

# Fire Department



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

## Third Quarter Report, 2017



**CITY OF  
CHILLIWACK**

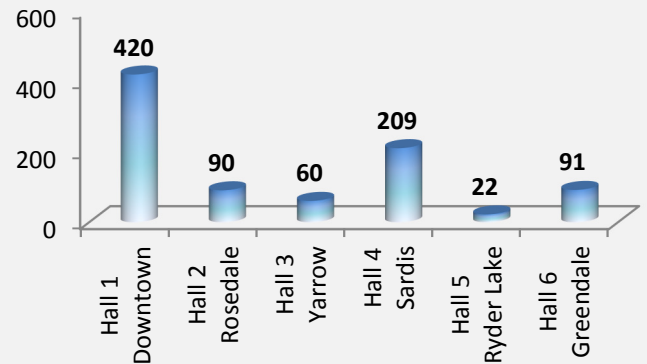
## Operations – Incident Responses

### Incident Responses

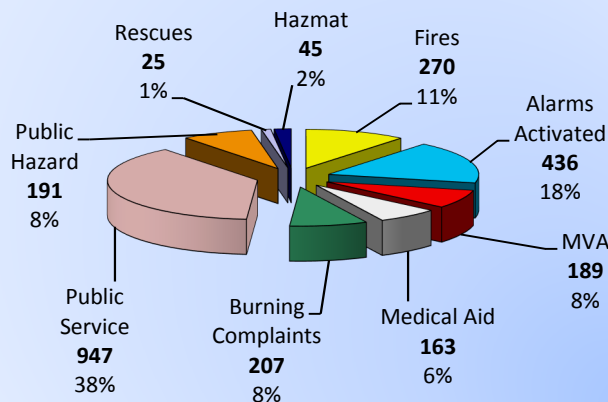
The Chilliwack Fire Department responded to 858 calls for service in the third quarter (2,475 year to date). This is an increase of 384 calls compared to this time in 2016. The increased calls for service can be attributed to an increase in activated alarms, emergency medical aid calls, and assisting agencies such as BC Ambulance and RCMP to mitigate public hazard incidents. Compared to 2016, there has been a decrease in burning complaint incidents, mainly due to increased public education and enforcement.

### 2017 Paid-on-Call Responses by Hall

Total of 892 POC Incident Responses YTD

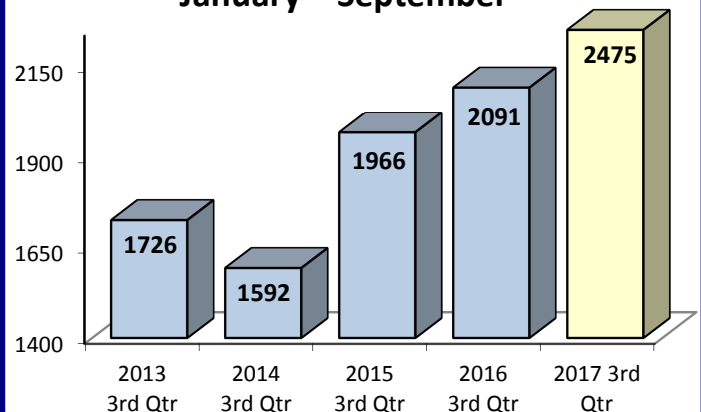


### 2017 Incident Responses - Year to Date



### 5 Year Total - Incident Responses

January - September



**Structure Fire – Chilliwack Central Road  
September 2017**



**Burning Complaint – McGuire Road  
August 2017**

## Operations - Incident Responses

	Monthly Summary			3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	Year to Date
	July	Aug	Sept				
<b>FIRES</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>130</b>	83	57	<b>270</b>
Structures	3	4	7				
Vehicle	5	2	3				
Outdoor / Other	48	42	16				
<b>ALARMS ACTIVATED</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>150</b>	145	141	<b>436</b>
Single family residential	18	16	13				
Multi-family residential	15	18	16				
Non-residential	18	18	18				
<b>MVA (NO FIRE)</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>64</b>	60	65	<b>189</b>
Auto Extrication	0	2	0				
Provide Medical Care	5	8	8				
Cancelled/Fire not required	11	14	16				
<b>EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>51</b>	61	51	<b>163</b>
<b>BURNING COMPLAINTS</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>96</b>	73	38	<b>207</b>
Illegal	48	10	17				
Legal	8	9	4				
<b>PUBLIC SERVICE</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>322</b>	261	364	<b>947</b>
Investigate safety complaints and hazards	40	53	42				
Assist other agencies (BC5G, RCMP etc.)	64	57	42				
Home smoke alarm/Carbon monoxide alarm	7	9	8				
Other	0	0	0				
<b>PUBLIC HAZARD</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>	27	149	<b>191</b>
Electrical line down	3	9	3				
Grow operation	0	0	0				
Structure collapse	0	0	0				
Bomb threat/explosion	0	0	0				
Other	0	0	0				
<b>RESCUES</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	8	9	<b>25</b>
<b>HAZARDOUS MATERIALS</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>20</b>	12	13	<b>45</b>
<b>MUTUAL AID</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	0	0	<b>2</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>887</b>	<b>2,475</b>

### Previous Years:

2016  
2015  
2014  
2013  
2012

3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr	2nd Qtr	1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr	YTD
777	678	636	2,091
764	671	531	1,966
659	488	445	1,592
689	558	479	1,726
666	521	552	1,739

## 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 166 fire and life safety sessions were delivered to the community thus far in 2017. In 2017 to date, 4,719 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, how to prevent fires, and how they can better prepare their family if a fire occurs in their home.

2017 Public Education Activities	# of Events	Persons Educated
Juvenile Fire Setter Interviews	5	10
Fire Safety Classes	25	933
Fire Extinguisher Training	10	164
Fire Hall Tours	16	436
Chilliwack Safety Village	94	2,186
Emergency Preparedness Classes	11	241
Other Public Education Sessions	5	749
<b>Totals</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>4,719</b>

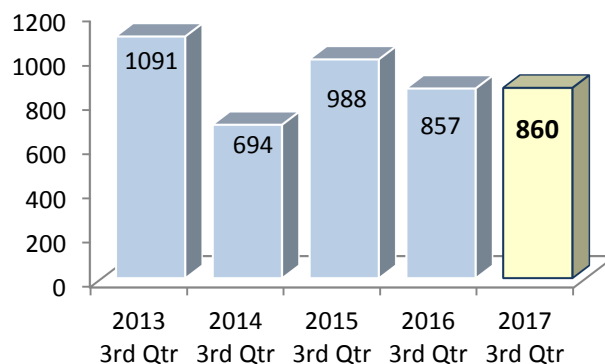
### Code Enforcement

The department completed 261 fire and life safety inspections in this quarter including health and safety inspections with the Bylaw Department, RCMP, and BC Safety Authority. Fire prevention staff followed up on 13 life safety complaints, and assisted with 9 car seat checks during the quarter.

### Engineering

The department completed 52 plan 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

Third quarter fire losses were \$1,343,350. Three civilians suffered fire related injuries during this quarter. A total of 14 dollar loss structure fires occurred this quarter with 12 (or 86%) 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.





## Training

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

### Technical Training

- ❖ **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 supplies.
- ❖ **Pre-Hospital Care** - is a large component of our training curriculum and includes regularly scheduled CPR, AED, Spinal, and First Responder 3 training.
  - Personal use Naloxone training was provided to all firefighters.
- ❖ **Wildland/Urban Interface Firefighting** – firefighters reviewed forestry firefighting strategies and tactics, utilizing portable pumps and bladders.
  - Military personnel were also trained at our Fire Training Centre prior to deployment in the region to support the wildfire efforts.
- ❖ **Fire Control** – using structures at our Fire Training Centre, firefighters trained on fire control, ventilation, ground ladders, and search procedures.
- ❖ **Mayday** - using structures at our Fire Training Centre, firefighters trained on firefighter survival techniques, what to do when they become lost, trapped, or disorientated within a structure during firefighting activities.
- ❖ **Large Animal Rescue** - Training Officers attended a two day course presented by the Horse Counsel of British Columbia. The course was developed to prepare first responders to safely rescue large animals such as horses when they become trapped.
- ❖ **Chainsaw Training** – was completed by firefighters that will allow them to safely remove trees that block access to neighbourhoods during severe wind events.
- ❖ **Rope Rescue** – firefighters conducted scenario-based training on moderately steep terrain in our community to better prepare themselves for slope rescues.
- ❖ **Driver Training** – is ongoing to certify drivers to IAPD Standards.

### Educational Training

- ❖ **Fire Service Instructor Level I** – 12 firefighters successfully completed the requirements outlined in NPFA 1041 to become instructors in the fire service.
- ❖ **Fire Officer Level I** – Three Acting Lieutenants completed the requirements outlined in NFPA 1021 and have gained the accreditation of Fire Officer Level I.



Career Firefighter  
Training  
August 2017



## Emergency Preparedness

The Chilliwack Emergency Program was very active in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2017 supporting the provincial wildfire response and supporting evacuees from the Cariboo and Interior regions of the province.

Through the support of the Chilliwack School District and Emergency Management BC, a Regional Emergency Social Services (ESS) Reception Centre and Group Lodging Facility was opened at Chilliwack Secondary School. During its 41 days of operation the reception centre saw almost 2,200 evacuees register to receive basic services such as food and accommodations. The operation of the centre was staffed by Chilliwack ESS volunteers, ESS volunteers throughout the lower mainland, Chilliwack Salvation Army volunteers, and several Chilliwack residents who volunteered their time at the centre. In total, almost 5000 hours of volunteer time was logged at the centre from July 15<sup>th</sup> to August 25<sup>th</sup>.

To support wildfire suppression efforts in the Interior and Cariboo regions, the Chilliwack Fire Department sent a water tender truck staffed with two paid-on-call firefighters to assist Emergency Management BC. A total of five deployments involving ten paid-on-call firefighters were involved in this event.

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, an appreciation BBQ was held to recognize the efforts of local organized lifeline volunteer groups such as Emergency Social Services and the Chilliwack Amateur Radio Club. The Chilliwack Emergency Program depends on these dedicated and well-trained groups to support emergency management efforts. Throughout the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, both the ESS team and the Chilliwack Amateur Radio Club met monthly to train and review past incidents.

The Emergency Program Coordinator continued to focus on EOC exercise planning that is designed to test the effectiveness of the City's Emergency Response and Recovery Plan as well as to test the readiness of City staff members to coordinate response and recovery efforts.



**Assistance for 2017 Wildfire Season  
Interior & Cariboo  
August, September 2017**



## 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 donated in support of the following:

- *Canada Day Pancake Breakfast* – raised over \$2,900;
- *Old Yale Brewery Fundraiser (Growler sales)* – raised \$3,000;
- *“Rock the Rock” event at Mountain View Harley Davidson (MVHD)* – raised \$700;
- *Lazy Biker Pancake Breakfasts at MVHD* – raised \$1,600;
- *Joint Fundraiser with Chilliwack Stingrays Swim Club* – raised \$500;
- *“Bikers Against Child Abuse” at MVHD* – raised \$300;
- *Old Yale Brewery fundraiser for wildfire relief* – raised \$1,400;
- Donated \$500 to Fraser Valley Health Care Foundation golf tournament;
- Donated \$500 to Bowls of Hope golf tournament;
- Donated \$21,000 to Burn Building, Burn Camp Kick Off;
- Donated \$3,500 to Salvation Army for Wildfire Relief Campaign.



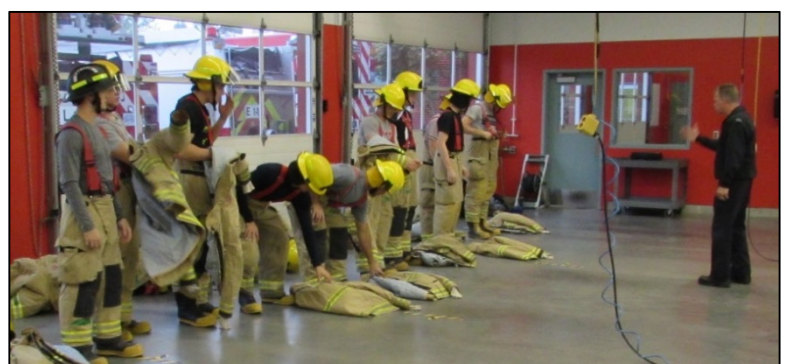
**Canada Day Pancake Breakfast**  
July 1, 2017

*Photo Courtesy of Cory Carruthers Photography*

**Scholarship  
Presentation  
Chilliwack Firefighters  
Charitable Society**



**Presentation to  
BC Burn Fund  
July 2017**



**Chilliwack Chiefs Team Building Day  
September 2017**