



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** December 22, 2015
From: Tim Wilkinson **File:** 09-5000-01/2015-Vol
Acting Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue 01
Re: **Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report - November 2015**

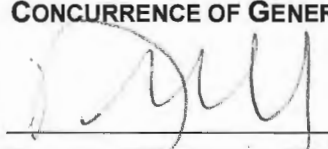
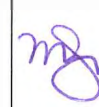
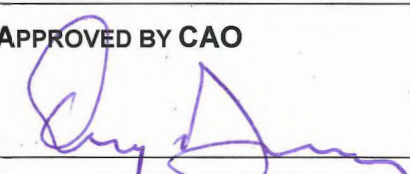
Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report - November 2015," dated December 22, 2015 from the Acting Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue, be received for information.



Tim Wilkinson
Acting Fire Chief
(604-303-2701)

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 
APPROVED BY CAO 	

Staff Report

Origin

This report provides Council with an update on Richmond Fire-Rescue (RFR) activities. Through the delivery of its programs and services, RFR continues to work towards the City's vision of being the most appealing, livable, and well-managed community in Canada. RFR is reporting on its activities in support of its mission:

To protect and enhance the City's livability through service excellence in prevention, education and emergency response.

This report supports Council's 2014-2018 Term Goal #1 A Safe Community:

Maintain emphasis on community safety to ensure Richmond continues to be a safe community.

Analysis

Community Involvement

During November, RFR participated in a Prevent, Prepare and Act to Reduce Personal Injury and Property Loss event along with the RCMP and City of Richmond Emergency Programs. There were presentations and information booths at South Arm Community Centre for the public to attend.

Other safety messaging for November focused on safe winter driving and pedestrian safety. Facebook posts and fire hall sign messages were used to share key safety points regarding RFR's focus areas.

RFR participates in events and activities to advance public education and community bridge building. During November, 2015 the following took place:

- Take Our Kids to Work Day with City of Richmond and The Learning Partnership Youth Outreach Event
- Pythagoras Academy Elementary School Fire Hall Tour - No. 4 Hall
- Fire Safety Trailer School Visit with Westwind Elementary School
- Scout's Canada (10th Richmond Beaver Group) Fire Hall Tour - No. 2 Hall
- Richmond Cares/Richmond Gives Christmas Fund Drive-Thru Charitable Event
- Ecole des Navigateurs Kindergarten Fire Safety Presentation

Over 749 children and adults attended these events. Staff were engaged with the community and provided fire safety and harm reduction information.

Training

During November, RFR's Training Office finalized the training materials for the Recruit's Fire Prevention Office orientation. Topics covered in this training period include Fire and Life Safety Education, Inspections and Investigations.

RFR training arranged access to an on-line driving program for intersections. The program is highly interactive and easy to use. The course is for all current RFR drivers and will take approximately 2-3 months to complete. RFR will have access to this program for a one year period and it is expected that all drivers will complete and continue to use the program during this time.

Fire Hall

During November the Steveston Fire Hall No. 2, located at 11011 No. 2 Road received an international mark of excellence for green building status. The City's most recently constructed Fire Hall, achieved Gold status under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system.

Emergency Response

Richmond Fire-Rescue's goal is to respond to events in an efficient and effective manner where loss of life, reduction of property damage and protection of the environment is mitigated.

There were 27 fires in November 2015. Fire losses during the month are estimated at \$145,610. This total includes \$135,110 for building loss and \$10,500 for content loss. The total building and content value at risk was estimated to be \$17,543,500, and the total value preserved was \$17,397,890. These numbers translate to 99% of value protected (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Fire Calls By Type and Loss Estimates – November						
Incident Type Breakdown	Call Volume	Estimated Building Value (\$)	Estimated Building Loss (\$)	Estimated Content Value (\$)	Estimated Content Loss (\$)	Estimated Total Value Preserved (\$)
Residential:						
Single family	2	1,428,000	110,000	100,000	10,000	1,408,000
Multi family	5	-	-	500	500	-
Commercial / Industrial	6	10,800,000	110	3,240,000	-	14,039,890
Fire – Outdoor	6	1,750,000	-	200,000	-	1,950,000
Vehicle	8	25,000	25,000	-	-	-
Totals*	27	14,003,000	135,110	3,540,500	10,500	17,397,890

*The dollar losses shown in this table are preliminary estimates. They are derived from RFR'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 crews minimized loss and limited the fire to the place of origin in notable November incidents:

- Crews responded to an incident at a commercial property on Vanguard Road. On arrival, crews found a fully involved fire with heavy smoke showing through the roof of the building and proceeded to attack the fire aggressively. During the incident the concrete block and heavy timber construction of the property started to collapse causing areas of high concern for RFR members. Deputy Chief Howell and a Fire Prevention Officer were also on scene.
- Crews responded to an incident located at a commercial property on Dyke Road. On arrival, crews found a fire inside the structure. The fire was located in a compaction unit being serviced by welding technician. The fire was quickly mitigated by RFR crews and extinguished using both Cold Fire foam and water.
- Crews responded to a structure fire on No 5. Road. On arrival crews found fire and smoke in a recreational building. RFR crews used a Thermal Imaging Camera to find the hot spot areas for extinguishment. Once extinguished, crews used positive pressure to clear the smoke in the building. The Fire Prevention officer was called to attend the scene.
- Crews responded to reports of an oven fire located on Wellington Crescent. On arrival crews proceeded to remove the contents of the oven to the exterior of the home and continued with the fire extinguishment. Once extinguished, crews used positive pressure to clear the smoke from the home. RFR crews also installed a new smoke detector, provided by the home owner.

RFR crews responded to multiple serious incident calls, including:

- A car on fire on River Road. On arrival crews found the vehicle fully involved in fire. Crews proceeded to attack the fire using 400 gallons of water and 5 gallons of Cold Fire to extinguish the fire. Once the fire was mitigated, crews proceeded with scene clean-up.
- A car fire located at Chatham and 7th Avenue. On arrival, crews found that the fire, which had been located in the engine of a Black SUV Range Rover, had been extinguished by a Transit employee using a dry chemical extinguisher. Crews provided roadside assistance and cleaned-up waste materials.

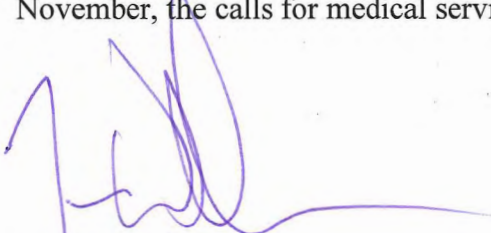
A summary of 9-1-1 emergency response statistics is found in Attachment 1, Tables 1, 2a, 2b, 3 and 4. The location of fire, medical and motor vehicle incident calls in November are depicted in Attachment 2, Figures 1, 2 and 3.

Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

RFR strives to deliver service excellence through a delivery model that is prevention focused and based on the belief that prevention, education and emergency response activities must be well established and integrated to have a positive impact on community safety. In the month of November, the calls for medical service within the City were constant, wide and varied.



Tim Wilkinson
Acting Fire Chief
(604-303-2734)

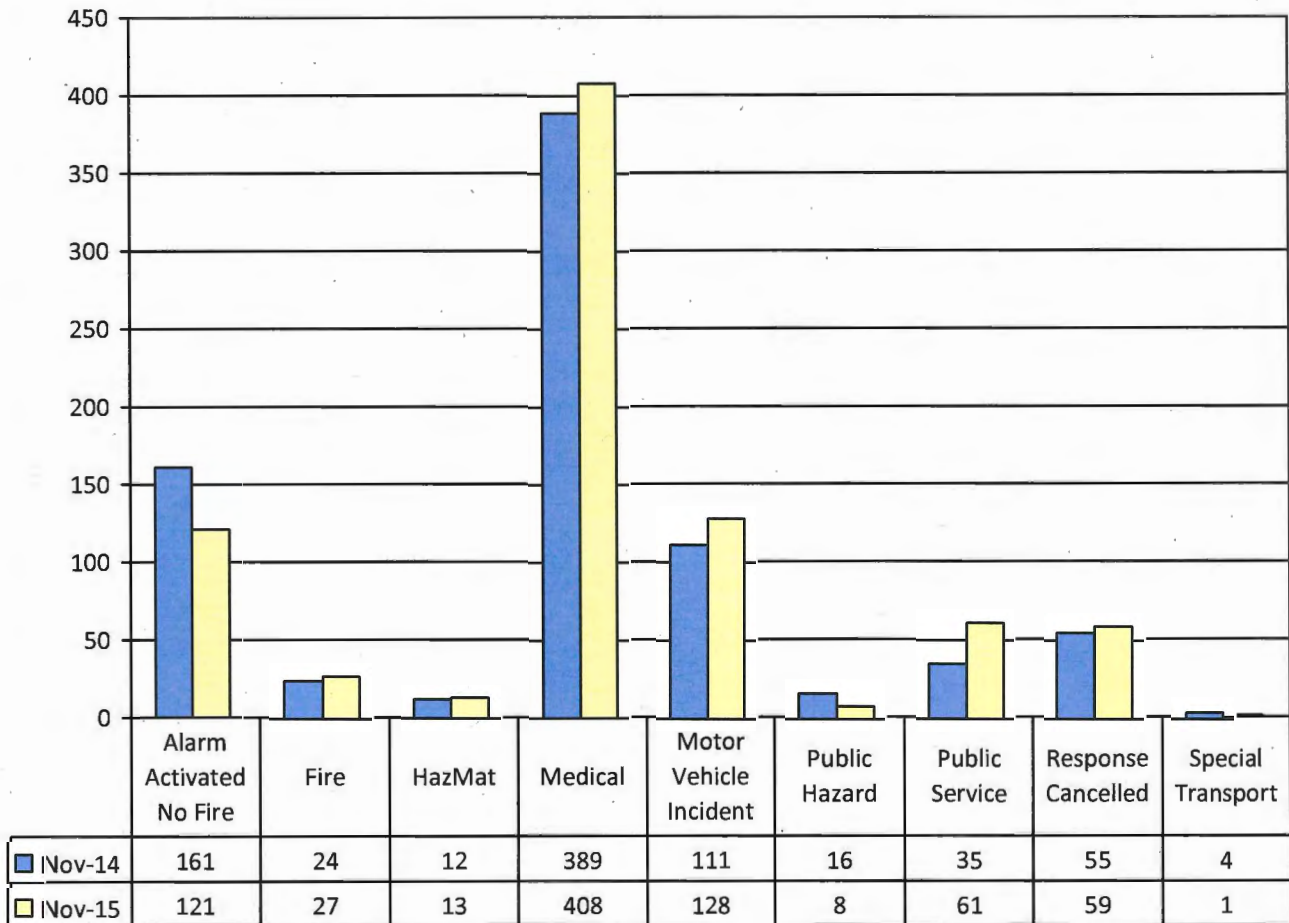
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Att. 1: Suppression Activity
Att. 2: Location of November's Fire, Medical and MVIs

Suppression Activity

The following chart provides a month to month comparison regarding incidents occurring in November 2014 and 2015. In November 2015, there were a total of 826 incidents, compared to 807 in November 2014. This represents an increase of 2.4%. The increase in call volumes was primarily in medical and public service related incident types.

Table 1: November 2014 & 2015 Calls for Service Volumes



Call Type Legend:

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

First Responder Totals

Medical First Responder incidents comprised 49% of the total emergency responses for RFR during the month of November. A detailed breakdown of the medical incidents for November 2014 and 2015 is set out in the following table by sub-type. There were a total of 408 medical incidents in November 2015 compared to 389 in November 2014 an increase of 4.9%.

Table 2a: November 2014 & 2015 Medical Calls by Type

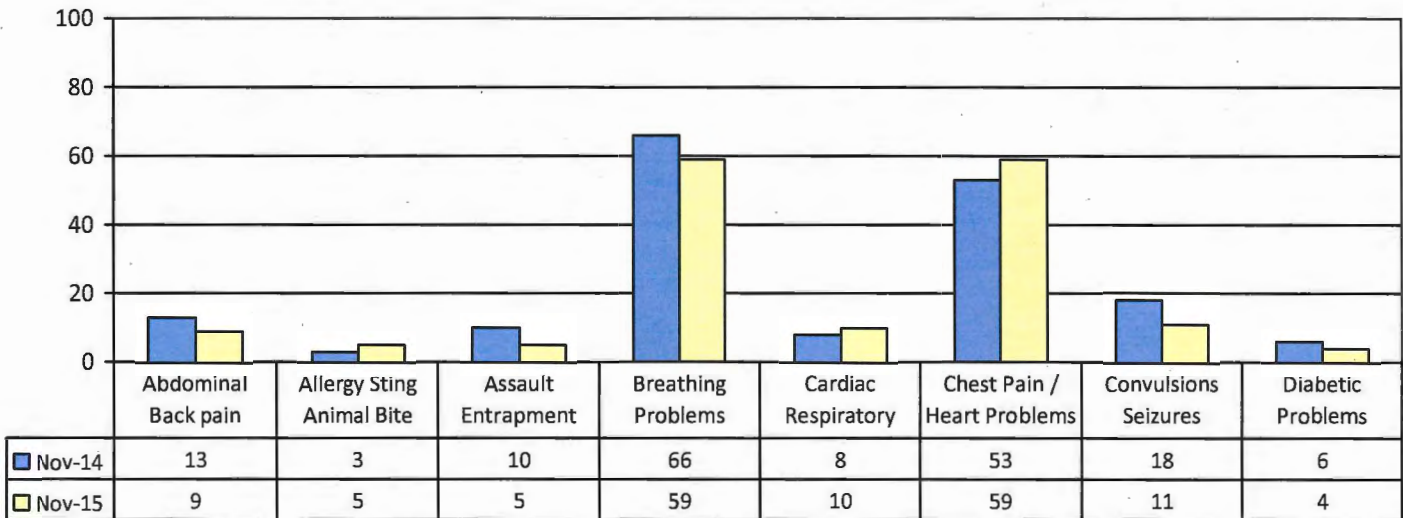
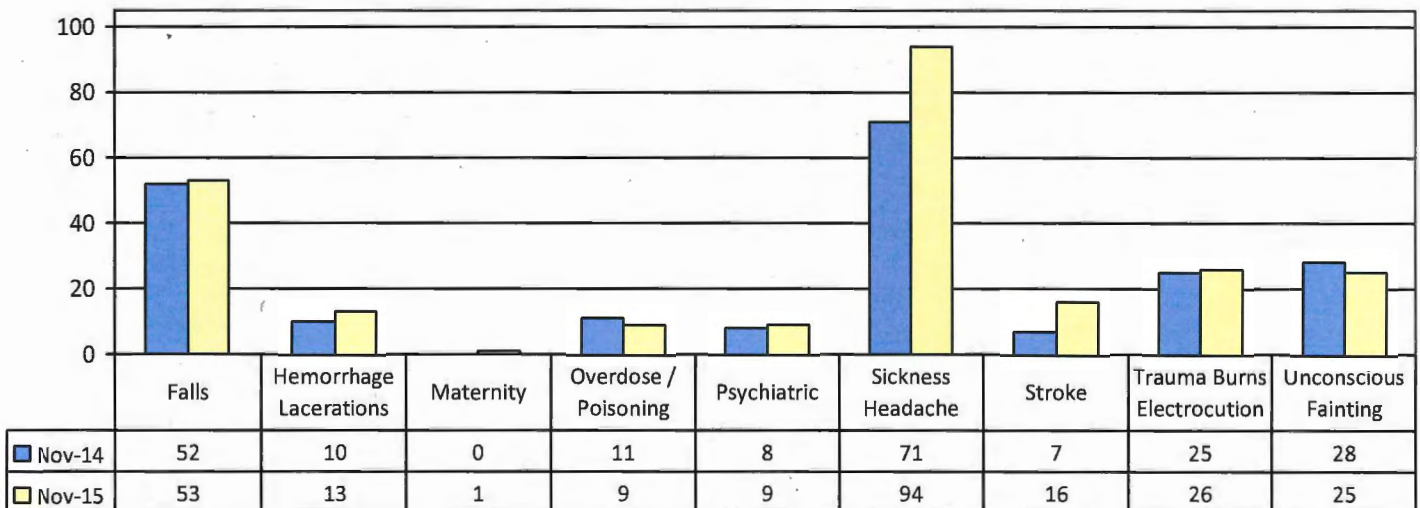


Table 2b: November 2014 & 2015 Medical Calls by Type



Fire Investigations

The fire investigation statistics for November 2015 are listed below:

Table 3: Total Fire Investigation Statistics – November			
	Suspicious	Accidental	Undetermined
Residential - Single-family	0	1	1
Residential - Multi-family	0	5	0
Commercial/Industrial	2	3	1
Fire – Outdoor	0	4	2
Vehicle	1	2	5
Totals	3	15	9

All suspicious fires are reported to the RCMP, and Richmond Fire-Rescue Investigators work in conjunction with staff at the RCMP to address any risks to the community.

HazMat

Table 4: HazMat Calls By Type – November	
	Details
Natural Gas / Propane Leaks (small)	7
Flammable / Combustible Liquids	1
Unclassified	5
Totals	13

Figure 2: Location of medical calls in November (total 408)

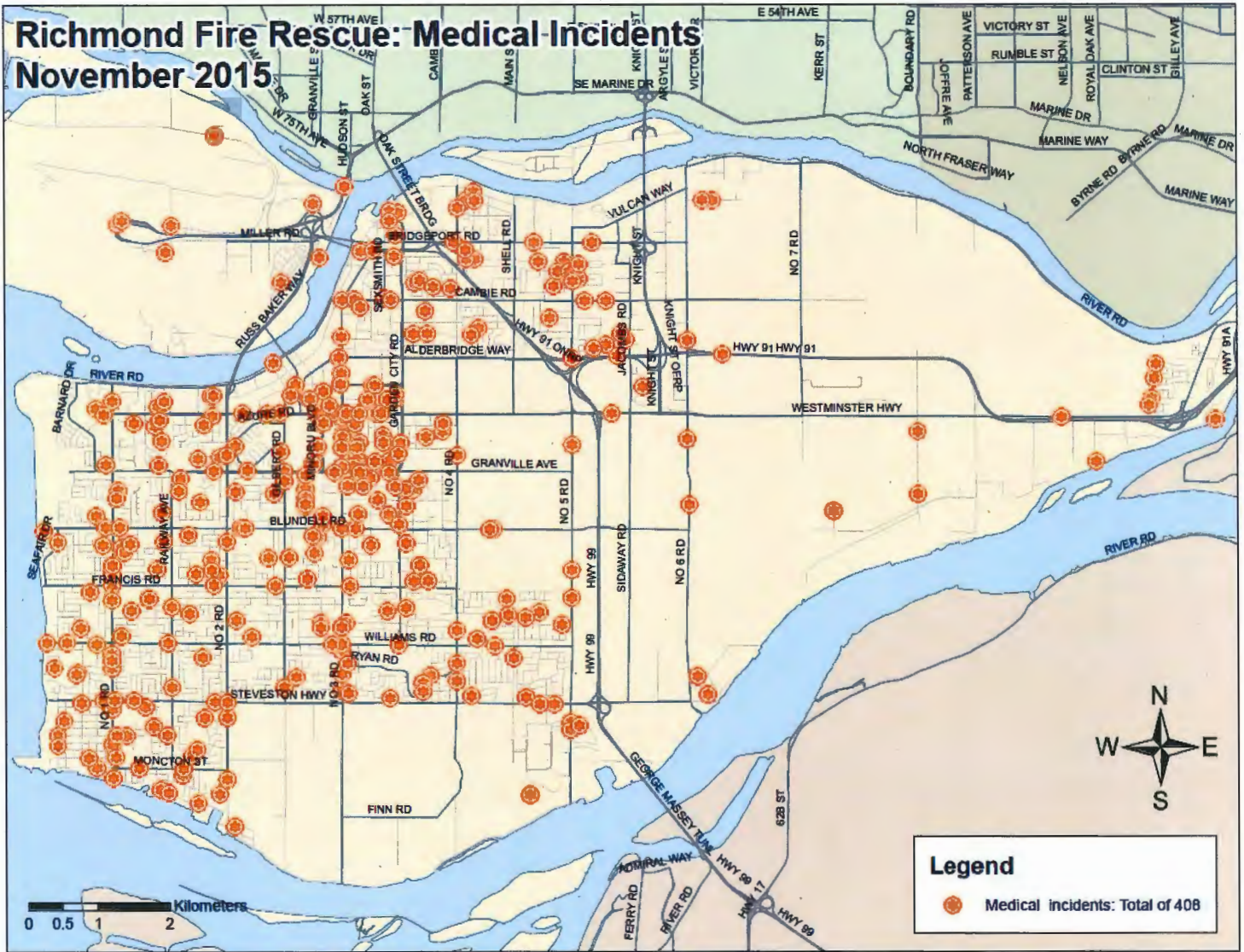


Figure 3: Location of MVI calls in November (total 128)

