71	3,563

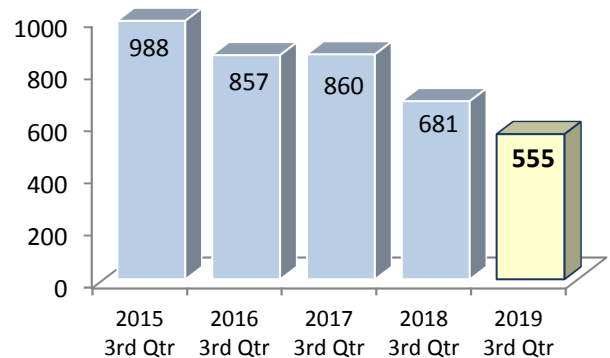
Code Enforcement

The department completed 194 fire and life safety inspections in this quarter including health and safety inspections with the Bylaw Department, RCMP, and BC Safety Authority.

Engineering

The department completed 34 plan and sprinkler reviews this quarter. Fire Department personnel also conducted numerous on-site inspections to ensure Fire Code compliance.

Fire & Life Safety Inspections January - September



Investigations / Losses

Second quarter fire losses were \$2,951,950 bringing the total dollar loss to \$14,540,500 thus far in 2019. There were no fire related injuries during this quarter. A total of 15 dollar loss structure fires occurred this quarter with 12 (or 80%) occurring in residential occupancies. Fire origin and cause investigations were completed to identify fire loss trends and focus our education efforts to prevent future losses.

Fire Extinguisher Training September 2019



Training

In addition to our regular training, the summer months bring warmer days and extended daylight hours which provides great opportunities for firefighters to take their training out into the community.

Technical Training

- **Aircraft Emergency Response Procedures** – firefighters from Halls 1 and 4 worked with Airport Management preparing to mitigate any incident that may arise at Flight Fest, such as crash procedures, aircraft fires, and extrication procedures.
- **Rural Water Supply** - is an essential component in firefighting which can be both complex and time consuming. Firefighters dedicate substantial time in the summer months training on rural and urban water supply.
- **Pre-Hospital Care** - is a large component of our training curriculum and includes regularly scheduled CPR, AED, Spinal, and FR 3. Numerous training sessions were completed.
- **Forestry and Interface Firefighting** – firefighters reviewed forestry firefighting strategy and tactics, utilizing portable pumps and bladders.
- **Rope Rescue** – firefighters conducted scenario-based training on the terrain in our community in order to better prepare themselves for slope rescues.
- **Driver Training** – is ongoing as drivers are certified to the IAPD Standards.
- **Emergency Scene Management** – 10 firefighters attended an accredited 40-hour course designed to assist incident commanders and officers in developing incident action plans to safely and effectively mitigate an incident, while maintaining crew accountability.
- **Elevator Rescue** – 8 firefighters attended elevator rescue training in accordance with Elevating Devices Safety Regulations.
- **Vehicle Rescue** – 14 firefighters from Halls 1 and 3 received Vehicle Rescue Level I and II training and accreditation in accordance with NFPA 1006 from the Justice Institute of B.C. The 32-hour training session was held over two weekends.

Educational Training

- **Fire Officer Level I** – 3 firefighters began working on the courses required by NFPA 1021 to attain accreditation for Fire Officer Level I. This quarter also saw 2 firefighters complete Fire Officer I.
- **Fire Officer Level II** – 2 acting lieutenants continue working on the requirements outlined in NFPA 1021 accreditation for Fire Officer Level II, and 1 acting lieutenant completed Fire Officer II.



Team Building Exercise,
Midget A Hockey Team
September 2019



New Career Firefighters Training Program

Low Slope Rope Rescue Training

Emergency Preparedness

The 3rd Quarter of 2019 saw a fairly uneventful wildfire season, despite experiencing slightly warmer than average temperatures and slightly lower than average precipitation. In September, the fire department took delivery of additional wildland firefighting hose and related equipment that will further increase the department's wildfire suppression capabilities.

The Chilliwack Emergency Program continues to hold bi-monthly meetings with internal and external stakeholders to further emergency planning efforts, relationship building and review of learnings from past emergency incidents. Recent discussions have included evacuation best practices, neighbourhood (gated community) emergency preparedness, hazardous materials/dangerous goods response and emergency communications system interoperability.

The Chilliwack Amateur Radio Club met weekly and continues to provide regular training to their membership. On August 17th, the radio club provided critical emergency communications and operations support to the Revel Marathon Chilliwack organizers and 600+ race participants.

The Chilliwack Emergency Support Services Team met bi-monthly to train and discuss past emergency incidents. The team was activated to support approximately 100 displaced residents of the Park Ridge Apartment fire on Stevenson Road in August. With the support and assistance of the Chilliwack School District, an Emergency Reception Center/Group Lodging Facility was established at Tyson Elementary, where residents were assisted by ESS team members and also met with fire department, insurance company and restoration company representatives. In addition to the Tyson Elementary facility, the Chilliwack School District also provided transportation services from the fire scene to the reception center for the displaced residents.

For the second time in 2019, over 50 law enforcement students from China visited our Emergency Operations Centre in August and received a training presentation on local emergency management. Training sessions for city staff in the planning, operations, logistics and finance sections of the Emergency Operations Center were also delivered in September and focused on the newly-published provincial evacuation guide.

