

Emergency Services Department

Annual Report 2006

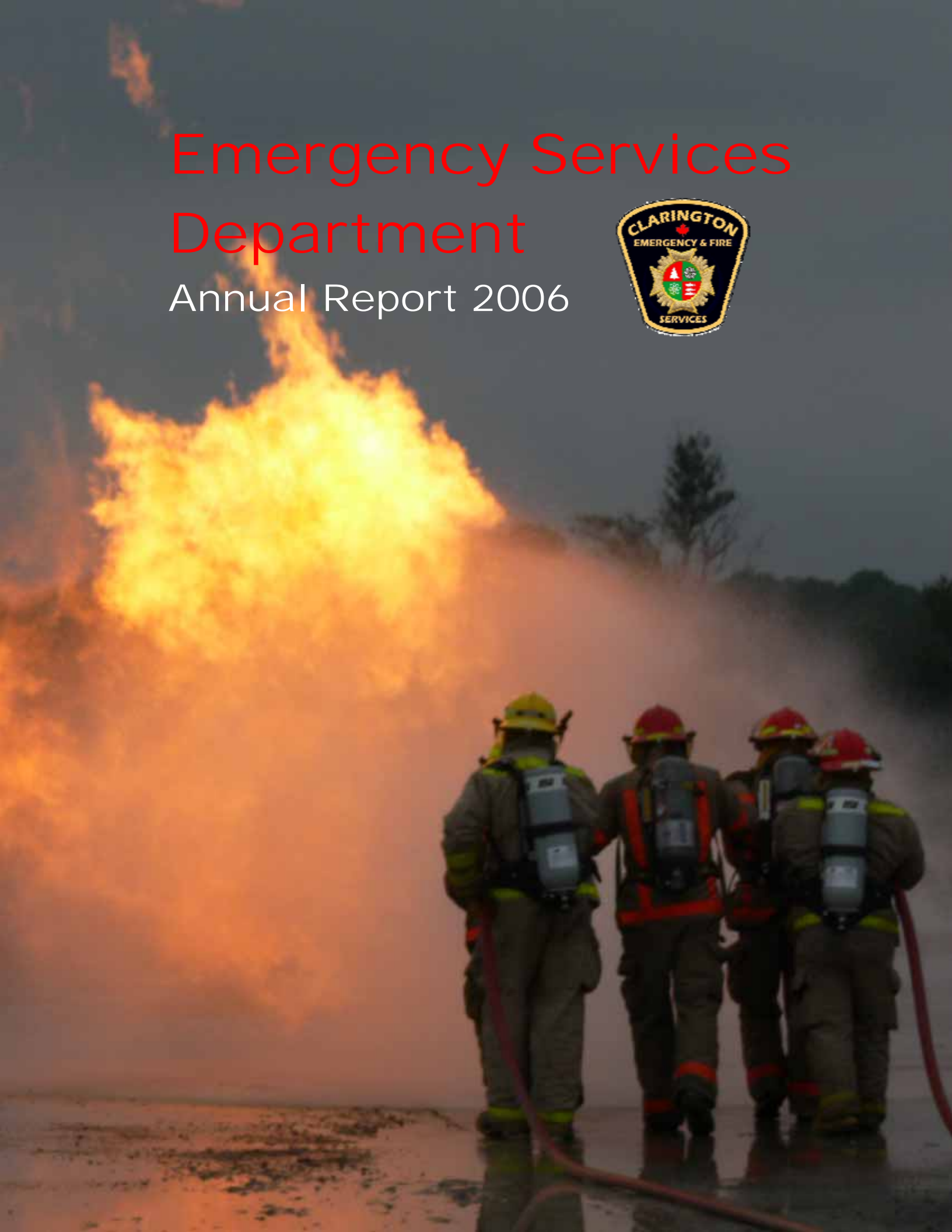


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Message from Gord Weir Director of Emergency Services / Fire Chief



Your Worship Mayor J. Abernethy and Members of Council.

The information contained in this report is a summary of the activities of Clarington Emergency and Fire Services for the year ending December 31, 2006.

The Department saw a drop in the number of emergency responses in 2006 as our call volume decreased by 4.5% to 3330 calls. The scope of work was very broad, including but not limited to property fires / explosions, unauthorized burning, false fire calls, public hazards, rescue calls, medical assist calls and miscellaneous calls.

It is with regret that I report the one fire fatality in 2006.

I rely strongly on the assistance and support received from Deputy Fire Chief Bill Hesson and Deputy Fire Chief Mark Berney. The strength of Clarington Emergency and Fire Services are the men and women from every division who continue to serve the residents.

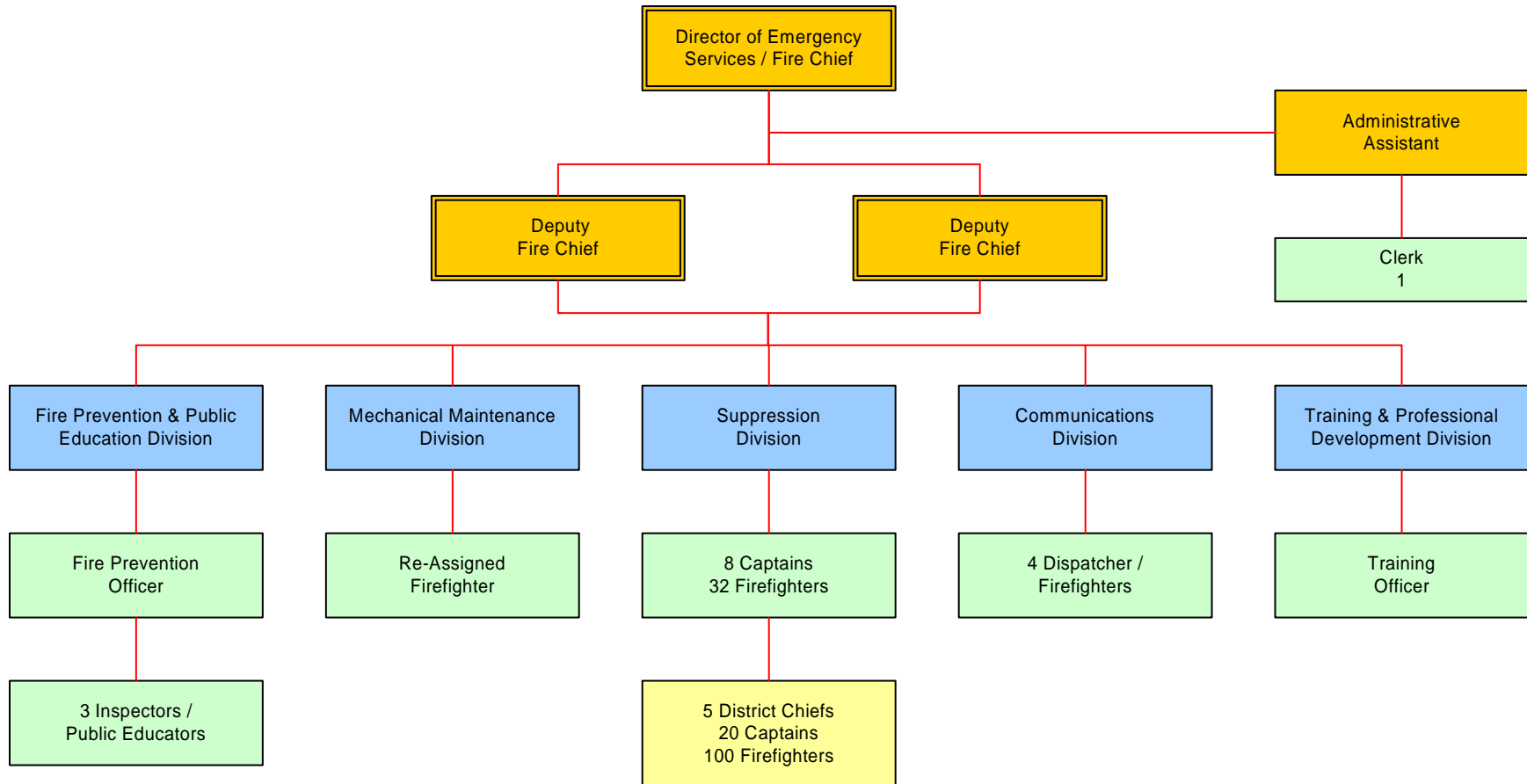
We are dedicated to the protection of life and property of the citizens of Clarington and all those who visit our municipality.

In closing, I am honoured to serve the Municipality in this capacity and lead the members of this Fire Department.

Gord Weir
Director of Emergency Services / Fire Chief



Organizational Structure – 2006

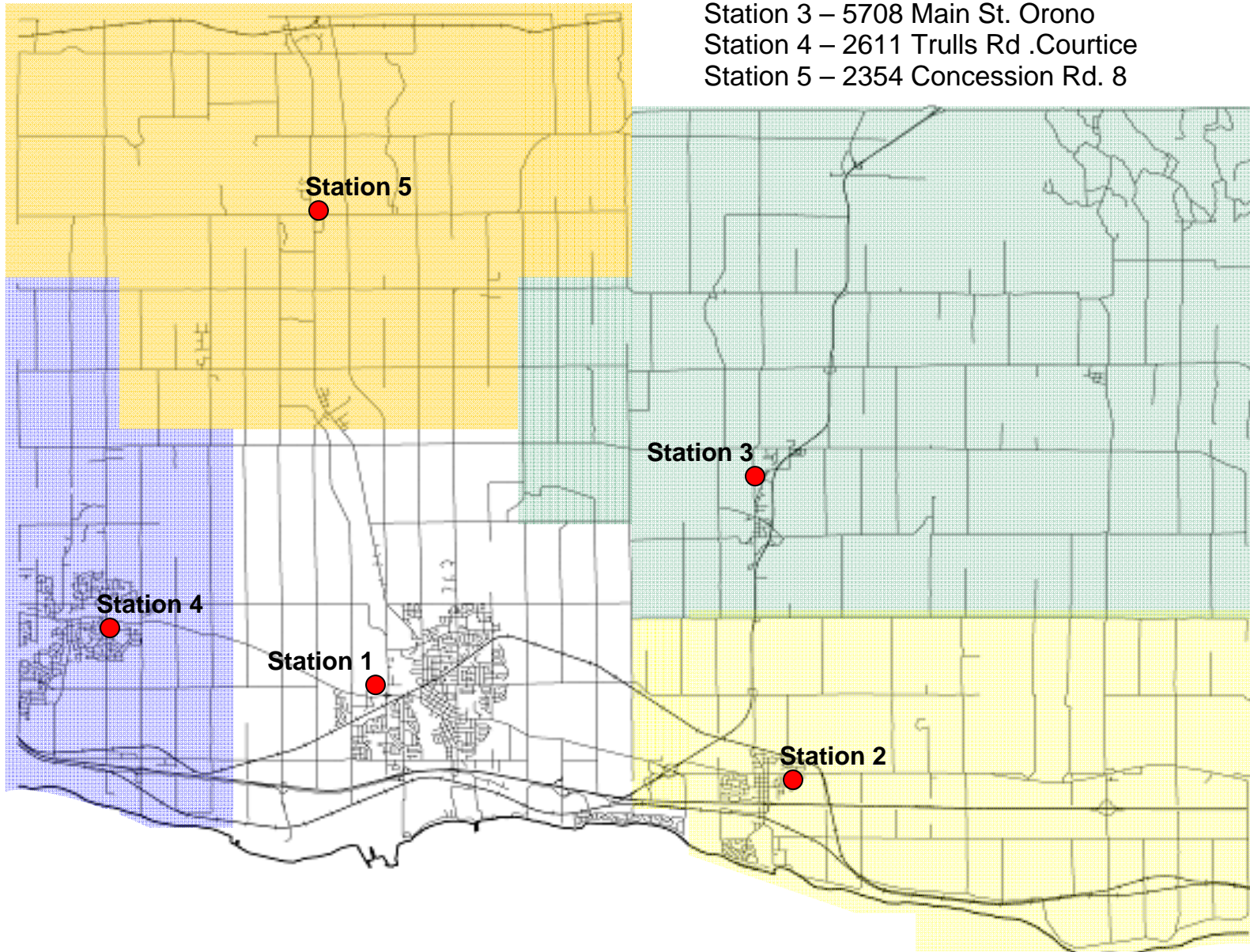


Legend
Non-Affiliated staff
Affiliated staff
Volunteer staff



Fire Station Locations

- Station 1 – 2430 Hwy 2 Bowmanville
- Station 2 – 247 King Ave E. Newcastle
- Station 3 – 5708 Main St. Orono
- Station 4 – 2611 Trulls Rd .Courtice
- Station 5 – 2354 Concession Rd. 8



Fire Prevention

Division Activities

Fire Prevention staff are responsible for a number of activities including:

- **Fire Inspections:** A visual observation of premises for the purpose of enforcing Ontario Fire Code compliancy;
- **New Construction / Plans Review:** A visual observation of plans for compliance with the Ontario Building Code for the installation of appropriate fire and life safety systems;
- **Public Education Programs:** The delivery of fire safety programs to targeted residents of the municipality; and
- **Fire Investigations:** The inspection of fire scenes to determine cause and origin.

Below is a summary of activities by the Division.

Activity	Number of Incidents
Fire Inspections	582
New construction / Plans Review	108
Public Education Programs	88
Fire Investigations	12

The commitment of Fire Prevention staff, providing the citizens of Clarington with public education programs, made it possible to reach over 8000 residents in 2006. Fire safety is our number one priority.

Below is a summary of persons addressed through Public Education Programs.

Public Education Program	No. of Persons Addressed
Fire Prevention Week	126
Racing Against Drugs (RAD)	1500
Fire Chief for the Day	2000
Family Safety Day	5000 (estimated)
Junior Firefighter Program	160
Risk Watch	158
TAPP-C	10
Alarm for Life	1771
Older Wiser	40
Fire Extinguisher Training Program	134
Station Tours	768

Public Education Programs

Racing Against Drugs (RAD)



The first week of June 2006 was RAD week. Clarington Emergency and Fire Services is a founding associate member of RAD or Racing Against Drugs. We have two educational "pit stops" including the fire safety house where we educate all Clarington grade five students on fire safety. There were approximately 1,500 visitors in 2006.

Fire Chief for the Day



The 2006 Fire Chief for the Day winner was Miranda Beckmann from Newtonville PS. Her excellent fire safety plan entry earned her the title and she was rewarded for her efforts by a visit of the fire hall, presentations by the Mayor and Fire Chief and dinner compliments of McDonalds Restaurants.

Family Safety Day



Wet weather didn't put a damper on our Family Safety Day on Sept 30. A joint effort of community minded safety organizations and primary sponsor Ontario Power Generation – Darlington Nuclear. An estimated 5,000 visitors viewed and interacted with the displays in 2006.



Public Education Programs

Junior Firefighter Program



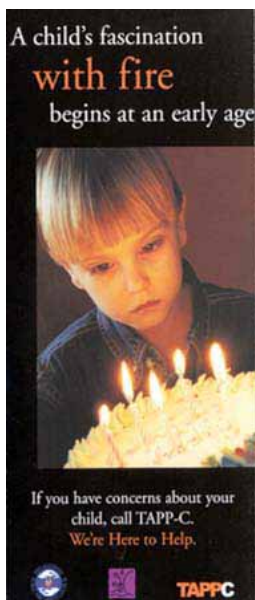
In August, 160 Clarington residents aged 10-11 are given the opportunity to spend one week at Station 1 Bowmanville to become a Junior Firefighter. A Junior Firefighter is trained to become a safety conscious individual with an understanding of what all emergency services do on a daily basis.

Fire Safety House



The George Vice Fire Safety House made twenty visits throughout 2006. This is Clarington's most popular educational tool, teaching all age groups basic fire safety. George Vice, a resident of Bowmanville and veteran member of the Rotary Club of Bowmanville was the primary benefactor for the Fire Safety House.

TAPP-C Program



The Arson Prevention Program for Children is a two part program to determine if a child's fascination with fire exceeds what is considered normal. If a child is diagnosed with a problem, help is provided. The first component consists of an assessment through a mental health agency; the second component consists of fire safety awareness from Clarington Fire. There were ten TAPP-C clients in 2006.

Public Education Programs

Alarmed for Life Program

Every summer and fall our crews make house calls to ensure all residents have a working smoke alarm on each level of their home and to perform a home safety check if requested. This program also includes Wilmot Creek.

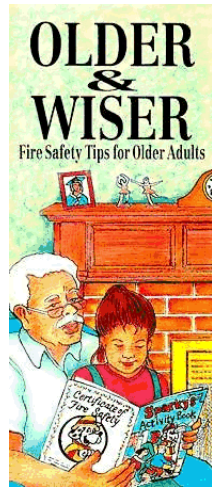
The program is mandated by the provincial government. In 2006, 1771 homes were visited by our firefighters. Working smoke alarms were found in 96% of homes. Seventy percent of residents felt comfortable with their knowledge of fire safety.



Every home in Ontario must have working smoke alarms — it's the law. Install smoke alarms on every level of your home and outside sleeping areas. Test the alarms once a month and replace the batteries at least once a year.



Older & Wiser Program



In 2006, visits were made to senior complexes such as Wilmot Creek and Parkview in Newcastle to teach fire safety and fall prevention.

Mature adults are the highest risk group for fire fatalities in Clarington. Clarington fire surveys in 2006 found that fifty percent of seniors tested smoke alarms monthly and 63% were satisfied with their knowledge of fire safety. Only 50% had a home escape plan.

Fire Extinguisher Trainer



The department purchased a fire extinguisher trainer in 2006. This device provides a safe, clean and environmentally friendly method of teaching Clarington residents how to use a fire extinguisher.



Communications / Suppression

In 2006 Dispatchers received 6115 administrative and emergency telephone calls. Suppression crews were dispatched to 3330 calls.

Communications staff are responsible for dispatching after hour's staff for the Operations Department and Animal Services.

Five (5) fulltime personnel joined the ranks of the Department in 2006. With the addition of one (1) probationary firefighter, four (4) dispatchers and ten (10) citizens joining the volunteer firefighter ranks the Department's suppression staffing complement is forty (40) affiliated, and 125 volunteer firefighters, all serving the citizens of Clarington.

Improvements to our response equipment included:

- Upgrades to the Computer Aided Dispatch system
- Replacement of the Zodiac boat and trailer for water/ice rescue
- Improvements to SCBA
- SCAT response vehicle
- Water/ice rescue Fortuna device



Structure Fire – Courtice

**Multi Vehicle Accident
Closing Hwy 401 – Newcastle**



Communications / Suppression

Response Statistics by Call Type

Call Type	Response Type Class	Type	Property Class	2006
Fire call loss reported	Property fires / explosions	Property	Property / Outdoor Storage	3
			Structure	44
			Vehicle	43
fire call, no loss reported	Property fires / explosions	Property	Property / Outdoor Storage	29
			Structure	31
			Vehicle	6
			Property fires / explosions total	156
Non fire call	False fire calls	Alarm Equipment - Accidental		104
		Alarm Equipment - Malfunction		172
		Human - Accidental		33
		Human - Malicious		20
		Human - Perceived Emergency		100
		Other False Fire Call		24
			False fire calls total	453
Non fire call	Medical/resuscitator call	Alcohol Related		16
		Asphyxia, Respiratory Condition		709
		Convulsions		7
		Cuts, Abrasions		33
		Dead on Arrival		26
		Drug Related		20
		Electric Shock		1
		Epileptic, Diabetic Seizure		72
		Fracture		7
		Heart Attack, CPR		113
		Medical Aid Not Required on Arrival		159
		Other Medical/Resuscitator Call		282
		Person Fainted, Nausea		31
		Stroke		4
Traumatic Shock		4		
			Medical/resuscitator call total	1484

Communications / Suppression

Response Statistics by Call Type

Non fire call	Other Response	Assistance not required by other agency	29
		Assistance to Other Agency	9
		Assistance to Other Fire Department	7
		Assistance to Police	151
		Call cancelled on route	43
		Incident not found	38
		Other Public Service	9
		Other Response	26
		Authorized controlled burning complaint	16
Non fire call	Pre fire conditions	Overheat	20
		Overpressure Rupture - No Fire	
		Pot on stove	8
		Unauthorized Controlled Burning	126
		Pre fire conditions total	154
Non fire call	Public Hazard	CO reporting	227
		Gas Leak - Miscellaneous	6
		Gas Leak - Natural Gas	19
		Gas Leak - Propane	2
		Gas Leak - Refrigeration	1
		Other Public Hazard	45
		Power Lines Down, Arcing	27
		Ruptured Water, Steam Pipe	1
		Spill - Gasoline or Fuel	17
		Spill - Miscellaneous	9
		Public Hazard total	354
Non fire call	Rescue	Commercial/Industrial Accident	1
		Other Rescue	12
		Persons Trapped in Elevator	4
		Vehicle Accident	367
		Vehicle Extrication	15
		Water Ice Rescue	1
		Water Rescue	1
		Rescue total	401
		Total Number of Responses	3330
		Total Number of Unit Responses	5234

Communications / Suppression

Response Statistics by Month

	Total Calls	Summary of Injuries	Summary of Fatalities	Summary of Est. Loss
January				
Fire & non fire calls	243	0	0	\$128,000.
February				
Fire & non fire calls	245	1	1	\$42,550.
March				
Fire & non fire calls	270	0	0	\$340,030.
April				
Fire & non fire calls	288	1	0	\$86,500.
May				
Fire & non fire calls	250	0	0	\$222,450.
June				
Fire & non fire calls	287	0	0	\$6,200.
July				
Fire & non fire calls	302	0	0	\$20,800.
August				
Fire & non fire calls	331	0	0	\$415,400.
September				
Fire & non fire calls	264	0	0	\$297,200.
October				
Fire & non fire calls	283	0	0	\$189,000.
November				
Fire & non fire calls	248	0	0	\$58,000.
December				
Fire & non fire calls	319	0	0	\$236,901.

Response Statistics by Station

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
STATION 1	122	109	126	138	119	143	156	155	116	149	122	153
STATION 2	25	38	22	49	33	34	37	53	36	31	27	41
STATION 3	20	29	18	10	21	24	15	19	17	21	15	22
STATION 4	71	61	89	76	69	73	78	85	81	74	68	90
STATION 5	5	8	15	15	8	13	16	19	14	8	16	13

Communications / Suppression

Property Class Group – Number of Fires

Listed below is a summary of fires by property class group that occurred in the Municipality of Clarington during the past year.

Property Class Group	Number of incidents	Estimated Loss
Group A - Assembly Occupancies (restaurants, banquet halls, taverns, arenas)	7	\$6,050
Group B, Institutional Occupancies (schools, nursing homes, hospital)	0	\$0
Group C – Residential (single family dwelling, apartments, townhouses)	30	\$1,254,100
Group D - Business and Personal Services Occupancies (barber shop, business office, bank)	0	\$0
Group E – Mercantile (retail shopping outlets)	5	\$1,830
Group F - Industrial Occupancies (manufacturing occupancies, warehouse,)	5	\$1000
Miscellaneous Structures/Property (Not Classified by O.B.C.) (sheds, sales trailers, open land)	64	\$80,800
Vehicles	49	\$699,251

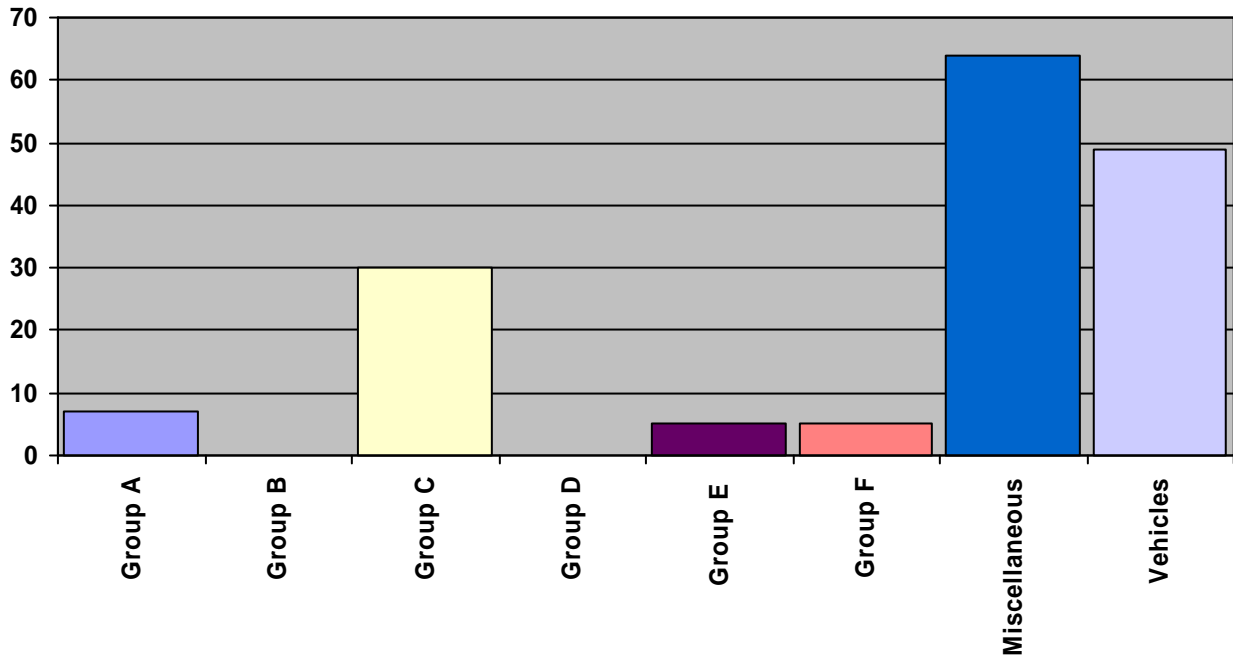
Major Fire Loss Summary

Listed below is a summary of the major fires that occurred in the Municipality of Clarington during the past year. Major fires are classified as those incidents where fire damage exceeds \$50,000.

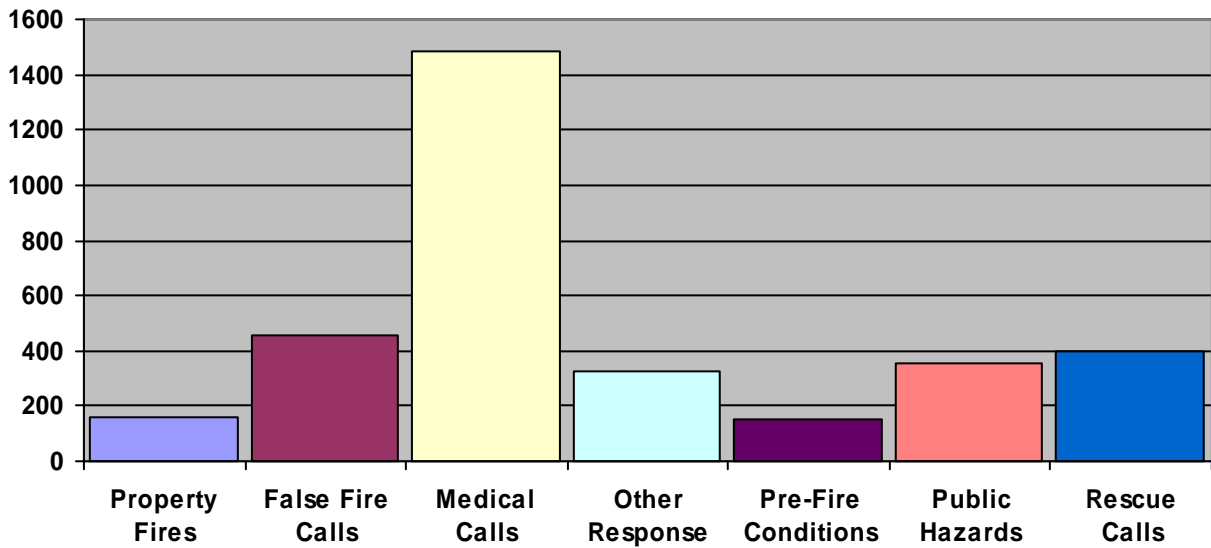
Alarm Date	Time	Property Class.	Estimated Loss
January 13	13:36:15	Detached Dwelling	\$100,000
March 11	03:46:40	Private or Business Watercraft	\$300,000
May 20	04:42:57	Detached Dwelling	\$150,000
August 6	03:51:27	Attached Dwelling with Business	\$300,000
September 8	23:58:46	Detached Dwelling	\$250,000
October 25	01:12:50	Detached Dwelling	\$175,000
December 5	15:48:15	Detached Dwelling	\$150,000
December 22	12:39:40	Large Truck (Excluding Truck Trailer)	\$60,000

Communications / Suppression

Property Class Group Chart by Number of Fires

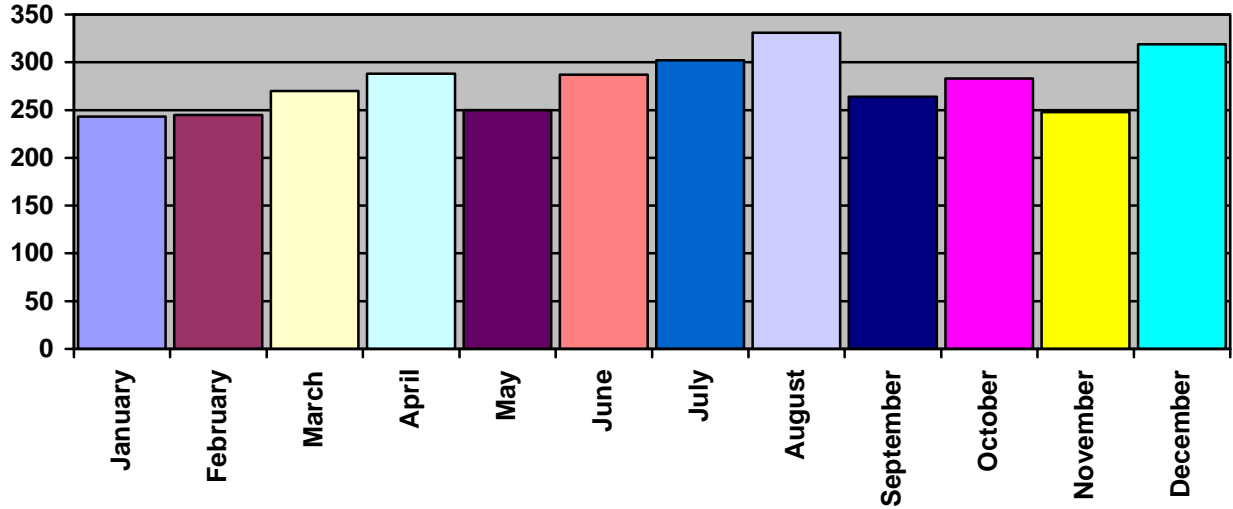


Response Statistics Chart by Call Type

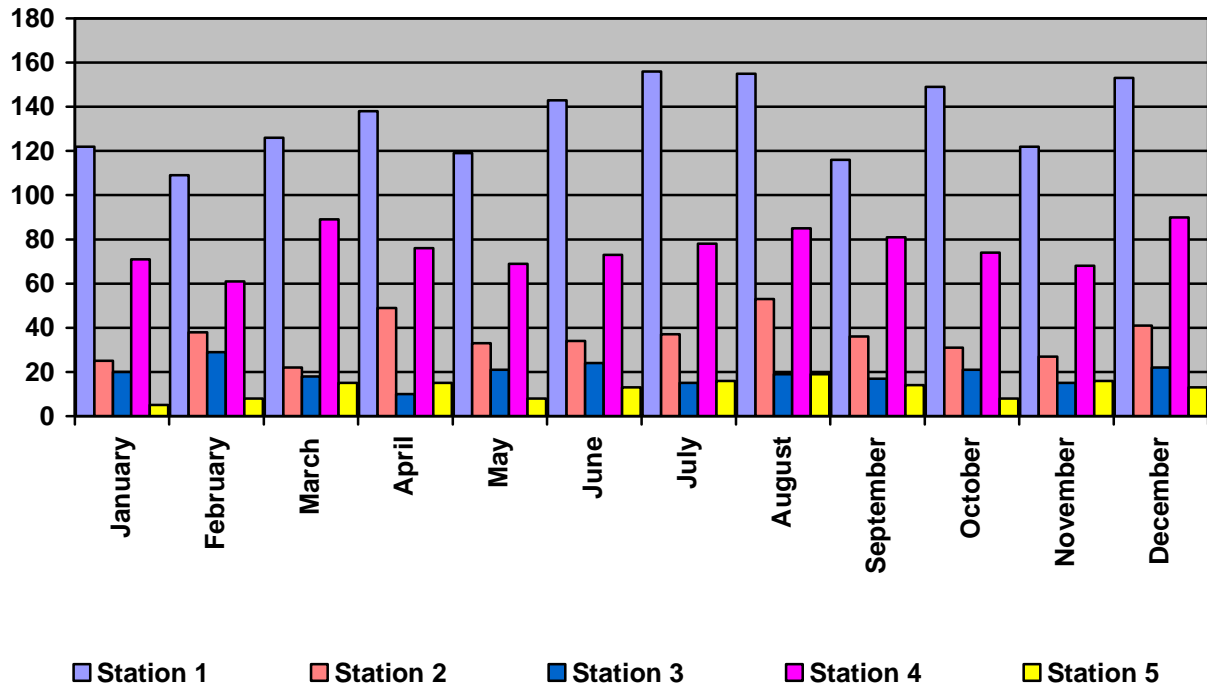


Communications / Suppression

Response Statistics Chart by Month

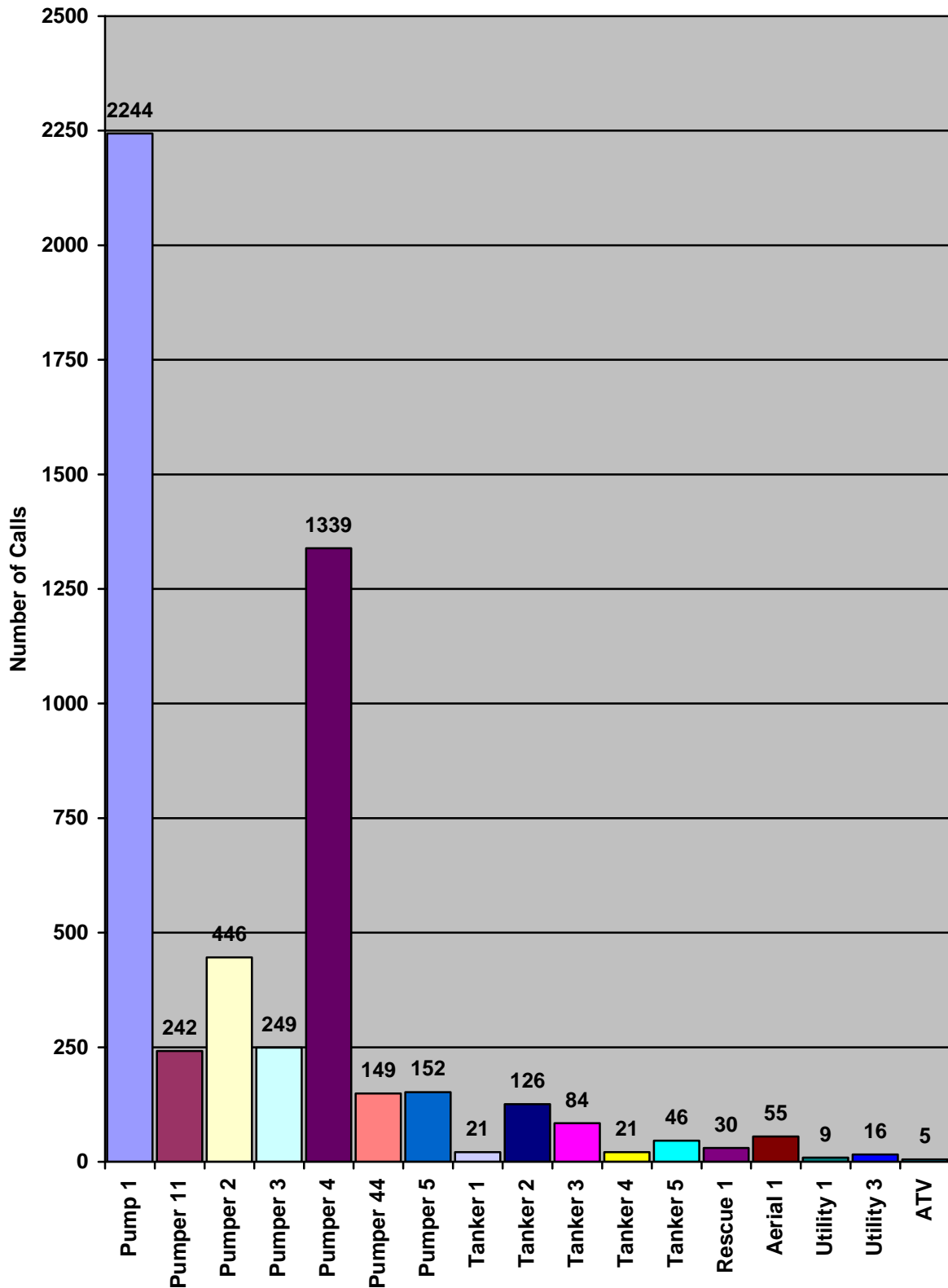


Response Statistics Chart by Station



Communications / Suppression

Response Statistics Chart by Unit



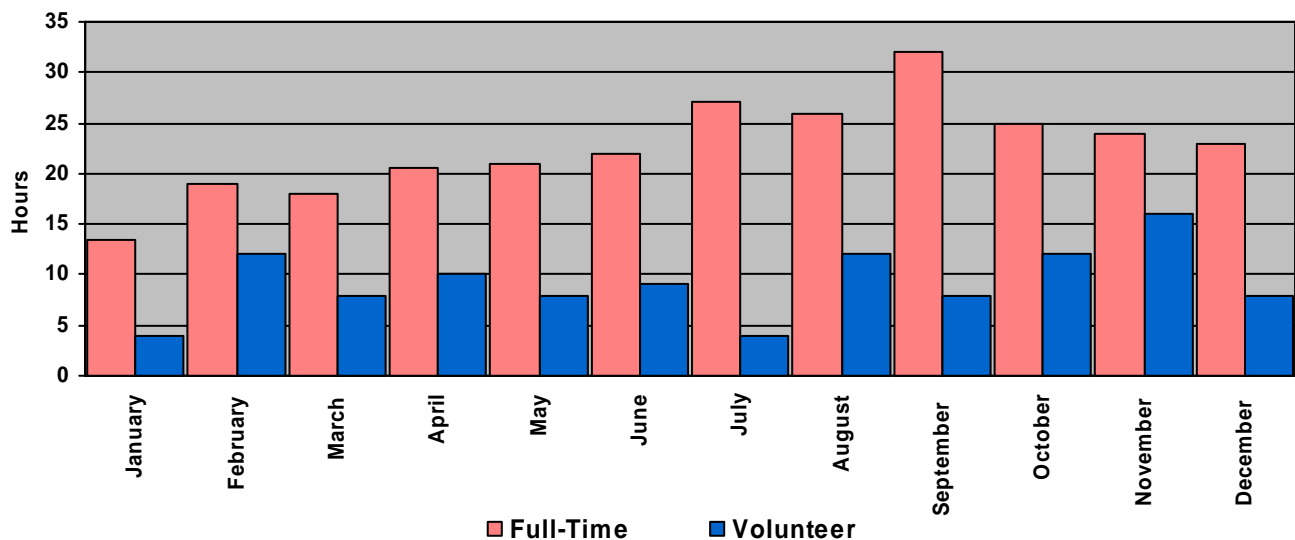
Training & Professional Development

The success of the service is in the training and professional development of our staff.

Volunteer firefighters train monthly. Station facilitators, third party facilitators and the Training Officer delivered a minimum of 111 hours of training to volunteer firefighters.

Fulltime staff train while in-service. Company Officers, third party facilitators and the Training Officer delivered a minimum of 271 hours of training to fulltime staff.

Scheduled Monthly Training Chart by Hours



In 2006, twenty eight (28) members attended the Ontario Fire College in the following programs; Company Officer Diploma Program; Company Officer Update; Fire Prevention Officer Diploma Program; Water/Ice Rescue; and Professional Development Seminars.

Members also participated in; Firefighter Survival and RIT training through the Niagara Regional Training Officers Association; Incident Command Training at Wesleyville; How to Read and Combat High Rise Fires; Auto Extrication through Ontario Fire Chiefs / Training Officers Conference; and Live Fire Training including Flashover recognition training at the Oshawa Bunker.

The Department was also active in hosting the following courses; Fire Cause Determination Course; and Hydrocarbon Identification / Suppression / Carbon Monoxide Course.

Due to building depreciation the Oshawa Fire Services training smoke house was closed in 2006.

Service Medals

Fire Services Exemplary Service Medal



The Fire Services Exemplary Service Medal, created on August 29, 1985, honours members of a recognized Canadian fire service who have completed 20 years of service, ten years of which have been served in the performance of duties involving potential risks, and were employed on or after the date of creation of the Medal. Exemplary service is characterized by good conduct, industry and efficiency.

In 2006 Donald Wright, Station 2 volunteer fire fighter received the Fire Services Exemplary Service Medal.



Ontario Fire Services Long Service Medal

First awarded in 1971, The Ontario Fire Services Long Service Medal is an expression of appreciation and recognition of uniformed staff for 25 years of dedication and hard work within the Ontario fire service. At 30 years of service and every 5 years thereafter, a service bar may be requested and added to the medal's ribbon. Spouses of medal recipients receive a companion brooch.

In 2006 the following received Ontario Fire Services Long Service Medal and or Bars:

- Norman Tillson, Station 3 volunteer captain, 25 years service.
- David Forrester, Station 3 volunteer District Chief, 30 years service.
- Alfred Alldread, Station 2 volunteer District Chief, 40 years service.



The dedication and commitment these firefighters have given to our communities is truly appreciated by Clarington Emergency & Fire Service management, staff, as well all Clarington residents.

Recent Retirements

Graydon Brown, fulltime firefighter retired after 34 years of service to the community. Hired in 1971 by Fire Chief Jim Hayman as the Town of Bowmanville's first fulltime firefighter, Graydon rose through the ranks to become a Captain. Graydon continues to volunteer as a Captain at Station 3, Orono.

Thank you Graydon for your dedication to the service and your community.

Pat Drumm, volunteer firefighter retired after 27 years of service to community. Pat began his long career with the opening of Courtice Fire Station 4 in 1979, rising through the ranks to become District Chief. Thank you Pat for your dedication to the service and wish you good health and happiness.