



Staff Report

Fire and Enforcement Services

Report To: Committee of the Whole
Meeting Date: April 3, 2017
Report Number: FAF.17.51
Subject: Fire Department 2016 Annual Report
Prepared by: Rob Collins, Fire Chief / Director of Enforcement Services

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report FAF.17.51, "The Blue Mountains Fire Department 2016 Annual Report," for information purposes.

B. Overview

This is an information report outlining Fire Department activities including call volumes, Training and Fire Prevention activities and an overview of the Emergency Management program.

C. Background

The Blue Mountains Fire Department prepares Annual Reports as previously requested and in a format approved by Council.

These Annual Reports summarize the actions and activities of the Fire Department in that year.

This Report addresses The Blue Mountains Fire Department Annual Report for 2016.

D. Analysis

E. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

Goal #4: Promote a Culture of Organizational and Operational Excellence

F. Environmental Impacts

N/A

G. Financial Impact

N/A

H. In consultation with

I. Attached

2016 Fire Department Annual Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Collins
Director of Enforcement Services

For more information, please contact:
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THE BLUE MOUNTAINS FIRE DEPARTMENT

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

The Vision of The Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Department is:

To provide the citizens of The Blue Mountains with pro-active, effective and efficient delivery of fire, rescue, public education and fire prevention services; through a unified forward thinking organization with good morale and with the highest standards of personnel safety, fairness and professionalism.





REPORT TO: Finance & Administration Committee
FROM: Rob Collins, Fire Chief
DATE:
SUBJECT: 2016 Annual Report

The Blue Mountains Fire Department

2016 Annual Report

This annual report is to provide information with regards to the operation and status of The Blue Mountains Fire Department for the year 2016

Highlights of 2016:

This past year saw a continuation in a couple of trends; low call volumes (definitely a good outcome) and high staff turnover (not such a good thing).

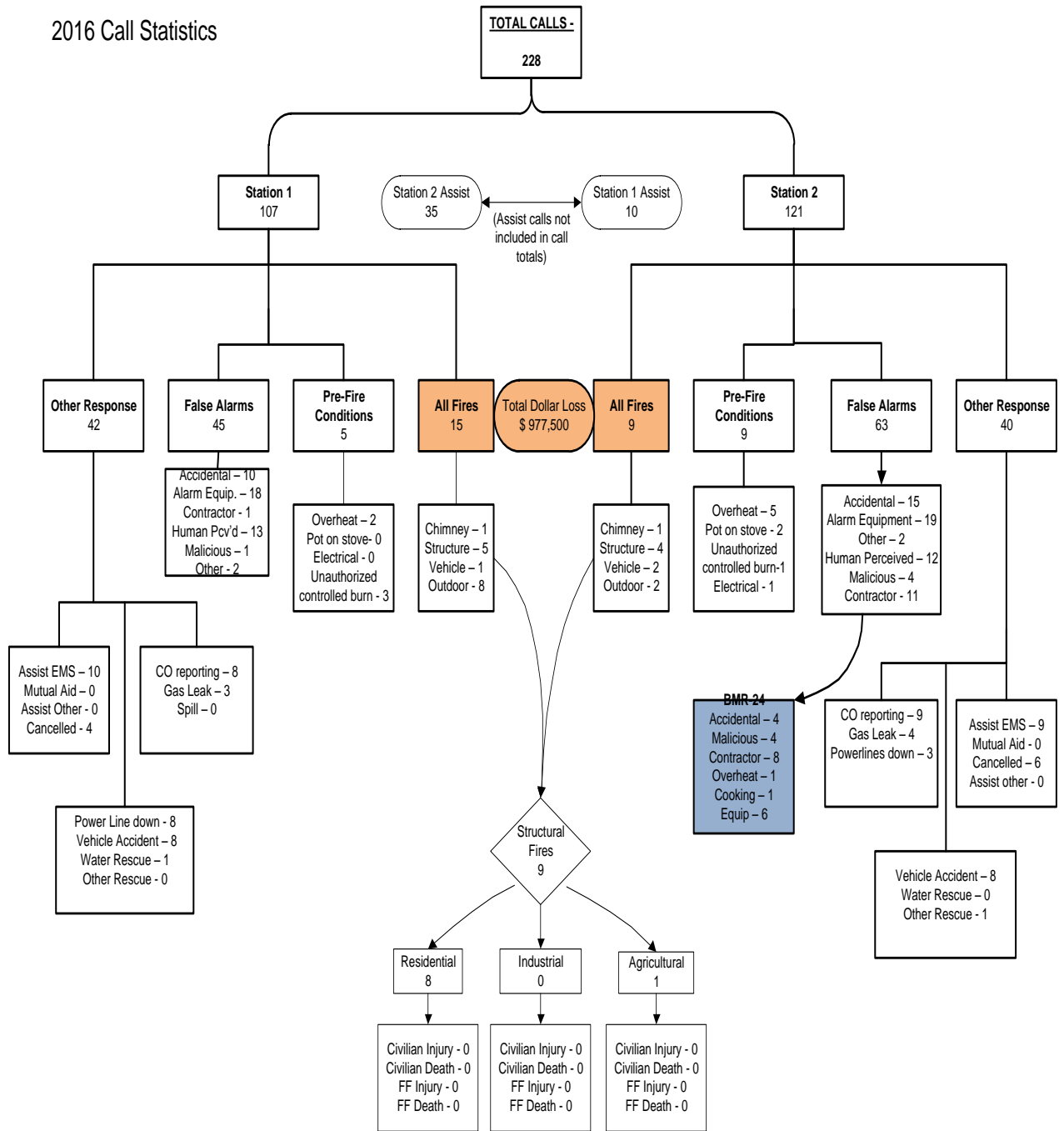
The trend of a small number of structural fires continued. The statistics to follow will show a total of nine structure fires in 2016, but only four of those were serious large-loss fires, including a barn and an unoccupied seasonal house. We can attribute the small number of large-loss fire incidents to our excellent fire prevention program.

The Fire Prevention program, in addition to our usually thorough inspection regimen, saw a number of new Public Education initiatives including an increased presence in the school, as well as new programs targeting the general public.

We took delivery of a new custom Fire Pumper which went into service at Station # 1. All personnel received training on the operation of the new truck and it went into front-line service in September.

A number of extremely qualified firefighters left us for full-time jobs in the GTA. While this experience is almost impossible to recover, we did bring on a new Recruit class of new volunteers. These dedicated individuals worked through the Recruit training program and were all able to graduate into the position of Probationary Firefighter. These new firefighters will continue to train and gain experience, and will allow our composite fire department to provide the same level of excellent service to our residents and visitors.

2016 Call Statistics



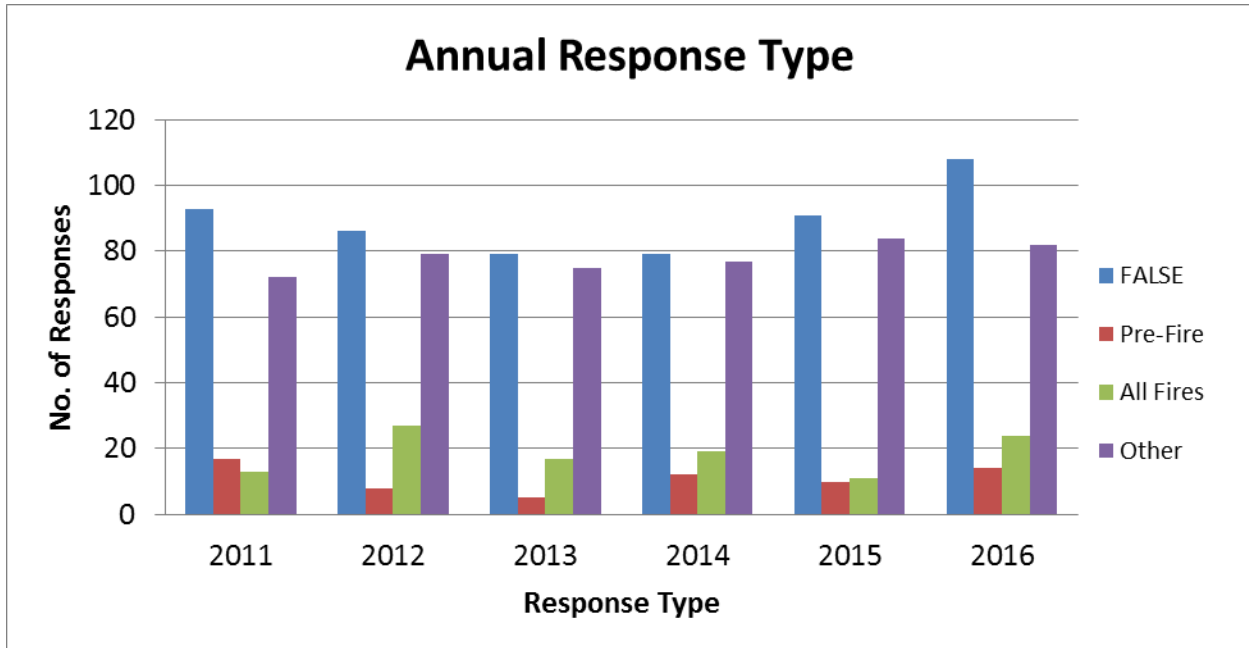
**YEARS OF SERVICE – HALL #1
Volunteer Firefighters
SUMMARY**

Years of Service	# of Firefighter
33 Years	1
30 Years	1
28 Years	1
26 Years	3
13 Years	1
11 Years	2
7 Years	3
5 Years	2
4 Years	2
2 Years	6
Total	22

**YEARS OF SERVICE – HALL #2
Volunteer Firefighters
SUMMARY**

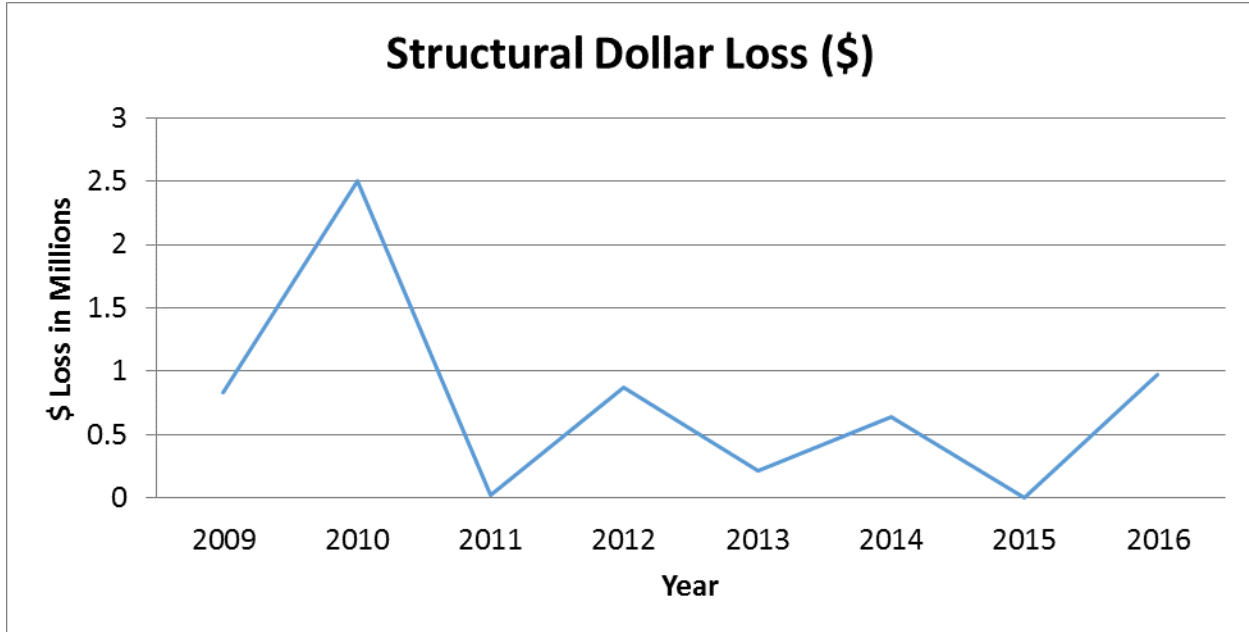
Years of Service	# of Firefighter
27 Years	1
17 Years	1
15 Years	2
9 Years	1
5 Years	2
2 Years	11
1 Year	5
TOTAL	23

**Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Dept.
Annual Response Type Comparison Chart
2016**



Responses to the 4 types/categories of incidents, continue to remain proportionally similar. An increase in false alarms is attributed to the Station 1 coverage area where those responses have increased by 180% over 2015. The majority of these responses have been to single family dwellings with security systems. The user fee by-law addressing fire department responses to false activations of fire alarm/security systems appears to be effective in owners repairing these systems, typically resulting in a one-time response. Visitors to our area reporting human perceived emergencies from cell phones continues to account for an increase in false alarms. Increased public awareness to carbon monoxide poisoning also resulted in an increase to carbon monoxide related incidents which are classified under “other”. An increase in responses to fires can be attributed to the hot, dry spring, summer and fall in 2016.

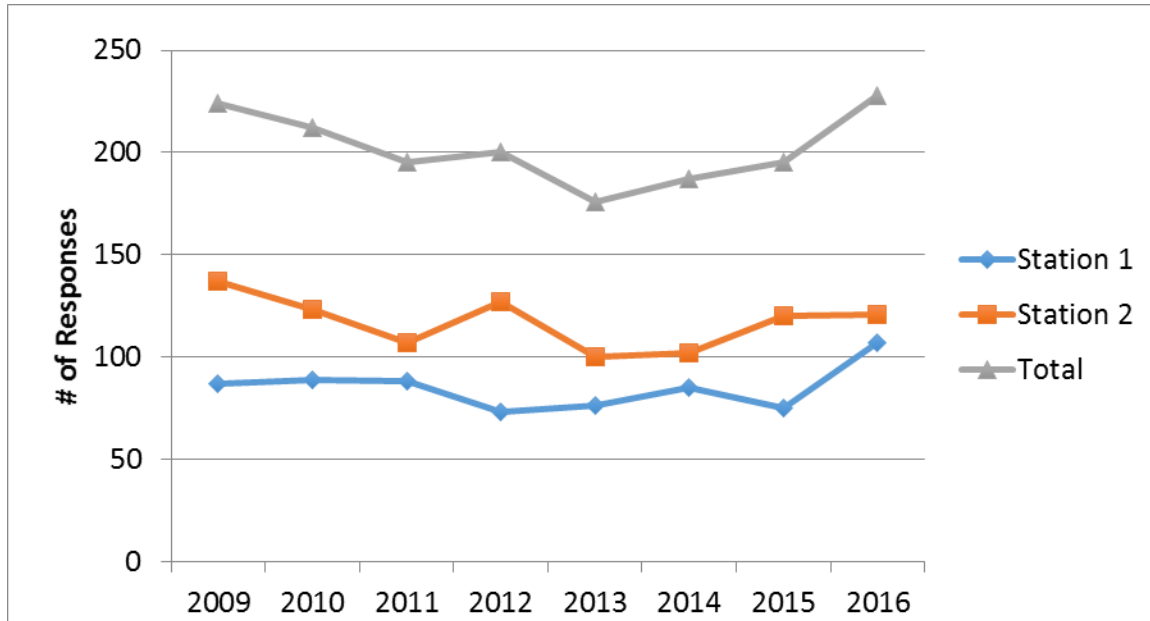
**Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Dept.
Annual Dollar Loss Comparison Chart
2016**



9 fires involving structures, structural components or contents were reported in 2016. A total of \$977,500 in loss was reported for these incidents:

Structure Type	Loss Type	Possible Cause	Dollar Loss
Single Family Dwelling	Total loss	Electrical	\$500,000
Single Family Dwelling	Total loss	Wood fired appliance venting	\$125,000
Agricultural (barn)	Total loss	Electrical	\$100,000
Single Family Dwelling	Contents	Unattended heat source	\$200,000
Single Family Dwelling	Deck	Unknown	\$1,000
Abandoned Building	Total loss	Unknown	\$0
Single Family Dwelling	Deck	Spontaneous	\$1,000
Single Family Dwelling	Contents	Combustibles to a heat source	\$500
Single Family Dwelling	Structural	Improperly installed heat source	\$50,000

**Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Dept.
Annual Response Comparison Chart
2016**



Both stations continue to respond to a proportionally similar number of calls per year. Station 1 had a 30% increase in responses over 2015 which can be attributed to an increasing population density and residential building stock in the western half of the Municipality.

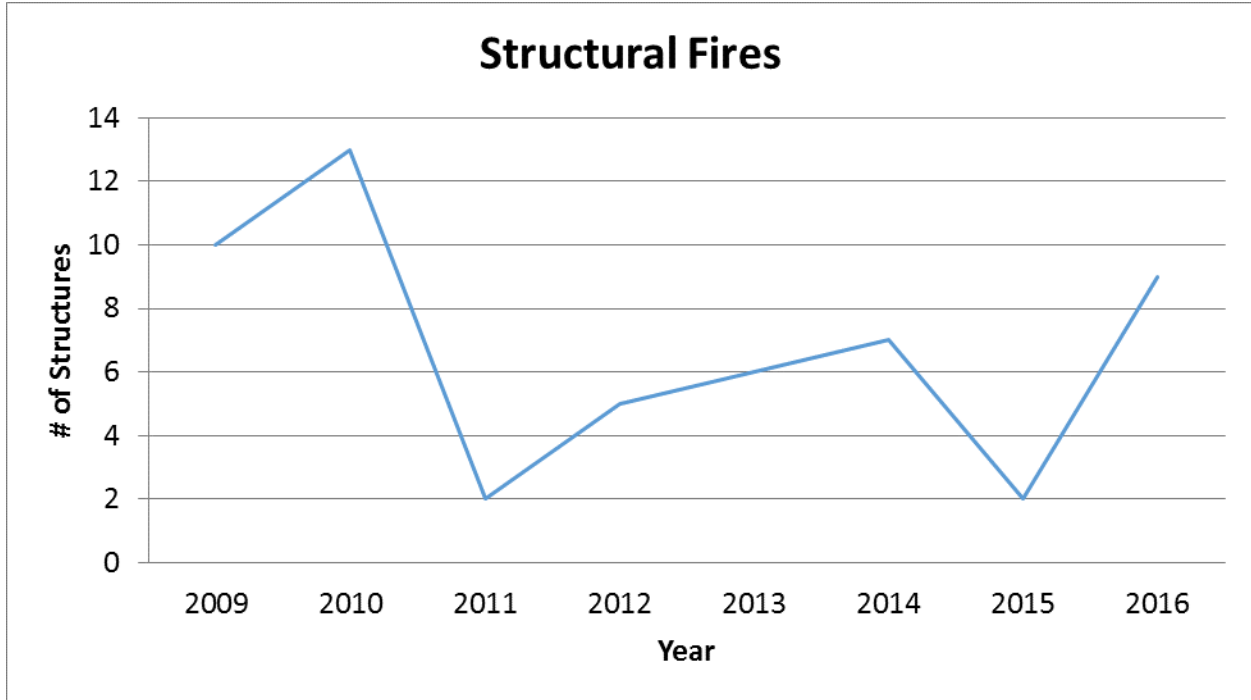
The frequency of responses remains relatively consistent throughout the year:

Season	Response Frequency (%)
Spring	25
Summer	28
Fall	28
Winter	19

The occurrence times remain consistent with previous years:

Day/Time	Occurrence Frequency (%)
Monday - Friday	66
Saturday/Sunday/Holidays	34
0000 – 0800 hours	20
0800 – 1600 hours	43
1600 – 2400 hours	37

**Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Dept.
Annual Structural Fire Comparison Chart
2016**



The Fire Department responded to 9 fires involving structures, structural components or contents, in 2016. The frequency of responses to these types of fires continues to be below the Provincial average.

**Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Department
Annual Report
Fire Prevention**

**Months January - December
Inspections**

Year 2016

Request	7
Complaint	
Institutional	4
Re - Inspections	193
Commercial	198
Commercial Residential	13
Industrial	36
Assembly	61
Residential	50
Tents	36
Display Fireworks	13
Public Amusement Area Fireworks	2
Outdoor Public Amusement Area Approved	10
Electrical Orders Issued	
Bunk house Inspections	51
Total Inspections	674

Fire & Life Safety Education

Focus Group	Topic	# of persons
July 1 st Village	Public Education	250
July 7 th South Base Lodge	Public Education	50
July 21 st South Base Lodge	Public Education	50
July 28 th South Base Lodge	Public Education	50
July 30 th Village	Public Education	250
Aug 6 th Village	Public Education	200
Sept 20 th BVCS	Colouring Contest	20
Sept 24 th Village	Public Education	350
Residential	Smoke Alarm Program	25
BVO	Fire Safety	20
Girl Guides	Extinguisher Training	8
Open House FPW	Prevention	250
Foodland	Prevention	30
		Total 1553

Fire Safety Plans

Plans Under Review	Buildings Inspected As Part of Review	Plans Approved	Plans Rejected
124		33	

Smoke Alarm Program

Dwellings Inspected	Deficiencies Identified
11	Yes and Corrected

Fire Code Enforcement

Smoke alarm tickets issued – Part 1	Smoke alarm infractions Issued – Part 3	Part 3 – Fire Code Violations Registered	Results
0	0	1	Conviction 2016-01-20 \$10000 Fine

Inspection Orders

Bunkhouse	3
Condominium Corporations	15
Boarding Rooming Lodging	4
Commercial	161
Industrial	3
Assembly	2
Residential	0

Prevention Highlights

- Ongoing annual inspections and re inspections completed by Keeling & Johnston.
- Successful Public Education events in Village core over the summer
- CFPO reviewing Fire Safety Plans and updating, waiting on documents from properties to reapprove existing plans
- Less re inspections attributed to compliance upon inspection or compliance on first re inspection

- **TRAINING**
- ***Annual Report***
- ***January – December 2016***
-
- **TRAINING STATS Annual Report – 2016 (In House)**

Station # 1&2	Station # 1&2	Station # 1&2	Station # 1&2
1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
712 hrs. (General)	835 hrs. (General)	712 hrs. (General)	648 hrs. (General)
0 hrs. (Recruit)	30 hrs. (Recruit)	96 hrs. (Recruit)	82 hrs. (Recruit)
			TOTAL TRAINING
			HOURS
			3115 Hrs.

- Continue with switch over to NFPA Firefighter I & II and Fire Officer #1 Curriculum
- The building of a computer based Fire Apparatus Pump Operations online course, to include PowerPoints, Video and online skills signoff tracking. To track both knowledge based testing as well as skills signoff to meet MOL/NFPA standards for the tracking of training and documentation.
- Ice Rescue re-cert training was conducted.
- 2016 Recruit training program began with 5 recruit firefighters for the Station #2 response area. This will bring the Station #2 volunteer members to full complement.
- Online records management continuing with all training records management now online.
- Online Pumper Operation course implemented with members from the previous 2015 recruit class completing the online component prior to beginning the practical hands on evolutions.
- TBMFD Rope Rescue Program re-certification was completed.
- TBMFD Marine Rescue Program re-certification was began and will run through the spring/summer 2016.
- Training Officer delivered three Redcross Standard First Aid courses to a total of 30 town staff members throughout the 2nd quarter.

- Skills performance demonstrations for the TBMFD Pumper Operation course implemented with members from the previous 2015 recruit class completing the practical hands on evolutions for signoff.
- The 2015 “Recruit” Class, now in the Probationary Firefighter role were tested for graduation to General Level status. 16 out of the 17 members graduated and are now General Level Firefighters. One member is away taking NFPA Firefighter I & II course at Texas Fire Academy and will be tested for graduation upon her return.
- The 2017 Recruit training program continued with Fire Ground Operations testing in Mid-4th quarter. 4 out of 5 recruits passed successfully and graduated from Recruits Awareness to Operations, now continuing as regular members of the platoon system for skills honing. The 5th member will return from F.E.S.T.T.I. GTAA Fire Training Academy in January and will be tested for graduation to Recruit Operations at that time.
- Ongoing skills development and testing continued in the Fourth Quarter.
- All Members completed an online liquid petroleum gas course.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT **2016 Annual Report**

We have completed the Annual Community “Essential” Level Program. This consists of 15 elements to be completed and sent in to Emergency Management Ontario. This Statement of Completion is to be in compliance with the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act and its associated Regulation 380/04.

The following are the 15 elements which are required to be completed annually:

1. CEMC designated
2. CEMC training completed
3. Community Emergency Management Program Committee established
4. Emergency Management Program Bylaw current
5. Hazard identification and risk assessment current
6. Emergency Response Plan reviewed and submitted to Emergency Management Ontario
7. Emergency Response Plan Bylaw current
8. Designated Emergency Operations Center
9. Emergency Operations Center communications equipment
10. Critical Infrastructure Inventory current
11. Required annual training for Community Control Group
12. Required annual emergency management exercise for Community Control Group
13. Designated Emergency Information Officer available
14. Public Education / Awareness Program delivered to residents
15. Review elements and submitted to Emergency Management Ontario

2016 Significant Events:

- All TBM emergency control group attended training in Owen Sound from EMO
- Presentation to new council on response plan and emergency management
- Attended Climate Change Conference in Barrie
- EMO requirement for CEMC to be certified in “note taking” presented information to Town emergency control group and alternates.
- Participated in Grey County Social Services Evacuation Centre exercise in Hanover
- Completed upgrades to Training room at Town Hall for utilization as the primary EOC in the event of an emergency
- Completed and submitted compliance documentation to EMO for year 2016