



City of Richmond




Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** August 29, 2012
From: John McGowan **File:** 09-5000-01/2012-Vol
Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue 01
Re: Richmond Fire-Rescue – June 2012 Activity Report

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity (dated August 29, 2012, from the Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue) be received for information.

John McGowan
Fire Chief
(604-303-2734)

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
 Paul Lowe for Philip Carls	
REVIEWED BY SMT SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 
REVIEWED BY CAO	INITIALS: 

Staff Report

Origin

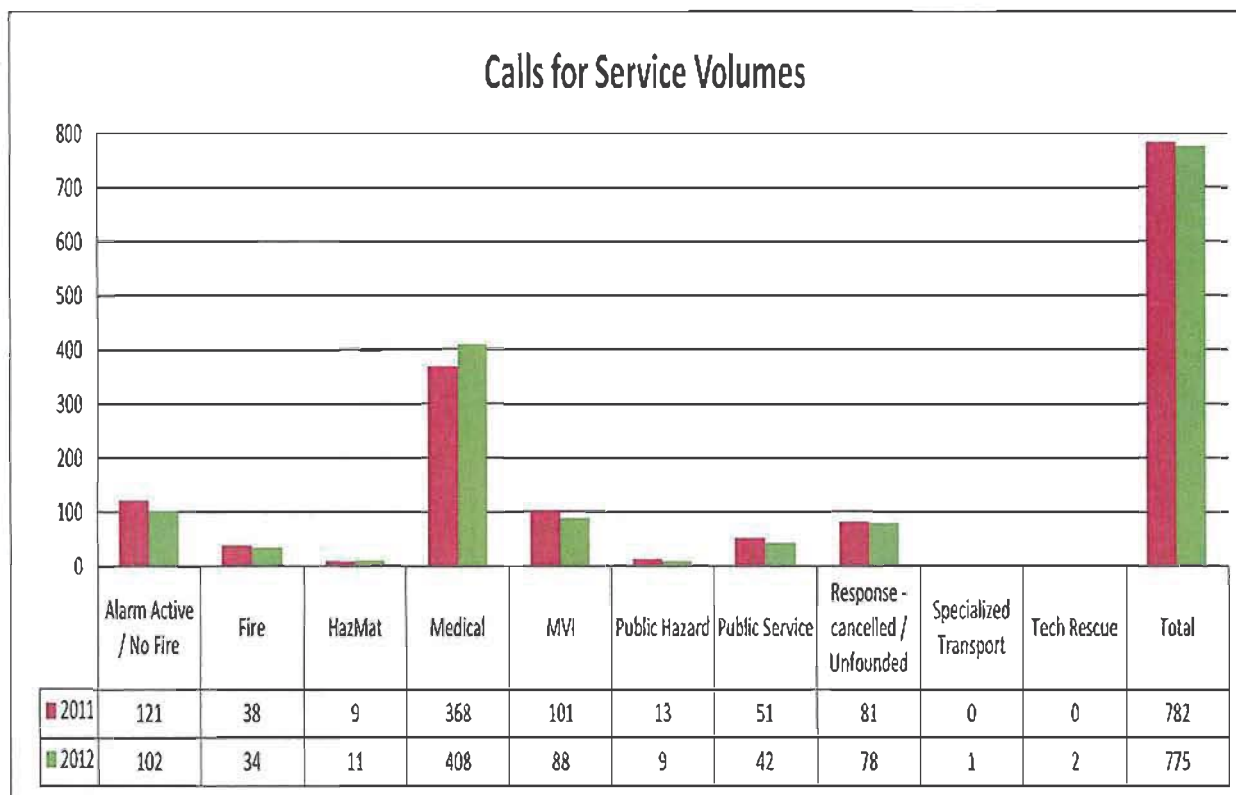
Fire-Rescue is committed to open and transparent reporting on its performance and progress. Monthly reports provide Council with current information on Richmond Fire-Rescue's activities.

Analysis

Fire-Rescue's report for June 2012 is set out below.

Suppression Activity

The following is a month to month comparison chart on the number of incidents that have occurred for the years 2011 and 2012. For June 2012, there were a total of 775 incidents compared to 782 in 2011.



Call Type Legend:

Alarm Active/No Fire includes: accidental, malicious, equipment malfunctions

HazMat includes fuel or vapour: spills, leaks, or containment

Medical includes: cardiac arrest, emergency response, home or industrial accidents

Public Hazard includes: aircraft emergency, bomb removal standby, object removal, or power lines down

Public Service includes: assisting public, ambulance or police, locked in/out, special events, trapped in elevator, water removal

The month of June 2012 saw a decrease in emergency response of 0.9% over the same period in 2011.

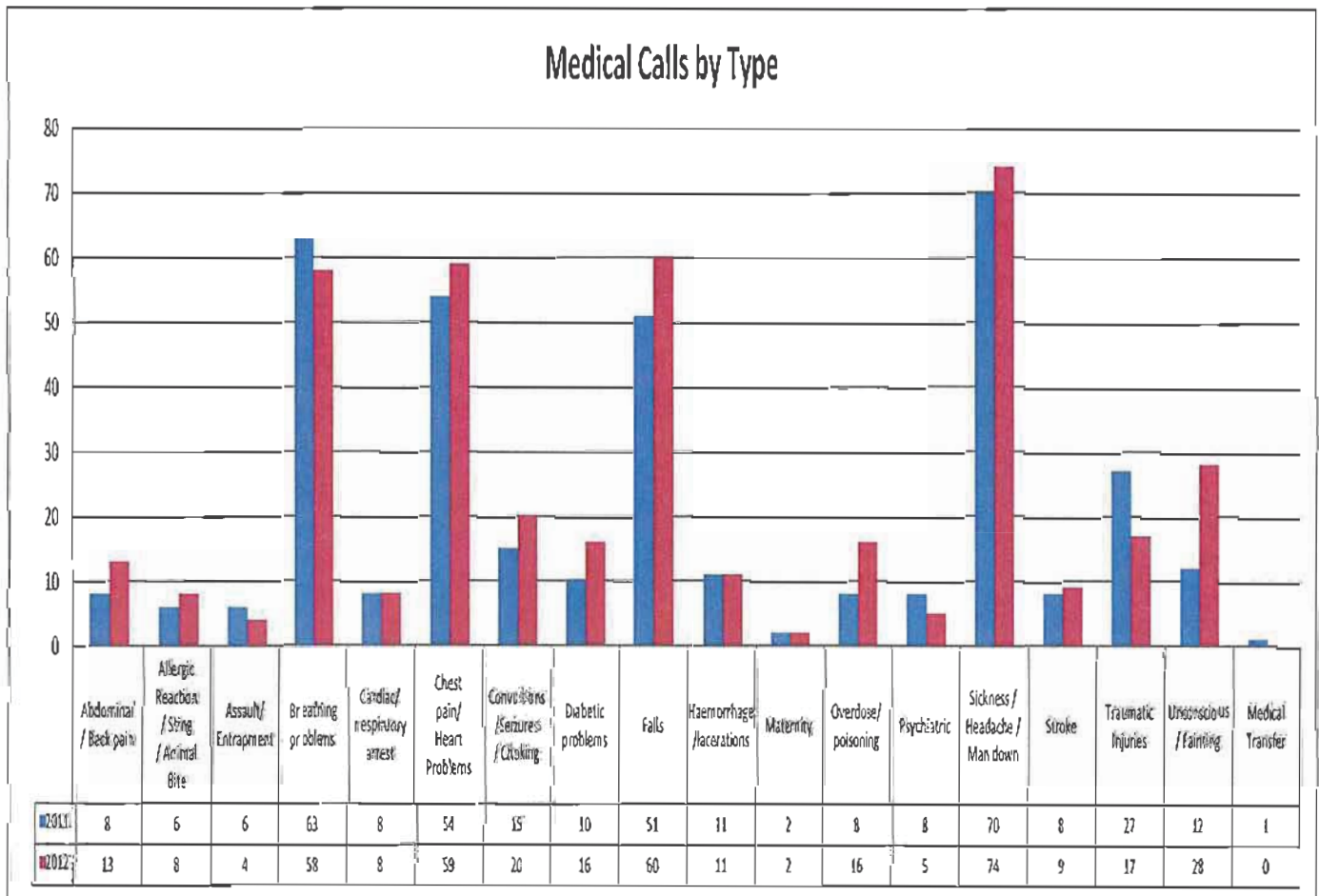
Hazmat

HazMat Calls By Type – June	
HazMat Calls	Details
Natural Gas/Propane Leaks (small)	6
Fuel Containment	3
Misc. (empty containers to unknown powder)	2
Total	11

All of the hazmat calls were quickly mitigated and did not require any long-term hazmat team deployment.

First Responder Totals

A detailed breakdown of the medical calls for June 2011 and 2012 by sub-type is set out in the following chart and table. The medical calls make up 52.6% of total calls for RFR. In June 2012 there was an increase in medical calls of 10.9% over the same period in 2011.



Incidents

Notable emergency incidents, which involved RFR for June 2012, were:

Fires – Residential / Commercial / Outdoor

In June, RFR crews responded to 34 fire calls including: a fire in the eaves at the rear of a home on Chapmond Street in which the quick knock down by the crew saved a new home under construction; a vehicle fire in an apartment complex; a fire caused by an overloaded electrical circuit in a unit on Bay View Street and a kitchen fire where the occupants were home.

Other incidents included: a small beach fire on the gravel road along the Dyke east of Williams Road; a shrub fire on Cook Road and a rubbish fire on Diamond Road.

Medical Events

RFR crews responded to 408 medical calls in June. Crews regularly respond to medical calls where CPR skills are required and were called to two separate incidents where a patient's pulse was restored.

Water Rescue

Crews attended 2 water rescue incidents, one of which being a boat which had crashed into the Dinsmore Bridge. No injuries occurred and the vessel was safely towed away by Coast Guard. This was a coordinated response with RCMP, Coast Guard and BCAS.

HazMat

During June RFR crews responded to 11 HazMat calls, including a call to a residence on Springfield Drive with a body found inside nearby to white powder. It was determined that the substance found was common household dust and the person had died from natural causes. This incident was a coordinated response with BCAS and RCMP.

Community Response

The estimated building loss for June 2012 was \$17,850 and estimated content loss was \$1,050, for a total estimated loss of \$18,900. The total estimated building value at risk was \$53,469,000 and the total estimated value preserved was \$53,450,100. The total estimated value protected was 99%.

Fire Calls By Type and Loss Estimates – June						
Incident Type Breakdown	Call Volume	Estimated Building Value \$	Estimated Building Loss \$	Estimated Content Value \$	Estimated Content Loss \$	Estimated Total Value Preserved \$
Residential:						
- Single-family	5	1,750,000	13,000	125,000	1,000	1,861,000
- Multi-family	3	38,400,000	150	13,100,000	50	51,499,800
Fire structure total:	8					
Commercial/Industrial	2	1,000	1,000	0	0	0
Fire – Outdoor	22	43,000	2,700	0	0	40,300
Vehicle	2	50,000	1,000	0	0	49,000
Totals*	34	40,244,000	17,850	13,225,000	1,050	53,450,100

*The dollar losses shown in this table are preliminary estimates. They are derived from Fire's record management system and are subject to change due to delays in reporting and confirmation of actual losses from private insurance agencies (as available).

Fire Prevention

The total fire investigation statistics for June 2012 are listed below:

Total Fire Investigation Statistics - June			
	Suspicious (No further investigation required)	Accidental	Undetermined
Residential - Single-family	2	3	0
Residential - Multi-family	0	3	0
Commercial/Industrial	1	1	0
Fire – Outdoor	6	13	3
Vehicle	1	1	0
Totals	10	21	3

Training and Education

RFR training staff facilitated the ongoing development program for RFR's current recruit firefighters. The performance partnership program has been modified to allow for more timely reporting from the responsible company officers, allowing training officers to deliver individual learning plans in a faster and more responsive manner. Training staff are facilitating the delivery of the final phase of learning and training to the cohort in preparation for the final, end of probation evaluations, scheduled for the end of summer 2012.

Deputy Chief of Administration and Technology and two Acting Training Officers delivered a morning learning session to the assembled BC Fire Training Officers' Association during the recent BC Fire Services Expo held in Richmond. The main focus of the session was RFR's recruit development program from first day of reception through to completion of the one-year probationary evaluations. The session was well received and many fire departments have sought additional information from RFR to better understand the use of personal learning plans as well as key performance indicators and the use of applied personal behavioural typology in delivering individualized sessions to staff.

RFR training staff worked with the representatives from LaFarge and Trimac Cement management to secure the training site and begin using the tarmac training site for the Emergency Vehicle Driving driver-training program. The training team is using the current time period to rollout a new dynamic in Emergency Vehicle Operator training, and the LaFarge site practical sessions will support this initiative.

Training staff coordinated, managed and delivered on an update to 185 suppression staff on the new Paratech Highway Stabilization kit that RFR now use. This equipment is used in stabilizing vehicles involved in high-speed collisions to ensure first responder safety.

Community Relations / Public Education

Richmond Fire-Rescue participated in numerous events and activities for public education during June 2012. Some of the events attended by RFR crews and Prevention Officers were as follows:

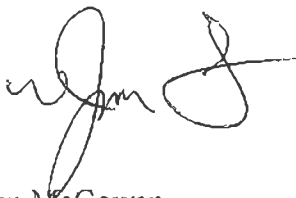
- 27 car seat inspections were carried out in June at No 1 Hall with the Fire and Life Safety Educator in attendance.
- Tour of #6 Fire Hall was provided to South Arm Out of School.
- Pumper and educational visits carried out with various schools groups, including: The Data Group, Fraserwood Way where crews observed corporate fire drill; William Bridge Elementary School; Saviour Christian Preschool; Thompson Community picnic; Talmey Elementary Parade; Burkeville Daze; River Rock staff picnic at London Farm Hamilton Movie Night.
- Tim Horton's Camp Day – Halls #6 and #2, serving public at Ironwood location.
- Attendance at the Public Works Open house event.
- Old Navy Safety event attendance.
- LaFarge Community Health and Safety event.
- BC Conference: Fire Chiefs, Training Officers, Emergency Vehicle Technicians.
- Bullhead Derby.
- IAFF Western Conference (Fire Chief & Deputy Chiefs).
- Tall Ship Event. Supported by all shifts.
- South Arm Out Of School Camp.

Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

Richmond Fire-Rescue staff continue to strive towards protecting and enhancing the City's liveability through service excellence in prevention, education and emergency response through coordinated team efforts with City departments and community partners.



John McGowan
Fire Chief
(604-303-2734)

JM:js



City of Richmond

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REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER <i>Done work for Phyllis Gately</i>	
REVIEWED BY SMT SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: <i>MG</i>
REVIEWED BY CAO	INITIALS: <i>ES</i>

Staff Report

Origin

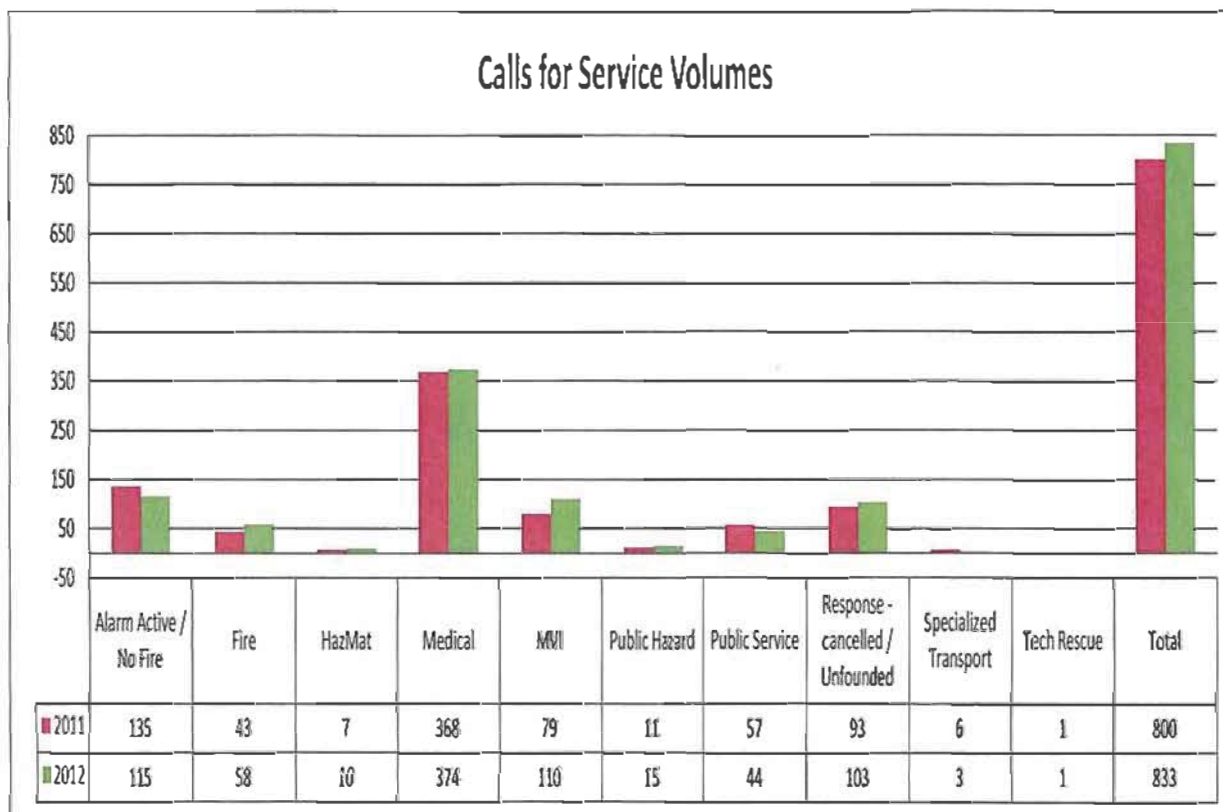
Fire-Rescue is committed to open and transparent reporting on its performance and progress. Monthly reports provide Council with current information on Richmond Fire-Rescue’s activities.

Analysis

Fire-Rescue’s report for July 2012 is set out below.

Suppression Activity

The following is a month to month comparison chart on the number of incidents that have occurred for the years 2011 and 2012. For July 2012, there were a total of 833 incidents compared to 800 in 2011.



Call Type Legend:
Alarm Active/No Fire includes: accidental, malicious, equipment malfunctions
HazMat includes fuel or vapour: spills, leaks, or containment
Medical includes: cardiac arrest, emergency response, home or industrial accidents
Public Hazard includes: aircraft emergency, bomb removal standby, object removal, or power lines down
Public Service includes: assisting public, ambulance or police, locked in/out, special events, trapped in elevator, water removal

The month of July 2012 saw an increase in emergency response of 4.1% over the same period in 2011. Call volumes fluctuate from year to year and can be influenced by many variables.

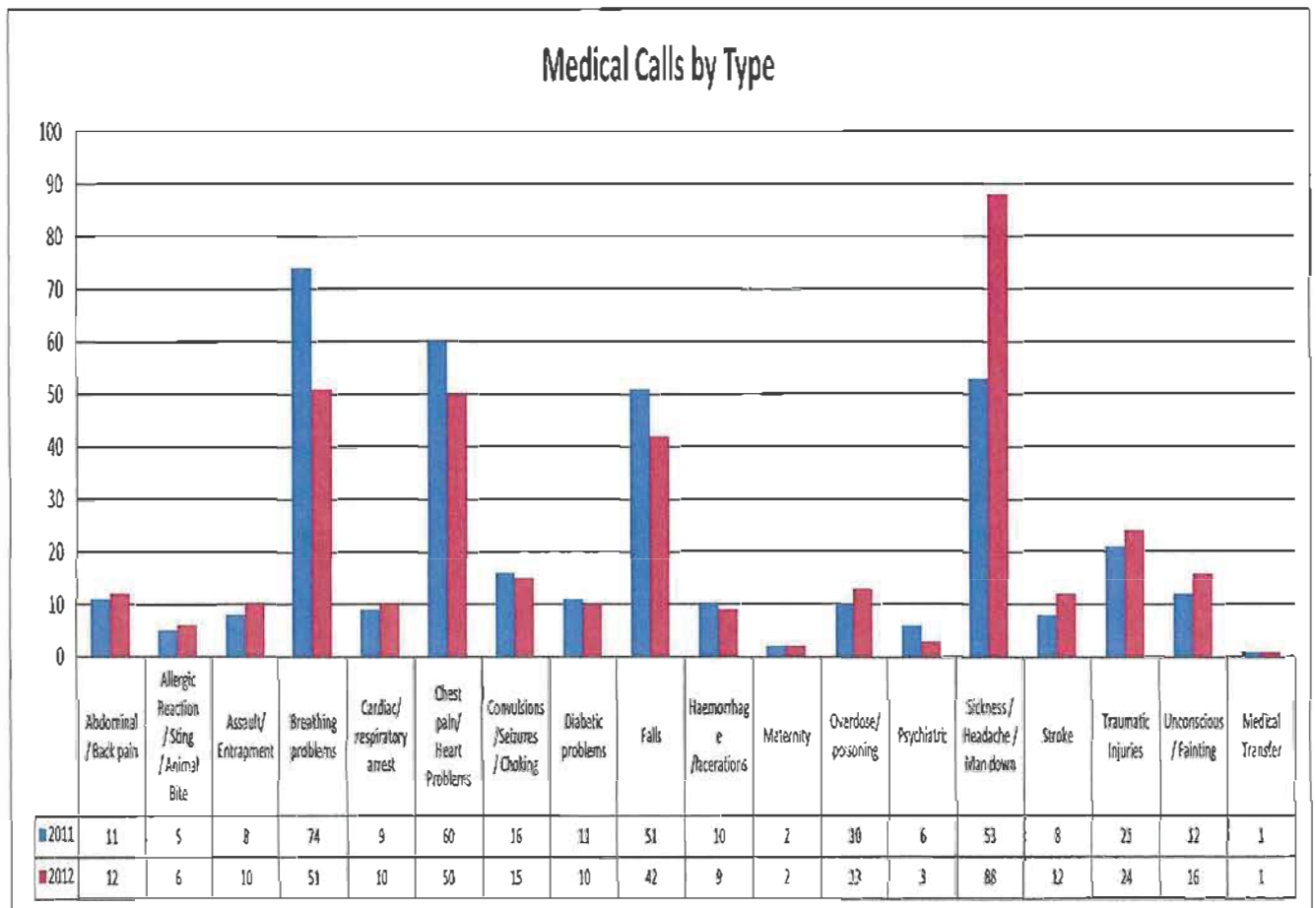
Hazmat

HazMat Calls By Type – July	
HazMat Calls	Details
Natural Gas/Propane Leaks (small)	5
Fuel Containment	2
Misc. (empty containers to unknown powder)	2
Explosives	1
Total	10

All of the hazmat calls were relatively minor and quickly mitigated and did not require any long-term hazmat team deployment.

First Responder Totals

A detailed breakdown of the medical calls for July 2011 and 2012 by sub-type is set out in the following chart and table. The medical calls make up 44.9% of total calls for RFR. In July 2012 there was an increase in medical calls of 1.6% over the same period in 2011.



Incidents

Notable emergency incidents, which involved RFR for July 2012, were:

Fires – Residential / Commercial / Outdoor

In July RFR crews responded to 58 fire calls including: a house fire on Francis Road that damaged two other homes; an apartment fire; stove fire in Mortfield Road; an electrical vault fire on No 3 Road; a lawn mower fire on Cameron Drive; a forklift explosion in a warehouse; two separate incidents of electrical fires and a balcony fire on Cooney Road which had been suppressed by the sprinkler system. Evidence at the scene was protected for Fire Prevention Officer's investigation.

RFR regularly attend to medical assignments and work closely with BCAS. During the month of July RFR responded to a fully involved garage fire which had spread to a hedge and telephone pole and in which one person was badly burnt and a kitchen fire at which three occupants from the home were in need of treatment for smoke inhalation, two of which were children.

Crews responded to other reports including several incidents of bark mulch fire, rubbish fire and hedge/brush fires.

Medical Events

RFR crews attended a total of 374 medical events in July. RFR crew regularly attend to medical assignments including social issues. In July RFR crews, for example, attended separate medical calls for an assault on Sexsmith Road and a stabbing of a 16 year old male at Park Road.

HazMat

During July RFR crews responded to a total of 10 HazMat calls, including a report of an ammonia leak on River Road. On arrival crews performed a full check of the premises and found no leak. The plant owner reported that there had been a power failure which may have caused the alarm.

RFR responded to an overturned tanker truck on Airport Road. The truck was leaking jet fuel from a vent pipe which was being caught by a drip pan. Crews worked with vehicle owner and YVR staff in a coordinated effort to mitigate the incident.

RFR crews also responded to an incident where wires appeared to have been ripped down from a hydro pole on Steveston Highway. Wires were secured and resident informed.

Community Response

The estimated building loss for July 2012 was \$1,665,450 and estimated content loss was \$294,450, for a total estimated loss of \$1,959,900. The total estimated building and content value at risk was \$93,334,950 and the total estimated value preserved was \$91,325,050. The total estimated value protected was 98%.

Fire Calls By Type and Loss Estimates – July						
Incident Type Breakdown	Call Volume	Estimated Building Value \$	Estimated Building Loss \$	Estimated Content Value \$	Estimated Content Loss \$	Estimated Total Value Preserved \$
Residential:						
- Single-family	6	2,532,000	710,450	967,800	292,000	2,497,350
- Multi-family	5	33,300,800	32,100	124,000	2,000	33,390,300
Fire structure total:	11					
Commercial/Industrial	5	53,010,000	20,000	1,250,000	100	54,239,900
Fire – Outdoor	39	1,000,000	2,500	0	0	997,500
Vehicle	3	1,100,000	900,000	350	350	200,000
Totals*	58	90,942,800	1,665,450	2,392,150	294,450	91,325,050

*The dollar losses shown in this table are preliminary estimates. They are derived from Fire's record management system and are subject to change due to delays in reporting and confirmation of actual losses from private insurance agencies (as available).

Fire Prevention

The total fire investigation statistics for July 2012 are listed below:

Total Fire Investigation Statistics - July			
	Suspicious (No further investigation required)	Accidental	Undetermined
Residential - Single-family	1	5	0
Residential - Multi-family	0	5	0
Commercial/Industrial	1	4	0
Fire – Outdoor	2	25	11
Vehicle	0	3	0
Totals	5	42	11

Training and Education

Throughout the month of July 2012, RFR's training team led several new initiatives, as well as continued to support the management of regular training within RFR's current training plan.

RFR Training staff facilitated the delivery of practical and theory swift water rescue refresher training to all RFR technicians on-shift, on-duty.

Officer development training was coordinated for the ongoing performance management and associated skills for the officers on all shifts.

RFR training staff implemented a trial of the Electronic Maintenance-Drill reporting program, and trained all C-Shift officers on-duty to begin testing the program. This program records all crew activity replacing manual reports and provides a computerized record of all crew activity.

The delivery of theory knowledge and exams for 6 members currently taking the Emergency Vehicle Operator (EVO) 1 and 2 programs was facilitated by RFR training staff including creating lesson plans for upcoming Coaching Emergency Vehicle Operators (CEVO) 3 Program in partnership with the driving instructor at Public Works.

Community Relations / Public Education

Richmond Fire-Rescue participated in numerous events and activities for public education during July 2012. Some of the events attended by RFR crew and Prevention Officers were as follows:

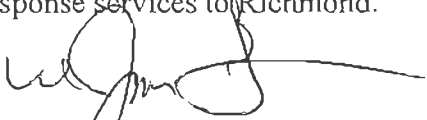
- 29 car seat inspections were carried out in July at No 1 Hall with the Fire and Life Safety Educator in attendance.
- Tour of #1 Fire Hall was provided to Richmond Multicultural Community Services (RMCS) with approximately 30 children in attendance.
- Pumper and educational visits carried out with various schools groups, including: Rally RAI Memorial Touch Football Tournament, Richmond Family Place Bridging Program, Summer Fun Nights – Community Fundraising
- ICS Courier Services Annual Fire Drill
- Steveston Salmon Festival and parade attended by Fire Chief, Fire and Life Safety Educator, Battalion Chief, IAFF, RFR vehicle and crew and volunteer staff. 145 children and 4 adults participated in RFR activity course.
- Ship to Shore Festival attendance.
- BC Firefighters' Association Burn Camp. Escort provided at YVR.

Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

Richmond Fire-Rescue continues to strive towards being a fire department that delivers services and programs through an approach that balances prevention, education and emergency response. This direction is based on the belief that prevention, education and emergency response programs must be well established and integrated to have a positive impact on community safety along with the continued delivery and advancement of its core 911 emergency fire and rescue response services to Richmond.



John McGowan
Fire Chief
(604-303-2734)

JM:js

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