



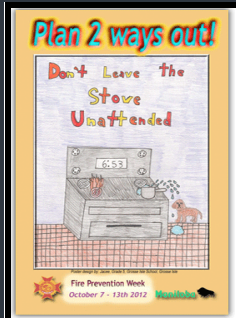
# the Prevention Post

Manitoba Office of the Fire Commissioner

ISSUE

July  
2012

No.2



**MAKE SURE YOU ATTEND:**  
**Check out the MESC**  
**Conference Brochure at**  
**[www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/conference.html)**  
**[conference.html](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/conference.html)**



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## Message from the Fire Commissioner:

Welcome back to Prevention Post. I trust you are all having a safe and enjoyable summer, and are looking forward to the fall training season starting up once again. I am pleased to use this important publication to get out the message of the Office of the Fire Commissioner to the Manitoba Fire Service and all of our stakeholders regarding up-coming events, public education initiatives, training and education programs, changes at the OFC or simply general information that we feel is important to our stakeholders.

First and foremost I would like to draw your attention to the Manitoba Emergency Services Conference that will be held October 11, 12, 13th. The Conference Committee has listened to the concerns and recommendations of the Fire Service and have taken the steps to return to offering a variety of training opportunities that includes formal accredited and certified courses, as well as one and two day informational seminars. Leadership training will be available for Company Officers, as well as practical hands on training for new recruits and veteran fire fighters. I strongly encourage all departments to support this unique training opportunity that we have to offer here in Manitoba, and urge you to send in

your applications starting August 13th so that we can confirm sufficient numbers to support the programs. Applications are to be forwarded to the Manitoba Emergency Services College. The program is available online on our website at [www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca)

On May 31, 2012 The Provincial Public Education Committee met to develop a new provincial public education strategy, and to set the priorities for the 2012/13 year. The highlight of the public education program this year will once again be delivery of four new fire and life safety education trailers to Eastman, Northeast, Oak Lake and the North Mutual Aid and Training Districts. This successful initiative has been made possible through the support of the Red River Mutual Insurance, the Manitoba Burn Fund, The Office of the Fire Commissioner and the Manitoba Association of Fire Chiefs (MAFC). The first of the trailers have arrived and is presently being decalced and outfitted with the final training equipment and props.

The highlight of the public education program this year will once again be the delivery of four new fire and life safety education trailers to Eastman, Northeast, Oak Lake and the North Mutual Aid and Training Districts.

Other areas within the public education program that you will see our resources dedicated to this year include partnering with the Manitoba Burn fund and the Winnipeg Fire and Paramedic Service (WFPS) during the kick off of Fire Prevention Week (October 7 – 13, 2012). The theme for FPW this year is “**Have 2 ways out**”. This is a timely message given some of the tragic events that we experienced in Manitoba this past

winter. Public Service Announcements are being planned to ensure a strong prevention message reaches the public across Manitoba. OFC resources will also be dedicated to the strengthening of our Youth Fire Stop (YFS) network over the coming year.

Over the past months the OFC operations staff under the direction of DFC Robert Pike has been busy completing many of the Municipal Fire Protection Surveys that were requested by Municipal Officials and the fire service. FP Surveys were completed

for the RM of Bifrost and Town of Arborg; the RM and Village of Lac du Bonnet; as well as the RM of Macdonald. One of the common concerns that we have heard throughout these surveys is the need for a long term strategy to lead the Manitoba Fire Service over the next 5 – 10 years. In response, the OFC has recently called together representatives from the necessary stakeholder including AMM, MAFC, WFPS and the OFC to begin the development of a provincial fire service strategy that will address issues such as recruitment and retention of volunteers, training and education, communications, leadership and service delivery models to support future needs. The committee will also look at our provincial mutual aid system to ensure that it remains strong.

We look forward to working with all of our stakeholders on all of these important initiatives over the coming months. I hope to see as many of you as possible at the fall Emergency Services Conference, and once again remind you to ensure that you are supporting this very unique opportunity provided to the Manitoba Fire Service.

Sincerely,  
David K. Schafer  
Fire Commissioner

# Public Education Updates



Above: Portage La Prairie Fire Dept. attended the Canadian Tire Jump Start for Kids event on May 26, 2012. The event was run by Canadian Tire stores to raise money for children to participate in sporting and art activities. Pictured is Portage Dept's newest Pumper/Tanker and our 1 ton Wildland response unit along with Sparky and members from Portage Fire Dept.

Right, The Selkirk Fire Department presents a cheque for \$77,000.00 to the Fire Fighters Burn Fund of Manitoba. Selkirk has been hosting a wildlife dinner every March for 20 years. Some of the dinner fare has included conch fritters, alligator, African delicacies, smoked fish of all kinds, muskrat, wild mushroom dishes and fiddle heads just to name a few. The first event sold about 35 tickets, in 2012 425 tickets were sold. The dinners have become the Burn Fund's number one annual donator over the 20 year period. Selkirk Fire Department has donated a total of \$412,000.00 to date.

*Submitted by Lorne Hokanson*



In the pic Left to right are Justin Goodmanson, Rickey Lloyd, Committee chair Doug Poirier, Selkirk Fire Chief Dan Thor, Burn Fund Chair Martin Johnson, Lorne Hokanson and Jason Hokanson (missing is Roger Myall).

## NFPA'S EDUCATIONAL MESSAGES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Educational Messages Advisory Committee meets annually to review NFPA's fire safety education messages and to provide recommendations to NFPA public education staff for updating and revising the messages. The messages are used throughout NFPA's educational programs, curricula, and handouts and provide fire and life safety educators with accurate and consistent language for use when offering safety information to the public. Each topic area is self-contained, written so that all the information needed on a certain subject is provided within that category. As a result, some messaging may be repeated throughout topic areas. To download a copy of the 2011 Edition of fire safety messages go to the link below. Please encourage all members of your fire department to use these standard safety messages.

<http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/PDF/Public%20Education/EMACMessages.pdf>

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# Public Education Updates

## BRANDON FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

### Road Shows/Rodeos – Taking Firefighting Skills to the Public



June is a month of Road Shows and Rodeos to celebrate the successful completion of another Fire Prevention school year for Brandon Fire & Emergency Services. These events are coordinated through our Prevention Division to bring fire safety to the schools in a fun event atmosphere. We also modify the itinerary of both for public events or by special request. Road Shows are events for K-6 students that rotate between 4 pre-set stations all targeting a different area of a firefighter/paramedic's job.

#### **1. Fire Safety Trailer or Scavenger Hunt**

**Safety Trailer** – students will have an opportunity to tour our Safety Trailer and experience real smoke conditions that occur in a fire situation.

**Scavenger Hunt** - Using the gym or a classroom as a starting point, the students will be asked to go searching for the fire safety features in their own school.

- 2. Ambulance** - A fully equipped ambulance is set up for students to experience oxygen masks, heart monitors, blood pressures.
- 3. Aerial Unit** – Our Quint is set up and the firefighters demonstrate how the “Ladder” works and give a close up of our breathing apparatus.
- 4. Water Fun** - Students are given a chance to get a hands-on feel for using a fire hose to put out a fire. Staying dry is not an option.

The Rodeo provides an opportunity for Grade 7 & 8 students to become familiar with some of the skills and equipment required by firefighters in a fun and competitive way. The teams participate in five relay stations:

1. **Bucket Brigade Relay** - Teams compete by filling pails from a fire hose and transporting them to the fire (garbage pail).
2. **Turnout Gear Relay** - Students race to get dressed in complete fire gear as quickly as possible.
3. **Hose Hook-up Relay** - Teams hook a fire hose to a hydrant, connect 2 sections of hose together and then connect a nozzle. The first team to spray water wins.
4. **Dummy Drag Relay** - Teams must recover and rescue a victim through an obstacle course.
5. **Tug of War** - Teams line up as they would in a normal tug-of-war with one exception - the middle line is a spraying fire hose. Losers get wet!

Since January 2012, Brandon Fire & Emergency Services has held 11 Road Shows (~3000 youth), 7 Rodeos (~650 youth), and attended 3 special events (excess of 1000 people) to demonstrate these programs. Not only do the youth get to see if they have any of the skills needed to perform the job of a firefighter/paramedic, the events create some very powerful childhood memories that are reminders for life. The other benefits include providing another venue for learning about fire safety and emergency response for all age groups. As a department, we enjoy great PR and interaction with our community.

*Submitted by Jennifer Mickle*

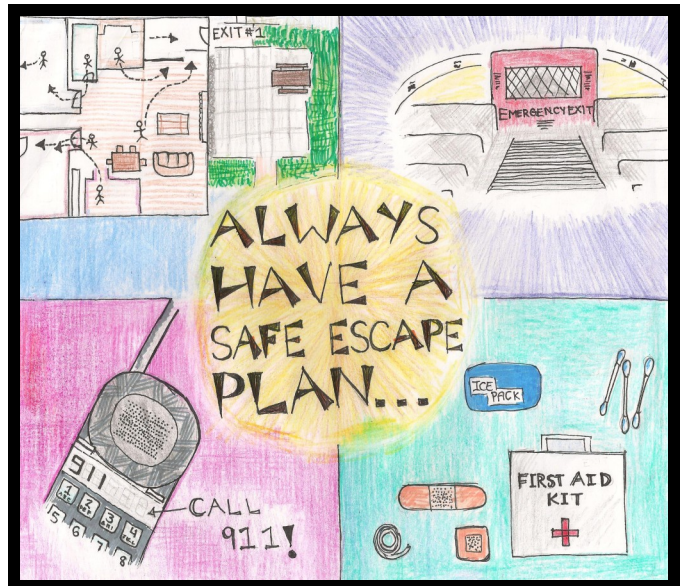


# Public Education Updates

## BURN AWARENESS WEEK POSTER CONTEST WINNERS 2012



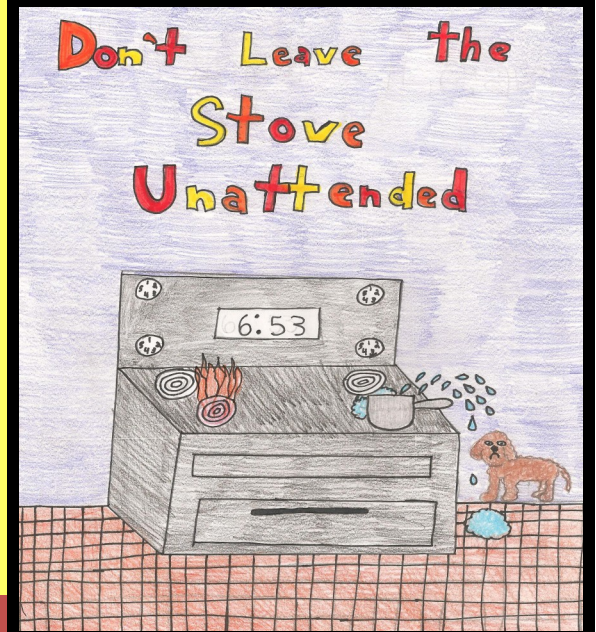
Grade 4 Poster Contest Winner: Anna, Immaculate Heart of Mary School, Winnipeg



Grade 6 Poster Contest Winner: JoAnn, Marion School, Winnipeg

In recognition of Burn Awareness Week, February 5—11th, 2012, the Office of the Fire Commissioner and the Manitoba Fire Fighters Burn Fund invited Grade 4 to 6 students all over the province to participate in a poster contest. Over 700 entries were collected and judged and each winning student won an iPod Touch and \$500.00 for their classroom. Please encourage your schools to participate in the 2013 poster contest.

NEW IN 2013: the poster contest will be available to all Grade 5 to 8 students in the Province. Letters and entry information will be mailed out to all Grade 5 to 8 schools in Manitoba starting in January 2013 or information can be found online at: [www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/safety\\_baw.html](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/safety_baw.html)



Grade 5 Poster Contest Winner: Jacee, Grosse Isle School, Grosse Isle

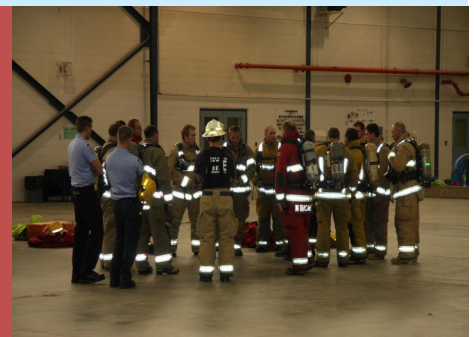


Mark it on your  
calendar!!!

MESC Conference  
October 11, 12, 13th

Check out the conference program at  
[www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/conference.html](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/conference.html)

Right: Picture  
from 2010  
MESC Fall  
Conference in  
Brandon





# Public Education Updates

OFFICE OF THE FIRE COMMISSIONER

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2012



## NEW THIS YEAR:

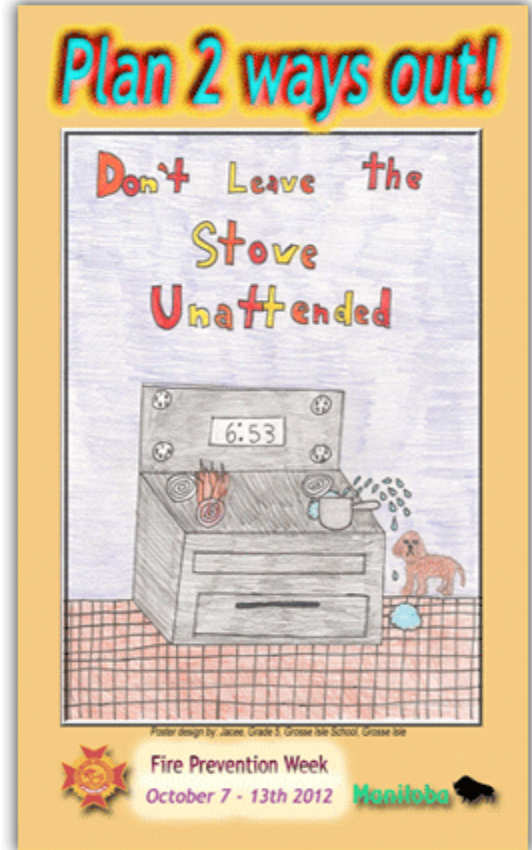
The Office of the Fire Commissioner will be including Grade 4 students to participate in the Children's Activity Booklet campaign for fire prevention week.

You can order your booklets for free from [www.leechprint.com/FirePrevention](http://www.leechprint.com/FirePrevention)

Booklets are available in English and French.

Students in Kindergarten to Grade 4 can win one of five Nintendo DSi XLs.

For more fire prevention week materials and resources please visit [www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/safety\\_fpw.html](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/safety_fpw.html)



Check out NFPA's fire prevention week resources at :

<http://www.firepreventionweek.org>

"Reproduced from NFPA's Fire Prevention Week website, [www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org) ©2012 NFPA."

Picture Left: To order your free fire safety pamphlets go to [www.leechprint.com/FireSafety](http://www.leechprint.com/FireSafety)

Pamphlets are in English and French

# Public Education Updates

## ***First Nations Fire Protection Survey***

The Province of Manitoba and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs entered into an agreement that would see the Office of the Fire Commissioner conducting a Fire Protection Survey on all of Manitoba's 63 First Nations communities. The purpose of the Fire Protection Survey is to determine the current state of fire protection in each First Nation community.

In late January the surveys began, and the Office of the Fire Commissioner with assistance of the 7 Tribal Council Fire Service Officers hit the road and the ice road running. Since the end of January, 58 of the 63 communities have been completed. During the community visits we have been able to participate in Public Education sessions, School and Day Care Inspections and Training Activities with the local Fire Departments.

*Submitted by Tim Langevin*

Below: Fire Hall at Keeseekoowenin First Nation

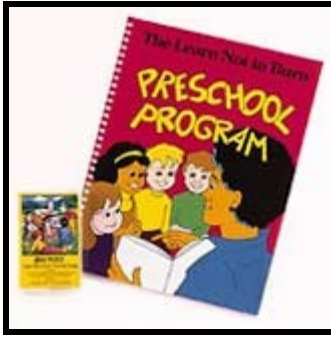


Pictures above and to the right are from the **South Interlake Public Education Committee and OFC jointly hosted Fire and Life Safety Educators' Conference May 25, 2012**. 60 public educators from all over the province attended. The conference was held at the Sunova Centre in West St. Paul. Next year's conference will be on Friday May 24th, 2013—Plan to Attend!!





# Public Education Updates



## Learn Not to Burn Preschool Program

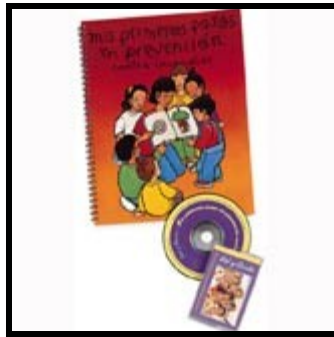
The *Learn Not to Burn Preschool Program* lessons are most appropriate for 4- and 5-year-old children, but they are also appropriate for children in kindergarten.

Available lessons to download free from:

<http://www.nfpa.org/categoryList.asp?categoryID=202>

Lessons topics are: When you hear a smoke alarm, get out and stay out. Included are three lesson plans to teach the behaviour, MP3 files of sounds to help children recognize the smoke alarm sound, photos of objects that make sounds, two original smoke alarm songs sung by Jim Post and Dante Ware, coloured illustrations for discussion, coloring pages, and a letter to send home to parents and guardians

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## NFPA'S EASY-TO-READ HANDOUTS IN MULTIPLE LANGUAGES

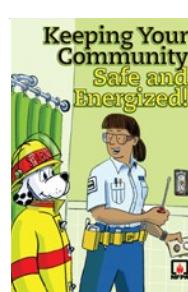
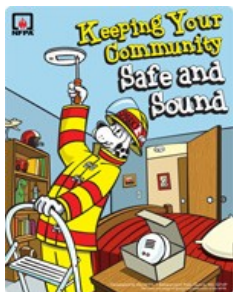
New easy-to-read educational handouts are now available in multiple languages with illustrations representing varied cultures. Download and copy the new handouts to reach people in your community with important fire safety and escape information. Go to the following link to download for free

<http://www.nfpa.org/itemDetail.asp?categoryID=1694&itemID=40855&URL=Safety%20Information/For%20public%20educators/Community%20tool%20kits/Easy-to-read%20handouts%20>

Topics include: Home Escape Planning, Electrical, Heating and Cooking Safety

## COMMUNITY TOOL KITS

NFPA has created several tool kits to help public safety educators conduct successful community education campaigns. To download go to <http://www.nfpa.org/categoryList.asp?categoryID=1620> "Reproduced from NFPA's website ©2012 NFPA."



# NEWS AND VIEWS



## *The History Of FireSmart Canada*

Partners in Protection (PiP) is an Alberta based multidisciplinary non-profit association, made up of members representing national, provincial and municipal associations, government departments responsible for emergency services, forest and parks management, land use planning and private business and industry.

The mandate of Partners in Protection has not changed since its creation, which is; **to facilitate interagency cooperation in the promotion of awareness and education aimed at reducing risk of loss of life and property from fire in the wildland/urban interface**. The association is committed to raising awareness, providing information and developing forums to address common problems that encourage community-based initiatives to reduce the risk of property losses and enhance safety in the wildland/urban interface. Partners in Protection has been successful in developing and distributing information about wildland fire prevention and methods to lessen the effects of destructive wildland fire to homes, communities and industries in the interface. In 1999, PiP created the FireSmart® brand and published a comprehensive technical manual titled **"FireSmart Protecting your Community from Wildfire"**. This manual has been printed in both official languages and has been distributed across Canada and internationally.

Since its inception in 1990 PiP has evolved from the group of eight to a membership of over 60 organizations across Canada. Representatives from eight provinces and territories are currently members of the association. Four provinces, one territory and the USA are represented on the Board of Directors. A recent partnership with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) will provide excellent opportunities for international cooperation and sharing of resource materials between the two organizations concerning the delivery of wildland/urban interface (WUI) education and wildland fire risk mitigation programs.

In 2008 PiP was invited by the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers (CCFM) to develop a proposal for a National FireSmart program. In response, PiP has developed a FireSmart Canada program that would address the goals necessary to protect lives and properties across Canada identified in the Canadian Wildland Fire Strategy developed by senior officials of CCFM. A key element in this proposal is the development of a FireSmart Communities Recognition program based on the model developed by Firewise Communities/ USA®. This program has nearly 700 recognized communities in 41 states throughout the United States. The program provides the criteria, training and education necessary for a community to become certified as Firewise.

In the spring of 2012, PiP held the first FireSmart Liaison Train the Trainer and FireSmart Communities Recognition Program workshops in Kamloops, B.C. co-sponsored by Thompson Okanagan Interface Society, B.C. Fire Commissioner's Office, B.C. Wildland Fire Management Branch and the City of Kamloops. The objective is to provide FireSmart Communities training and information to individuals identified by federal, provincial, local and first nation's agencies and governments as key contacts for neighbourhoods interested in becoming FireSmart. Information on the symposium can be found at; <http://www.toic.ca/events.php>. PiP plans to hold at least three more workshops in Canada during 2012.

These key elements, along with several other components of the National FireSmart Initiative put forth by PiP, combine to encourage shared responsibility for fire protection and to empower individuals, communities and industry to directly reduce the risk from wildfires in or near populated areas.

Material reproduced from <https://www.firesmartcanada.ca/about>

Submitted by Jeff Erwin



FireSmart is a project of Partners in Protection

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# NEWS AND VIEWS

## Are You Landing Zone Ready?

STARS air ambulance has cared for and transported patients for over 27 years in Alberta and is dedicated to providing a safe, rapid, highly-specialized emergency medical transport system for the critically ill and injured. Teamwork with local firefighters is a fundamental part of STARS service. That involvement and partnership has included everything from securing safe and appropriate landing zones, landing the helicopters and working alongside STARS medical crew at the scene of emergencies. Now STARS is in Manitoba.

Through a 10-year funding agreement with the Manitoba government, STARS established a permanent foothold in Manitoba in February 2012 and is now up and running smoothly. Starting with a 12 hour, 7 day a week schedule, service was expanded on summer long weekends to a 24 / 7 rotation. STARS has flown over 300 missions since April 2011 and plans to go to a full 24 / 7 schedule in 2013.

As part of Manitoba's emergency response system, firefighters have been training to work with STARS on scene calls. For training opportunities, you can call **(204) 786-4647**.

Part of the training to local emergency services is through STARS community outreach program. "Partnering with the local emergency service teams is essential to our success." says Troy Pauls, Community Education Leader, Winnipeg. "Our community outreach program works to facilitate the exchange of information between STARS and the organizations it serves, ensuring the most effective patient care and transport possible."

Topics covered during an Operational Outreach session can include:

- Accessing STARS
- Landing zone preparation and helicopter safety
- Preparing a patient for air medical transport

Recently, training was held in June in Neepawa, Erickson, Winkler, Clondeboye and Warren/Woodlands and in July STARS went to Beausejour, Steinbach, St. Jean-Baptiste/Letellier and Stonewall.

For each mission, there are two pilots and a flight nurse and flight paramedic both trained in critical care. A STARS emergency doctor is also available for all missions, for either consultation or to respond along with the crew on the aircraft.

Since launching STARS service, the Springfield Volunteer Firefighters and Paramedics have responded to five calls. One of the first was an electrocution. Within minutes of the call a hydro bulldozer had cleared snow for a 20m x 20m landing zone and the firefighters guided the helicopter in. More recently, there was an incident involving a motorcycle at Deacon's corner. Dick Vlaming, Springfield Fire Chief said, "STARS is a great tool and great for our customers. The public doesn't know yet the skill and equipment that is on that machine."

"Deacon's Corner was my first close-in scene call in Manitoba and it went off without a hitch. I have a feeling of confidence coming in to a scene call and seeing that firefighter with his arms in the air." said STARS pilot Greg Chorney. "I know then that the training is going to pay off with great teamwork."

For more information on training and landing zones, visit **[www.stars.ca](http://www.stars.ca)** and look under Education and Training.

*Submitted by: Janis Arnold, STARS Communication*



# NEWS AND VIEWS

## ERICKSON & DISTRICT FIRE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES A NEW PUMPER

On June 19, 2012 the Erickson & District Fire Department received its new pumper that was manufactured by Acres Industries (formerly Green Acres Industries) from Wawanesa, MB. This new unit replaces our previous pumper that served our community well for 22 years.

This pumper features some of the newest technology available in order that the truck meets all current specifications as well as being able to meet the needs of the fire service for years to come.

The design and build process took approximately 18 months from start to delivery date. The department struck a build committee that worked with both the town and municipal councils and fire department members as a team to ensure that the final product would meet our needs as a growing rural community in a cost effective manner without sacrificing truck capability. We started with a needs assessment and a review of past incidents to determine what we should incorporate into a new pumper to serve the community for the next 20 years.

During the design process, the committee looked at many newer units across the province and consulted with them about what went into their new trucks. As well we explored the options from the various truck manufacturers from across North America. In the end, it was a successful partnership with Acres Industries to develop and build the unit that we are proud to have in our hall.

About the truck, it is a 2012 International Model 7500 chassis with a MaxxForce 10 350HP engine. The 5 person crew cab features 4 SCBA seats, and a radio charging station. This unit is equipped with pump and roll via controls from the centre console to the 2.5" remote turret on the front bumper. The unit features a Waterous Model 140-SP CAF system (Compressed Air Foam) that can deliver compressed air foam to 3 hand lines as well as the front turret. The CAF system coupled with the onboard foam tank and 1000 gallon water supply will be a definite aid in any fire situation with our mix of urban-rural-wildland fire environment. In addition the unit features a Class A foam system, a 3" turret is installed above the pump panel, a 1" electric rewind hose reel is incorporated into the officer side running board, a 3500 watt power inverter and a hydraulic ladder lift system to secure all of our ladders, 6" suction hose and pike poles. This feature maximizes storage capacity but also improves fire fighter safety as the lift system brings the rescue equipment to a level that is safely accessed by members standing firmly on the ground with no awkward lifts, stretches or hand holds required.

Another area of the truck that was designed with intent was scene lighting. The unit features the 4 of the newest LED flood/spot lights (20,000 lumens each) to provide maximum scene lighting to rescue or night operations without the added bulk of a portable generator or light stands. The rescue style body allows for full depth compartments to allow for ample amounts of storage, which combined with slide outs in the bottom compartments allows for maximum efficiency when packaging the necessary equipment into the truck.

It is not often that a small rural department has the opportunity or ability to design and purchase a new pumper unit. There was countless volunteer hours spent on all aspects of the design and build process to get the unit specifications we wanted as well as to add some personal touches, a new department logo, custom stripe package and the addition of the Fireman's Prayer on Maltese crosses installed on both sides of the pump house. Decaling and design consultation was provided by Off the Wall graphics of Brandon. We were successful in obtaining a pumper incorporating the latest technology in an overall package that stands out as well. We thank the many firefighters, departments and suppliers that we spoke with and consulted during the process to bring this truck into service. Special thanks to the department members and their families who were actively involved with obtaining this truck.

*Submitted by Steve Geletchuk*





# AWARDS

## 20 Years Exemplary Service

On April 30, 2012 the R.M. of Cartier Fire Chief Dan Bouchard was presented with his 20 year exemplary service medal. On hand to present the medal to Fire Chief Bouchard was Fire Commissioner Dave Schafer on behalf of the Governor General of Canada.

With over 20 years of service to his community, Dan has staffed many positions within the fire department. Dan joined the department as a junior firefighter, until he turned 18 years old when he became a regular member. Since then Dan has worked his way up to a Captain, then Deputy Chief until he was appointed Fire Chief where he actively serves the R.M. of Cartier today. Dan is also very active within the Boyne River Mutual Aid District.

Congratulations to Fire Chief Dan Bouchard on receiving the Governor General's 20 year Exemplary Service Medal.

*Submitted by Tim Langevin*



Left to Right: Fire Commissioner Dave Schafer, Fire Chief Dan Bouchard



Pictured from left to right are PVMAD Co-ordinator Rathwell Fire Chief Bill Nostedt presenting the "Pembina Valley Mutual Aid District Memorial Fire Service Award" to Capt. Melvin Van Woensel from the Swan Lake Fire Dept. (30 years) Emergency Services Officer Roger Gillis from The Office of the Fire Commissioner (20 years) and Fire Chief Gary Buydens from the Swan Lake Fire Dept. (30 years).

## Pembina Valley Mutual Aid District Memorial Fire Service Award Presentation

The Pembina Valley Mutual Aid District Memorial Fire Service Award is dedicated to the memory of La Riviere Fire Chief Les Wiklund and Swan Lake Fire Chief John Campbell. The Memorial Award is presented to firefighters in the Pembina Valley MAD for 20, 30 and 40 years of dedicated and loyal emergency service.

The Pembina Valley Mutual Aid District includes fire departments from Crystal City, Darlingford, La Riviere, Manitou, Notre Dame de Lourdes, Pilot Mound, Rathwell, St. Leon, Somerset, Swan Lake and Treherne. This presentation was done at our annual supper meeting on June 6th. Thanks to the Darlingford Fire Dept. and their members for hosting the event.

*Submitted by Melvin Van Woensel*

# TRAINING

## Wildland Fire Fighting Seminar – South Central MAD

On the weekend of November 4, 5, & 6, 2011, the long awaited Wildland Fire Fighting for Structural Fire Fighters Seminar was held in the South Central Mutual Aid District.

Firefighters from numerous departments within the SCMD and a couple from the West Central MAD participated in the seminar.

Participants learned important theory in working with wildland fires, including fire behaviour and control tactics.

Participants had the opportunity to practice using various fire pumps, which was followed by deploying hose and attacking “lime” fires. After all the practice, firefighters were able to use their new skills on a live fire.

An acronym that all participants left with is LACES, standing for Lookouts, Anchor points, Communications, Escape routes, and Safety zones.

The Erickson Fire Department played host to the seminar and treated participant and instructors with excellent hospitality throughout the weekend...there was definitely no shortage of food!

Thanks to the instructors Jeff Erwin, Dennis Friesen, and Brad Brodziak.

*Submitted by Chad Davies*



## Fire and Emergency Services personnel hone their search and rescue skills

by Teresa Carey Interlake Spectator

On Feb. 18th Arborg-Bifrost Fire and Emergency Services hosted a recertification training day for Ground Search and Rescue.

Thirty people from several Winnipeg, North Interlake and South Interlake fire departments took part in the recertification training.

We haven't had a course like this before, it helped get everybody on the same page," said volunteer fire fighter and search and rescue team leader, Sue Medwid.

Randy Antonio Ground Search and Rescue coordinator with the city of Winnipeg Police Service and Special Ops, and Scott Kerbis, Assistant Fire Commissioner from the Office of the Fire Commissioner were the instructors for the day. They were at the Arborg Fire Hall to update the group on search techniques.

Ann Nelson, and emergency helicopter pilot with Prairie Helicopters Inc. in Gimli, was also on hand to teach the group.

"They were all really happy to go up. I think that was the highlight of the day," Medwid said.

The helicopter may have drawn the attention of Arborg residents as it flew around town for the day. Trainees were given GPS coordinates and had to find specific location in town using them. It gave rescuers an opportunity to practise with new GPS locaters they received in 2011.

At least eight helicopter trips were made throughout the day , with four fire and emergency personnel in the helicopter at a time.

*Submitted by Susan Medwid*





# TRAINING

## MESC TRAINING WEEKENDS FOR FIRE FIGHTERS

### Thompson and Brandon Locations

#### Thompson Manitoba

**September 14th—16th, 2012**

The following seminars are being offered concurrently at the Manitoba Emergency Services College in **Thompson** Manitoba located at 1601 Lagoon Road.

- Vehicle Extrication Seminar
  - Fire Control
- Pump Operations Seminar
- Critical Incident Stress Management—Basic

***Application Deadline for all of the above Seminars is August 24th, 2012!***

#### Brandon Manitoba

**April 19th—21st, 2013**

The following seminars are being offered concurrently at the Manitoba Emergency Services College in **Brandon** Manitoba

- Water Rescue Seminar
- Ground Search and Rescue Team Leader
  - Farm Accident Rescue
- Wildland Firefighting for Structural Fire Fighters
- Lead Instructor Workshop—Fire Fighting
- Lead Instructor Workshop—EMR
  - Vehicle Extrication
- Rapid Intervention Crews (RIC)
- Incident Command 200

***Application Deadline for all of the above Seminars is March 29th, 2013!***

#### Brandon Manitoba

**November 16th—18th, 2012**

The following seminars are being offered concurrently at the Manitoba Emergency Services College in **Brandon** Manitoba

- Pump Operations Seminar
- Fire Services Hydraulics Seminar
- Emergency Vehicle Driving Skills Fire/EMS Seminar
- Critical Incident Stress Management—Basic
  - Fire Ground Management
  - School Bus Rescue Seminar
    - Rescue Practices
  - Incident Command 200
- Conducting Live Fire Training Evolutions

***Application Deadline for all of the above Seminars is October 26th, 2012!***

*Applications as well as Policy Procedures can be found on the following website:*

*[www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/mesc.html](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/mesc.html) or by calling the Manitoba Emergency Services College at (204) 726-6855 or Toll Free at 1-888-253-1488*

*Prerequisites must be met prior to submitting an application. Please ensure that all applications are sent via fax to (204) 726-6847, by mail to 1601 Van Horne Avenue East, Brandon, Manitoba R7A 7K2 or e-mailed to [firecomm@gov.mb.ca](mailto:firecomm@gov.mb.ca)*



# the **Prevention Post**



## Mark it on Your Calendar

Fire and Life Safety Education's Conference  
Hosted jointly with OFC and  
South Interlake Mutual Aid  
District  
Friday May 24th 2013  
Sunova Centre 9-4 pm  
48 Holland Road, West  
St. Paul

...more details to follow...



Check it out and register now!

Manitoba Emergency Services  
Course Catalogue  
is now available online at

[www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/mesc\\_catalogue.html](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/mesc_catalogue.html)



### *A Message from the Fire Commissioner and the Conference Planning Committee:*

It is my pleasure, along with the 2012 Manitoba Emergency Services Conference Planning Committee, to present the 25th Annual conference brochure.

The conference goal is to deliver a positive and challenging training weekend making it possible for Emergency Services Personnel to develop their skills with peers from across the Province and Canada. In addition to an excellent training opportunity, this conference offers a trade show with suppliers and manufacturers on site for product information and demonstration.

The Conference Planning Committee has listened to the Manitoba Fire Service and has worked hard to include some new training opportunities with this year's Conference. Please plan ahead to ensure yourself a seat in the seminar or course of your choice and to take advantage of the discounted early registration fees.

I encourage you to keep current with the annual conference by frequenting the Office of the Fire Commissioner Webpage throughout the year at [www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca). Comments and suggestions to the committee are, as always, welcome.

Thank you to our partners and staff for their commitment in making this conference possible. I look forward to seeing you there.

David K. Schafer

Fire Commissioner of Manitoba

**Check out the Conference Brochure at [www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/conference.html](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/conference.html)**

**Registrations open on August 13, 2012 and close September 21st, 2012**

The Office of the Fire Commissioner produces **the Prevention Post** newsletter.  
The Prevention Post is a collection of updates from the Office of the Fire Commissioner, news and views from the Manitoba Fire Service and information on public safety.

EDITOR: Kathy Danino

Contributions, news items, events and articles may be submitted to:  
[Kathy.danino@gov.mb.ca](mailto:Kathy.danino@gov.mb.ca)

Submission deadline for the next issue is November 1st, 2012.

