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STAFF REPORT: The Blue Mountains Fire Department



REPORT TO: Committee of the Whole
MEETING DATE: August 18, 2013
REPORT NO.: FD.14.3
SUBJECT: The Blue Mountains Fire
 Department Second Quarter
 Report April - June, 2014

PREPARED BY: Loriena Forsythe

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report FD.14.3 “The Blue Mountains Fire Department Second Quarter Report April - June, 2014” for information purposes.

B. Background

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

These Quarterly Reports reflect the actions and activities of the Fire Department in that quarter.

This Report addresses The Blue Mountains Fire Department Second Quarter Report April – June, 2014.

Fire Department staff recommend Council receive The Blue Mountains Fire Department Second Quarter Report April – June, 2014 for information purposes.

C. The Blue Mountains’ Strategic Plan

Town’s Strategic Plan Goal No. 6 “Providing a strong, well managed municipal government”.

D. Environmental Impacts

Training and emergency response will generate some greenhouse gas emissions from vehicle operation.

E. Financial Impact

Addressed in annual Department Budgets

F. In Consultation With

Blue Mountains Fire Department staff.

G. Attached

1. The Blue Mountains Fire Department Second Quarter Report April - June, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. Lake, Acting Fire Chief



THE BLUE MOUNTAINS FIRE DEPARTMENT

2014 2nd QUARTER REPORT

April – June 2014

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: A. J. Lake, Interim Acting Fire Chief
DATE: August 18, 2014
SUBJECT: 2nd Quarter Report – April – June 2014

The Blue Mountains Fire Department

Quarterly Report – April – June, 2014

This quarterly report is to provide information with regards to the operation and status of The Blue Mountains Fire Department for the 2nd quarter

Highlights of 2nd Quarter:

2014 2nd Quarter Highlights

- The department responded to a total of 51 incidents during this time period. Station 1 responded to 23 calls while station 2 responded to 28. The two stations responded to similar types of calls and station 2 remains to have a higher number of responses to false alarms.
- TBMFD provided Mutual Aid services to Clearview and Meaford on 2 occasions each, during this time period. The support provided was tanker shuttle for rural water supply.
- In recent years, the Blue Mountains Fire Department has worked with the owners and managers of Scott Mission located on Mission road and the 12th Sideroad to enhance the fire and life safety systems on this remote property used as a retreat for a wide demographic of their clients and staff. A monitored fire alarm system was installed to provide early warning for guests occupying the 2 buildings and also to expedite fire department notification, especially since the buildings are often unsupervised or unoccupied. Due to concerns for rapid fire spread and guest safety, a residential sprinkler system was also installed to contain a fire until the fire department could access the remote location. The sprinkler system

was also tied into the monitored fire alarm system. The TBMFD responded to a fire alarm at Scott Mission in May 2014. An electrical fire in the converted barn, had activated the fire alarm system as well as the sprinkler system. The sprinkler system had extinguished the fire. Although there was smoke and water damage, the building could be reoccupied within a few days. Without the enhancements it is expected that the structure would have been a total loss.

- We currently have 10 recruit and probationary fire fighters in training and responding to calls with restrictions.
- During the last quarter, 2 general level firefighters resigned due to family and career obligations.
- During the last quarter, 2 general level firefighters employed fulltime with other fire departments, have resigned due to pressure from their local unions and requirements of their collective agreements.
- Sufficient and qualified personnel responding to incidents in a timely fashion to the Craigeith (Station 2) coverage area, is once again a growing concern. Station 1 personnel and apparatus are providing support to Station 2 on a routine basis outside of normal business hours.
- There have been no discussions as of yet, between the Blue Mountains Professional Fire fighters Association, IAFF Local 4986 and the Town in regard to negotiating the first collective agreement.
- The radio communication system upgrades identified in Staff Report FD. 13.1 including repeaters and wireless link, were completed.
- The radio communications system antennae for the Craigeith area, suddenly failed in June, and was replaced.

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

Summary:

31 Years - 1
28 Years - 1
26 Years - 1
24 Years - 3
11 Years - 1
9 Years - 2
8 Years - 2
7 Years - 1
5 Years - 5
4 Years - 1
Probationary - 2
Recruits - 2

Total # of Firefighters – 22

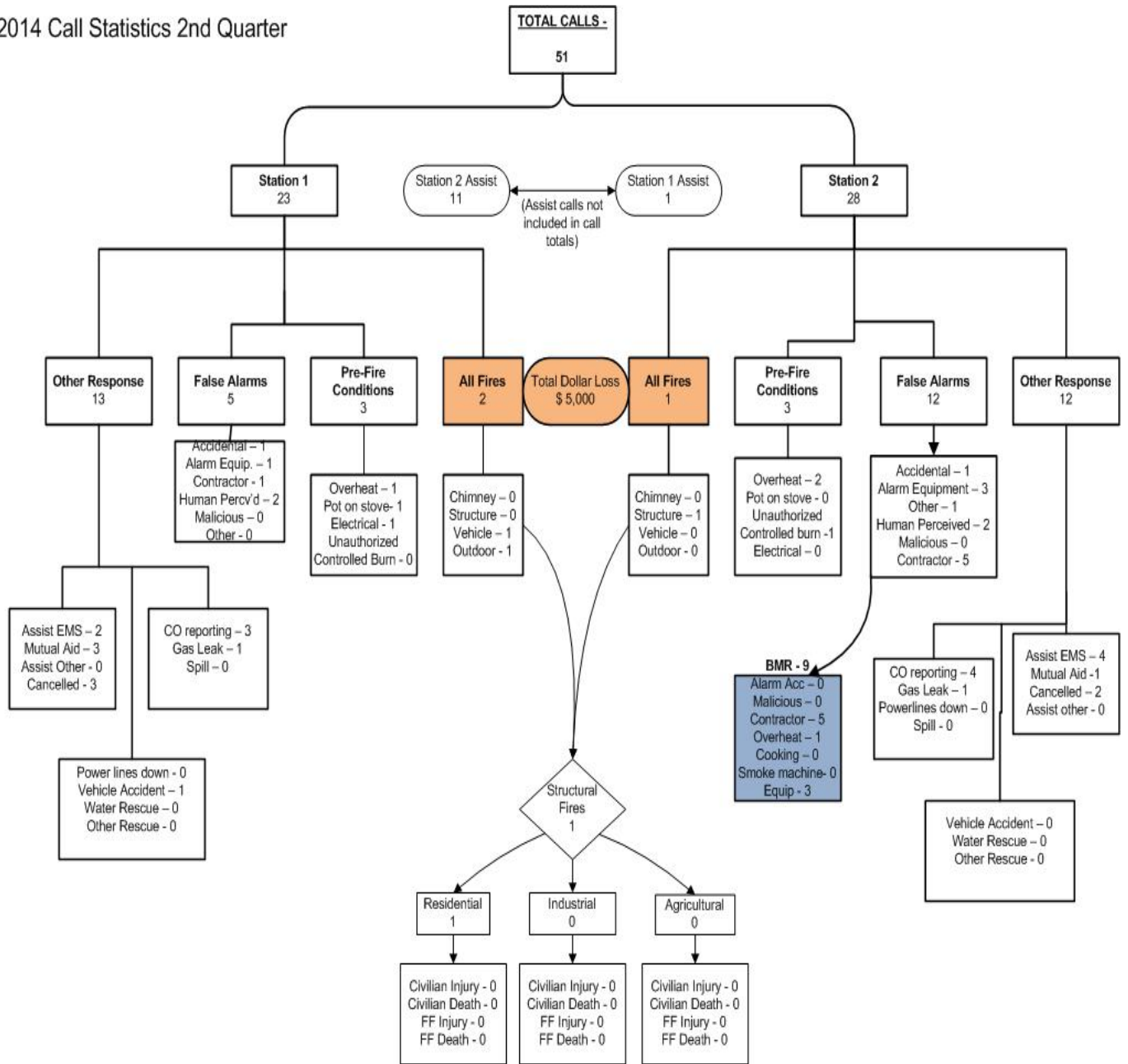
**YEARS OF SERVICE – HALL #2
Volunteer Firefighters**

Summary:

25 Years - 1
15 Years - 1
13 Years - 2
8 Years - 2
7 Years - 2
5 Years - 1
Probationary - 3
Recruits - 5

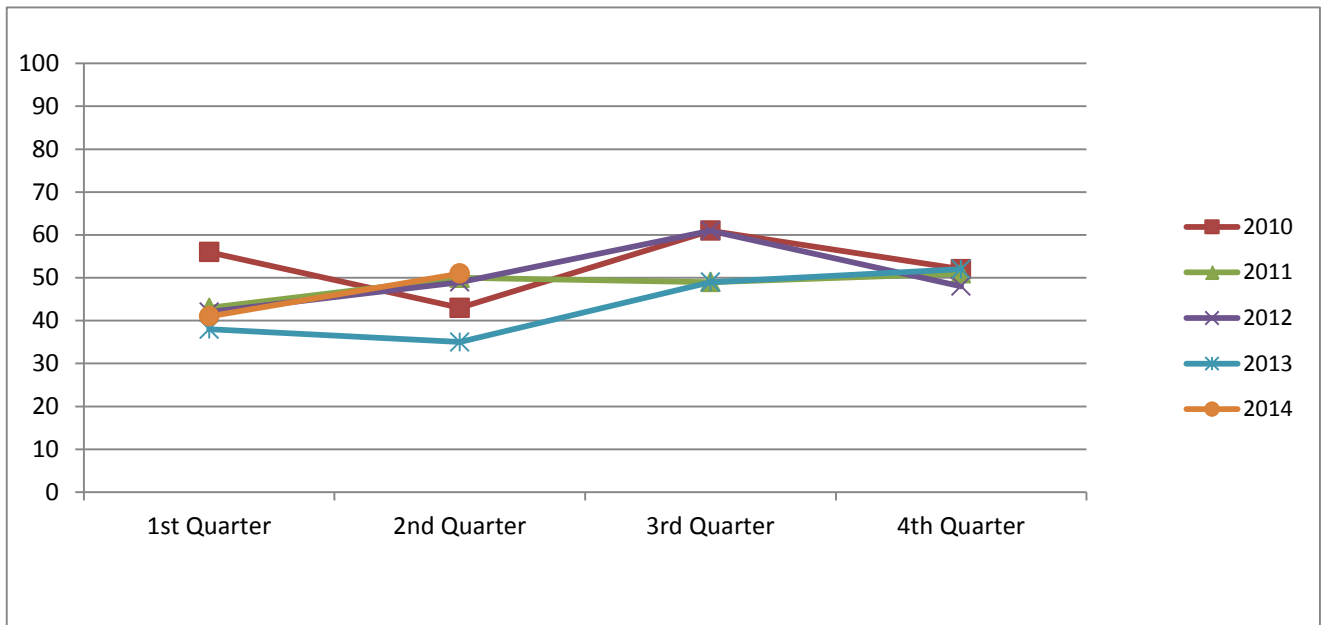
Total # of Firefighters – 17

2014 Call Statistics 2nd Quarter



**Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Department
Response Volume Comparison Chart
2nd Quarter
2014**

The following chart demonstrates total quarterly responses.



1st Quarter – the number of responses during this time period remain consistent

2nd Quarter – the number of responses during this time period remain consistent

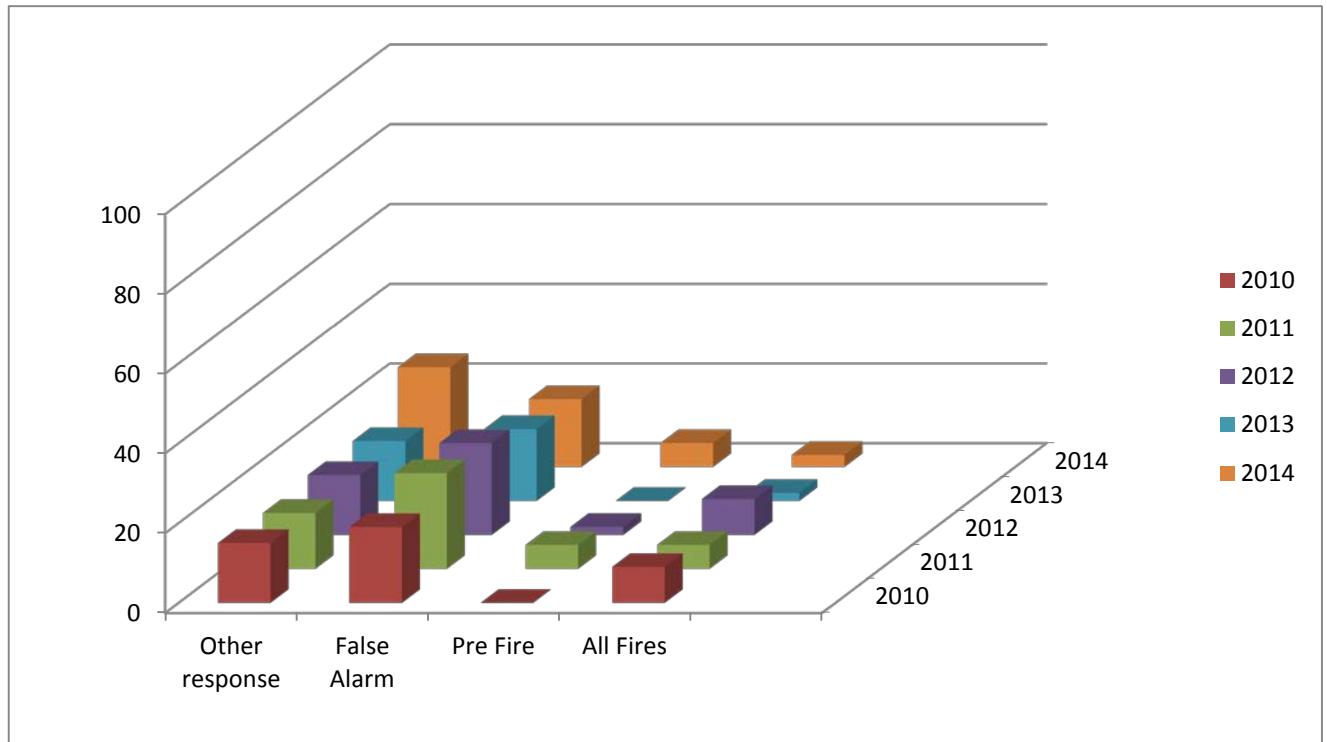
3rd Quarter –

4th Quarter –

**Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Dept.
Response Type Comparison Chart
2nd Quarter**

2014

The following chart demonstrates response type, as a percentage of the overall responses during the same time periods



Response types remained relatively consistent with the previous 2nd quarters. There is an increase to “other responses”.

These types of response types include:

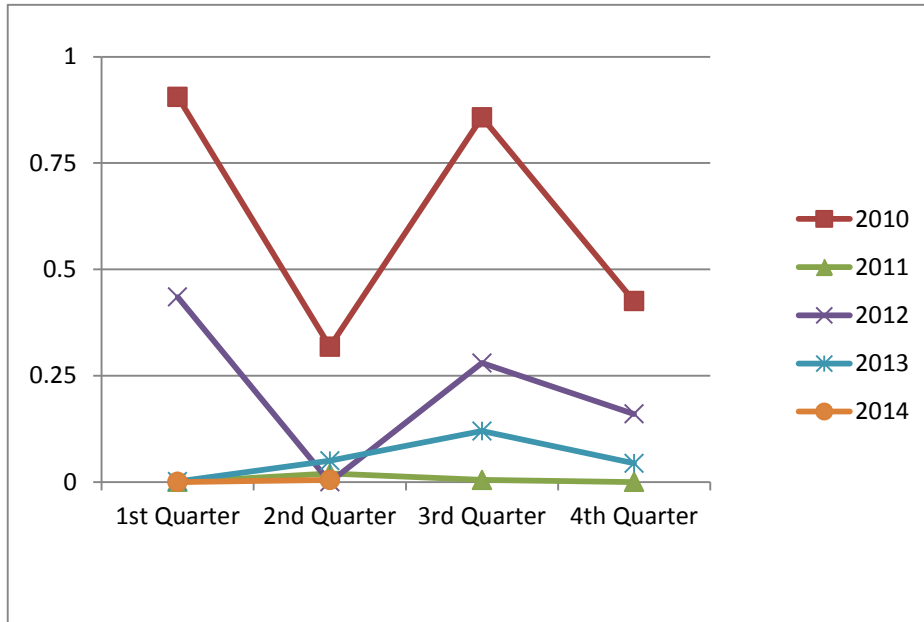
EMS assists that include possible technical assistance from the fire department in regard to remote rescues

Carbon Monoxide alarm responses due to the heightened awareness resulting from new legislations

Mutual aid to Clearview and Meaford for rural water supply

Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Department 2nd Quarter Dollar Loss Comparison Chart 2010 - 2014

The following chart demonstrates quarterly dollar loss comparisons in million dollars.



1st Quarter – zero dollar loss

2nd Quarter – this \$5,000 loss resulted from a fire in a structure used as a residential retreat. The electrical fire was extinguished by a sprinkler system prior to fire department arrival. The sprinkler system was recently installed to enhance the buildings fire safety features and occupant life safety.

3rd Quarter –

4th Quarter –

**Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Department
Apparatus Response Times
April – June 2014**

It is expected that the average response time for a fully staffed apparatus to leave the fire station is six minutes. A four minute drive time from the station averages at approximately 3.75 kilometres. Ten (10) minutes shall be used as a baseline to monitor average apparatus and personnel response times.

The following statistics indicate apparatus and personnel on scene within 10 minutes from the time of first page out.

The number of responses is based on responses to overheats, structure and outdoor fires, and alarms. This number does not include responses to ambulance assists, motor vehicle accidents.

	Station 1	Station 2	Average
# of responses	15	21	
Pump on Scene (%)	13 of 15 (87%)	8 of 21 (38%)	63%
10 personnel (%)	7 of 15 (47%)	2 of 21 (9%)	28%

Station 1 Responses

5 of the 14 responses were to areas 3.75 kilometres or more than a four minute drive time from station 1.

Station 2 Responses

2 of the 21 responses were to areas 3.75 kilometres or more than a four minute drive time from station 2.

Corrected Response Times within 3.75 Kilometres of the Station

	Station #1	Station #2	Average
# of Responses	10	19	
Pump on Scene	8 of 10 (80%)	8 of 19 (42%)	61%
10 personnel (%)	4 of 10 (40%)	1 of 19 (5%)	23%

❖ *Station #1 is paged out to assist Station #2 at all responses to Condo Corps and commercial properties adjacent to and including the Village at Blue. Station 1 has an approximate 16 – 18 minute response time to these areas. The average response by station 1 personnel to station 2 assists is thirteen (13).*

❖ *Reported structure fires continue to be automatic 2 station responses in both the station 1 & 2 areas.*

**Town of the Blue Mountains Fire Department
2nd Quarter
2014**

False Alarm By-law Letters Issued in accordance with 2009-72 Schedule D.7

R1	R2	R3	R4	C1	C2	C3	C4+
2	0	0	0	4	1	1	0

**Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Department
2nd Quarterly Report
Fire Prevention**

Months April - June

Year 2014

Inspections

Request	1
Complaint	2
Institutional	3
Re - Inspections	66
Commercial	45
Commercial Residential	6
Industrial	1
Assembly	5
Residential	1
Tents	11
Display Fireworks	4
Public Amusement Area Fireworks	0
Outdoor Public Amusement Area Approved	4
Electrical Orders Issued	0
Bunk house Inspections	53
<hr/>	
Total Inspections	202

Fire & Life Safety Education

Focus Group	Topic	# of persons
Farm Workers 2014-04-04	Fire Safety & Extinguishers	49
Town Hall Staff 2014-04-13	Fire Safety & Extinguishers	15
SBL Daycare 2014-06-18	Fire Safety & Extinguishers	19
		83

(SDR – stop drop and roll, s/a – smoke alarms)

Fire Safety Plans

Plans Under Review	Buildings Inspected As Part of Review	Plans Approved	Plans Rejected
1	1	1	0

Smoke Alarm Program

Dwellings Inspected	Deficiencies Identified
54	Corrected

Fire Code Enforcement

Smoke alarm tickets issued – Part 1	Smoke alarm Infractions Issued – Part 3	Part 3 – Fire Code Violations Registered	Results

Inspection Orders

Bunkhouse	0
Condominium Corporations	2
Boarding Rooming Lodging	1
Commercial	45
Industrial	1
Assembly	5
Residential	0

Prevention Highlights

- Ongoing annual inspections and re inspections completed by Keeling & Johnston.
- Short Term Accommodations bylaw passed by Council – Fees established
- 2 Personnel attended Vulnerable Occupancy seminar
- Ongoing Smoke Alarm program to continue – Condos Smoke alarm program ongoing with emphasis on condo corps replacing smokes as part of common element and Life safety contractors testing door closures for operation while in suites.

TRAINING
2nd Quarter Report
April – June 2014
TRAINING STATS 2nd QUARTER – 2014 (In House)

APRIL 2014		MAY 2014		JUNE 2014	
Station # 1	Station # 2	Station # 1	Station # 2	Station # 1	Station # 2
Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours
94 hrs	76 hrs	109 hrs	85 hrs	128 hrs	82 hrs
				Total Hours:	574 hrs

In House training takes place every Monday night (minus statutory holidays) throughout the year.

General Level Firefighter Training

TOPIC	NUMBER OF HOURS
Truck / SCBA / PPE (Monthly)	120 hrs
High Angle Rescue	146 hrs
AODA Training	58 hrs
Practical Scenario Based Training (Donated House)	194 hrs
Grass Fire	56hrs
TOTAL TRAINING HOURS	574 Hours

***NOTE: Within each Monday night practice hours, Officers and veteran firefighters were tasked with Recruit/Probationary firefighter skills development throughout April - June in coordination with the Recruit Training Program.**

***NOTE: With respect to the scenario based training hours, multiple firefighter skills were practiced. The following are some but not all of the skills training that took place:**

1. Zero visibility Search and Rescue
2. Firefighter Survival Techniques
3. Ventilation
4. Fire Suppression/Use of Hoses and Appliances
5. Ventilation Techniques
6. Ladders
7. Building construction/Size up
8. Aerial use.....etc

Ontario Fire College Courses – April - June 2014

Firefighters	Ontario Fire College Course	Number of Days
3	Online Legislation	Online
1	NFPA 1021 Fire Officer III	10 Days
2	NFPA 1001 Firefighter I Part "A"	10 Days
1	NFPA 1031 Inspector Gap	Online
Total Days at the Ontario Fire College		20 Days

Training Continued...

- All TBMFD Certified Ontario Fire College Trainer Facilitator's attended upgrade course to NFPA Skills Evaluators for new standardized Ontario Fire College Curriculum.
- Recruit fire ground operational skills training continuing throughout the 2nd quarter.
- Continue with switch over to NFPA Firefighter I & II Curriculum
- Updating and moving towards NFPA Specialized Rescue Curriculum.
- Focus put on Rope Rescue Training Program
- Midweek training offered to all firefighters

Emergency Management 2nd Quarter Report

2nd Quarter – April – June, 2014

- Revised Town Emergency Response Plan with Contact information.
- Emergency Management Ontario released a revised copy of the Community Emergency Handbook. They also stated changes coming to the 2014 compliance guidelines with the act; at this current time the changes have not been released to the municipalities.
- Attend Town organized Public Works Day with Emergency Preparedness information
- Attend Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs Conference Trade Show for information.
- Attend meeting with Environmental Services water department staff to coordinate mock emergency training scenario and rescue evolution.
- Sent out correspondence to Private Ski Clubs to update Annex “H” of the Response Plan.