



the Prevention Post

Manitoba Office of the Fire Commissioner

ISSUE

May
2013

No.3

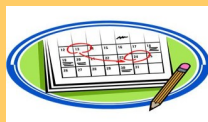
Mark it on your

Calendars:

October 3, 4 and 5th

Manitoba Emergency

Services Conference



this issue

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Message from the Fire Commissioner:

Welcome back to another issue of Prevention Post.



Members of the Manitoba Fire Service protect the safety and well-being of their neighbours through their efforts in fire fighting, fire prevention, safety promotion and emergency services.

The Mary Beth Dolin Meritorious Fire Service Award was established in 1988 to honour individual achievement in the fire service. The medal is awarded to those who have demonstrated excellence, leadership or outstanding achievement, or to those whose contribution has substantially enhanced the safety of the people of Manitoba.

On Friday May 17, 2013 at the Manitoba Legislature, the Honourable Minister Jennifer Howard, Minister responsible for the Office of the Fire Commissioner, presented this medal to the family of John Campbell, a gentleman who demonstrated dedication to the fire service for over 27 years. Throughout these years he became best known for his service to the community through his work as an officer and later Fire Chief of the Swan Lake Fire Department.

John became the first paid-on-call firefighter to qualify for workers compensation benefits due to a work-related illness. With his passing in 2009, he will be remembered as setting the precedent allowing others to benefit through his legacy.



The Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) has committed to organize and lead a Provincial Fire Strategy Working Group to review the existing and future challenges that the Manitoba Fire Service and municipalities face collectively. The aim is to develop a long-term strategy to ensure that the Manitoba Fire Service and our mutual aid system is well positioned to meet the future needs of municipalities and the public. The Working Group includes representation from primary stakeholders. These agencies include; Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM); Manitoba Association of Fire Chiefs (MAFC); Winnipeg Fire & Paramedic Service (WFPS); Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC).

The Working Group has some questions for municipalities and the fire service. Please take the time to work through this survey and to give your best answers possible.

The survey will be available until July 1, 2013 and can be found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/B3CPFLK>



Manitoba Fire Prevention Week



Fire Prevention Week Kick-Off

Thursday October 4th, 2012

Ecole Leila North Community School, Winnipeg



Pictured Above:

The Honourable Jennifer Howard, Minister of Family Services and Labour Programs presented Sherisse Thorsteinson with a Recognition certificate for her quick thinking and responsive actions during a home house fire that led her to ensure the safety of the three young children that she was babysitting.



Manitoba Fire Prevention Week

GRAND VALLEY MUTUAL AID DISTRICT FIRE CHIEF FOR A DAY



Grade 4 students
from Grand Valley
Mutual Aid District
enjoy a day filled
with activities.



Pictures submitted by Jennifer Mickle

Manitoba Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week Contest Winners 2012



Kindergarten Winner: Baker, Miniota School



Grade 1 Winner: Emily from Shoal Lake School

Pictured Right:
Grade 2 Winner:
Ryder, St. Andrews
School

Pictured Below:
Grade 3 Winner:
Callee, Isaac Brock
School, Winnipeg



OFC's Fire Prevention Week Contest Winners enjoyed their prize of a Nintendo 3DS, game, case and fire safety materials for their classmates and teacher.



Pictured Right:
Grade 4
Winner: Aiden,
Lac du Bonnet
School



Manitoba Fire Prevention Week 2012

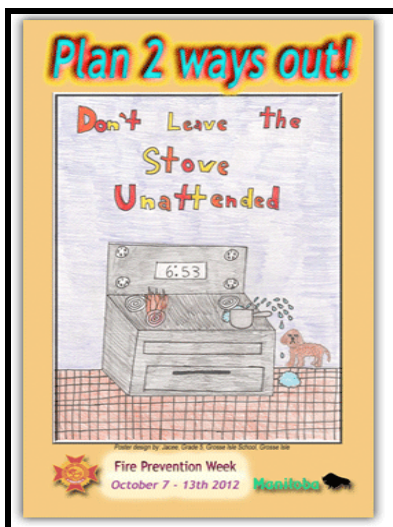


Puff, DeeDee, and Sparky, entertaining and teaching approximately 250 children, at Robert Smith School in Selkirk. This was the first of 2 shows on the day. *Submitted by Dave Milner, Selkirk Fire Department*



Pictured below and right: **"Firefighters tout two ways out for safety"**

Sparky had plenty of company Saturday afternoon during the St. Andrews Fire Department's Fire Prevention Week display at Harry's Foods. Stopping in for a hug and some safety tips were some St. Andrews children. Original article was in the Selkirk Record/ by Donna Maxwell. *Submitted by Don Peters, St. Andrews Fire*



Public Education Updates

FUNDRAISING EVENT and DONATIONS WELL SPENT



Pictured Left: Fire Fighters Joe Craig and Dave Milner, along with Selkirk Fire Department were pleased to be able to donate \$6,000.00 to Connie Cote of the Selkirk and District Breast Cancer Support Group. We started with an open house in September, selling pink shirts, toques and hats, and with the help of other area fire departments and some local businesses, we were able to make this donation to the support group November 19, 2012.

Submitted by Dave Milner, Selkirk Fire Department

Pictured right: Swan Lake Fire & Rescue Capt. Melvin Van Woensel receiving a cheque for \$1000.00 from Lions President Agnes Van Den Bussche. The donation is going towards the purchase of a snowmobile / quad rescue sled. The "Snowbalance" comes with skis. Other options included the quad kit as pictured and also a deep cycle battery, heater and interior light. Capt. Gerry Delaquis and other Lions members were also on hand for the cheque presentation.

*Submitted by
Melvin Van Woensel,
Swan Lake Fire & Rescue*



Public Education Updates

FUNDRAISING



Pictured:

6 foot inflatable boot purchased by the South Interlake Mutual Aid District / Public Education Committee. The boot was purchased Summer 2012 and is being used at several community events as an awesome display and for donations. Purchased from www.inflatablestafetyhouse.com



November was kicked off at St. Andrews Fire Hall Nov 01, 2012. This year all of SADF members grew moustaches and raised funds towards Prostate Cancer with Canadian Cancer Society, Manitoba Division.

Submitted by Don Peters, St. Andrews Fire Department



Public Education Updates

FireSmart Community Planning

Fire Prevention Planning is Key



Planning is key to fire prevention and the protection of communities, subdivisions, resorts and cottages throughout Manitoba. Wildfires are unpredictable and can spread quickly, causing major damage. To reduce the risk of them spreading out of control, emergency response agencies must be aware of the possible fire hazards throughout the Province.

To assess these risks and improve fire fighting strategy, provincial FireSmart staff has been conducting “values at risk” (VAR) inventory over the past two summers. The inventory identifies individual and collective improvements/developments to properties throughout the Province. These improvements/developments include anything that has measureable value – financial and ecological. Examples include: schools, hospitals, businesses, houses, cottages, outbuildings, public spaces, cultural sites and utilities.

The information from this VAR inventory will be used to develop Pre-Response and Structural (sprinkler) deployment plans. These plans help firefighters respond faster and more efficiently to a potential wildfire.

Provincial FireSmart staff have to date completed the Whiteshell, Nopiming and Grand Beach Provincial Parks and the RM of Victoria Beach. Inventories have also begun in the RM of St. Clements. Work will be continuing next year from May through September. FireSmart staff will be going door to door to record information on all dwellings, gathering information on a wide range of topics, including, utilities, roads, onsite water access, evacuation options, roofing, and siding etc. If property owners are home when park staff visits, they are welcome to take part in the inventory if they choose. Owners may also have a copy of their property VAR assessment, on request.

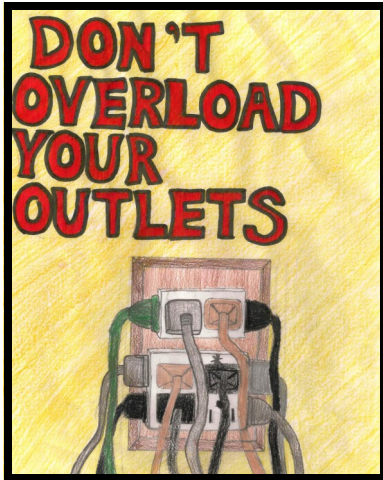
For more information on the FireSmart Values at Risk inventories contact Jeff Erwin at the Office of the Fire Commissioner.

Submitted by Jeff Erwin, Office of the Fire Commissioner



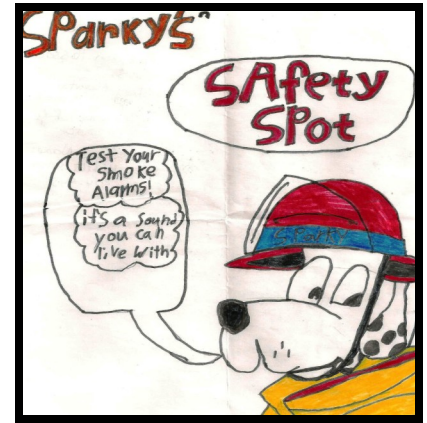
Public Education Updates

BURN AWARENESS WEEK POSTER CONTEST WINNERS GRADES 5 TO 8



Pictured Above: Grade 8 winner:
Rachel, Grosse Isle School

Pictured Right: Grade 6 Winner:
Claudian, Holy Ghost School



Pictured Above: Grade 5 winner:
Brayden, Stony Mountain School

Pictured Above and Middle: Grade
7 Winner: Jeanette, Dawson Trail
School

In recognition of Burn Awareness Week, February 3—9th, 2013, the Office of the Fire Commissioner and the Manitoba Fire Fighters Burn Fund invited Grade 5 to 8 students from all over the province to participate in a poster contest. Students who created the winning posters won an iPod Touch and \$500.00 for their classroom.



Picture Above: To order your free fire
safety pamphlets go to
www.leecheprint.com/FireSafety
Pamphlets are in English and French

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](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

Public Education Updates

LOOKING FOR A SAFETY TIP SHEET?

PLEASE GO TO THE SITE LISTED BELOW TO DOWNLOAD YOUR FREE SAFETY SHEET:

<http://www.nfpa.org/itemDetail.asp?categoryID=1979&itemID=46567&URL=Safety%20Information/Safety%20tip%20sheets>



SAFETY TOPICS INCLUDE:

Safety in Places of Public Assembly

Scald Prevention

Electrical Safety

Portable Fireplaces

Smoking and Home Fire Safety

Clothes Dryer

Heat

Microwave Oven Safety

Halloween

Get ahead of the Winter Freeze

Gel Fuel Warning

Escape Planning

Candles

Manufactured Homes

Cooking Safety

Christmas Trees

Fireworks

Smoke Alarms

Car Fire Safety

High Risk Apartments and Condominiums

Hotels/Motels

Oxygen Safety

Home Safety for People with Disabilities

Generators

CFL Light Bulbs

Carbon Monoxide

Campus

Lightning

Winter Holiday

Grilling

Smoke Alarms for People who are Deaf

Thanksgiving Safety

Public Education Updates

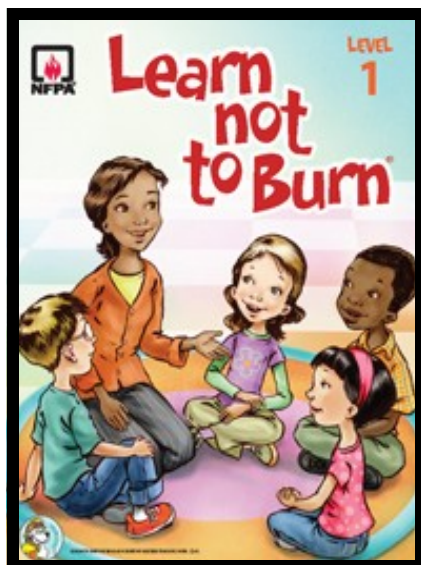


Firefighters from Elkhorn and Virden along with Sparky the Fire Dog mascot visited the preschool in Elkhorn on Thursday May 16. This was the first appearance in the area of Sparky and the new public education trailer. The trailer is an excellent education tool for fire prevention and will be visiting most of the local schools before the end of the school season.

Submitted by Brad Yochim, Fire Chief, Wallace District Fire Department



Public Education Updates



Learn Not to Burn Level 1 / Grade 1

Learn Not to Burn Level 1 is designed to be used with grade 1 students. It presents six fire safety messages using classroom lessons, activities and home connections. It can be taught as a stand-alone fire safety unit or easily integrated in language arts core curriculum lessons. The fire department can be invited to the classroom throughout the program to support the fire safety messages taught. *Learn Not to Burn* Level 1 is an easy to use flexible guide for teachers to respond to the needs of the classroom. Make time for fire safety education in your classroom.

For a free copy for you Grade 1 teachers please go to:

<http://www.nfpa.org/categoryList.asp?categoryID=2664&URL=Safety%20Information/For%20public%20educators/Education%20programs/Learn%20Not%20to%20Burn/Learn%20Not%20to%20Burn%20Level%201/Grade%201>



Don't miss an issue! Sign Up at <http://ebm.cheetahmail.com/r/regf2?a=0&aid=272412627&n=200> and be the first to get the latest information on happenings in the public education division, activities, fire statistics, trends, educational tips, Sparky the Fire Dog® and more.

"Safety Source" is NFPA's monthly public education e-newsletter.

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 2012 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>

"Reproduced from NFPA's website ©2013 NFPA."

Public Education Updates

Pictured right:

Attached is photo of the St. Andrews Fire water target. This is used at open house and other community events. Made out of one sheet of plywood, hinges and paint (simple idea). We use a grass fire hose and children and adults attempted to knock down the four flames. Safety messages are on all sides of the plywood (front -Get Out Stay Out). Everyone likes water and shooting at a target!

Submitted by Don Peters, St. Andrews Fire Department



Pictured Below:

Tim Langevin, Fire Prevention Officer with OFC, hands off the fire safety trailer keys to Shawn Elcock, Fire Chief, Pinawa Fire Department who is representing the Northeast Mutual Aid District.



Looking for a fire safety poem?

Cut and paste the link below and find some great fire safety poems!

<http://www.tooter4kids.com/FireSafety/poetry.htm>

Stop Drop and Roll

Stop, drop and roll.

Stop, drop and roll.

If your clothes ever catch on fire

Stop, drop and roll!



MESC NEWS



Manitoba Emergency Services College Calendar will be available shortly online at

http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/mesc_catalogue.html



Manitoba Emergency Services Conference

October 3 -5 , 2013

Information will be available soon

Please check out the link below:

<http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/conference.html>

NEWS AND VIEWS

NEW!!

Exit signs have now been changed to the international symbol and are green in colour



OLD:



The adoption of the 2010 National Building Code of Canada since April 1, 2011, calls for the green “running man” image and directional arrows instead of the traditional red **EXIT** or **SORTIE** signs.

The new format conforms to International Standards Organization (ISO) symbols now commonplace in the European Union and many other countries. National Code developers expect most Canadian provinces and territories will adopt the change, which would mandate the pictogram sign in new construction and major renovations.

Some buildings in which you may have seen the new “running man” exit signs are the Manitoba Legislature Buildings, and most recently IKEA in Winnipeg.

The Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes’ rationale for the running man pictogram is largely to harmonize Canadian standards with international trends. However, there are spinoff benefits of greater inclusiveness for people with limited literacy in English or French and potential cost savings for building owners who previously had to source bilingual **EXIT/SORTIE** signs.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on the Manitoba Fire Code

The following is a FAQ developed by the Office of the Fire Commissioner for distribution to members of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities.

It contains the most commonly asked questions that come into our office and the answers to these questions so everyone has the correct information.

Please find and bookmark it at the following address on the website of the Office of the Fire Commissioner: http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/docs/fire_inspector_faq_2012.pdf



Please mark it on your calendars! Fire Prevention Week is October 6 –12, 2013

Go to http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/safety_fpw.html for more information.

"Reproduced from NFPA's Fire Prevention Week website, www.firepreventionweek.org. ©2013 NFPA"



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCT. 6-12, 2013 
PREVENT KITCHEN FIRES
GO TO **FPW.ORG** AND **GET COOKIN' WITH FIRE SAFETY!**

NEWS AND VIEWS



Dear CAFC Members,

The CAFC Fire and Life safety Committee is seeking a minimum of two fire services (with a population of 50,000 or less) from each Province and Territory to assist the CAFC with a smoke alarm pilot project. The pilot project is fundamentally a smoke alarm program focused on older residential building stock. The goal is to have the selected fire department conduct a smoke alarm program and collect selected data for the CAFC Fire & Life Safety Committee. The fire service conducting the pilot project will be provided with a sample smoke alarm package to assist the department with the pilot. Within the package there will be the survey form, waiver for the installation of the smoke alarms and or batteries and PSA's. Additionally there will be some support documents to aid in the delivery of the pilot project. We are asking the selected fire service to track and complete the survey forms and return them to the CAFC Fire & Life Safety Committee once they have completed the program. The goal is to have the pilot smoke alarm program delivered by the end of September 2013.

The delivery methods regarding the testing or replacement of the smoke alarms is left to the individual fire department. We are not able to provide any funding for this pilot project and are seeking the support of the selected fire services to aid in the delivery of the Pilot program and the return of the collected data.

We will send out all the documentation required for the program along with the general guidelines for it. Each fire service is able to tweak the program to accommodate its unique situations. All we ask is for the data collected to be returned to the committee in order to compile a national sampling of smoke alarm data.

We still need commitments from fire services in the following Provinces and Territories: Nunavut, Quebec, Northwest Territories, Yukon, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador.

If you would like to participate please email rchaput@cityofkingston.ca and a smoke alarm package sample will be emailed to you.

Thank you

Rheume Chaput –Chair CAFC Fire & Life safety Committee

Fire Chief

AWARDS



South Central Wishes happy retirement to Murray Bedford

On March 7th 2013 was Murray Bedfords last Mutual Aid meeting was held in Minnedosa with the South Central Mutual Aid District. The SCMAD was very grateful for the dedication and contribution Murray has brought the district. Many years ago Murray became the SCMAD rep and remained for many years and just a few years ago he was relocated to investigations and was no longer the rep. He was replaced and after a couple of years was returned to the SCMAD as OFC rep under reorganization. For many years Murray has been a strong influence on the 9 departments and strongly advised the group that training was essential and continuous training on level 1 was a great asset. Many departments followed his instruction with his

support at any time. Murray could always be called on duty or off he was always available for the district and that was greatly appreciated. With today's fire service many complex situations arise and assistance or advice is needed. Murray would help out or get the right resources required. I will always remember a 300 bale fire and strong North wind with alot of bush and many fires in the district that day. When Murray was called he was on his way for assistance he gave support second to none helping out and assisting with a water supply. He gave advice and support and just that feeling that we were doing everything right under the extreme conditions and many exposures was reassurance for the department under the conditions.

Murray at meetings in the early years had a tough time with old school philosophy but he pushed ahead for the betterment of the district and it paid huge dividends for quality of the fire departments. He always made the training plan a priority and stressed there is something you need in your district if it was pump opts or water rescue or vehicle extrication or any of the many courses available. Many years ago we sent Murray back to the OFC and asked for a wildland course he was received with allot of reluctance back then by OFC. We as a district pushed ahead and Murray stood behind our request we received a shortened version from Parks Canada as we needed such a course and training. We then pushed harder for all fire departments in Manitoba to have access to such a worthwhile course after taking the Parks Canada training and how it helped our knowledge. We all felt we fight more wildland than structure year after year. Murray supported the district and today we have a wildland course that is now the most after course of the OFC we thank him for that. With the recent wildland fires in MB we are proud as a district that we along with our OFC rep have made a difference in the fire service with the requests and the creation of the wildland firefighting course created by OFC.

Murray has attended every meeting until the reorganization and then every 2 months attending in the past few years. He can always be counted on unless an emergency was happening and he sent regrets and we knew it had to be important for him not to attend. He would have replacements if he was away or suggested others for knowledge building of the district. Murray has been a great asset to the 9 fire departments and a true friend and will always be treated as part of the district for many years to come during his retirement.

Submitted by John Braschuk Jr, South Central Mutual Aid District

AWARDS



On April 8th, 2013, Ken Austin retired Fire Chief of Waskada Fire Department received a lifetime membership to the Manitoba Association of Fire Chiefs.

Submitted by Dick Harvey, OFC

Fire Chief John Campbell—Family Awarded with Mary Beth Dolin Award 2013

John began his fire service career as a founding member of the Swan Lake Fire Department in 1982. His leadership was recognized and was appointed as one of our first captains. In time John continued to lead becoming our 3rd and best known chief. To many of us, the Swan Lake Fire Department will always be John's department. He has accomplished many things in 27 years as follows: Level One Firefighter; Level One Fire Service Instructor (1991); Level One and Two Fire Service Inspector; Vehicle Extrication Instructor; Member Pembina Valley GSAR; Team Leader Pembina Valley GSAR.

John was an active member of the Pembina Valley Mutual aid District. In the MAD, John was also a leader among the fire chiefs. He was active as the Mutual Aid District Assistant Coordinator and Training Officer.

John taught and trained many firefighters, not only in Swan Lake and Pembina Valley, but in the province and at the MESC Conference. Better trained firefighters make better fire departments. John believed in this and taught the following: Level One Fire Fighting Practices; HazMat Awareness; Vehicle Extrication; School Bus Rescue and Farm Accident Rescue

John was a member of the MAFC and was awarded the MAFC 25 Year Long Service Award in 2009.

We expect our most dangerous times to be on the emergency scene. When John was diagnosed with firefighter related lung cancer, it made us realize our most dangerous enemy cannot be seen and affect us years later. John continued to lead by example and remained Chief coming to every call, practice and meeting.

John became the first volunteer /paid on call firefighter to qualify for workers compensation benefits due to a work related illness. This was not easy as there were no precedents and the legislation that would have helped John did not pass until just before his death. John accomplished something which helped to set a precedent for all non career firefighters to collect workers compensation benefits for a work related illness. No firefighter will have to go through the same battle to get the benefits and compensation deserved for a work place illness.

This fall a new Fire Truck which John worked so hard for will arrive. We will dedicate the truck to his memory. John Campbell 1948-2009, Rest in Peace.

Right: John Campbell pictured with Roger Gillis receiving his MAFC Long Service Award in 2008

Submitted by Melvin Van Woensel, Swan Lake Fire Department





the Prevention Post

Sparky relaxing after Fire Prevention Week

Sparky was invited to Grand Opening of Avani Wellness Centre / Lockport MB.

Sparky provided a safety message and then participated in a children's yoga class to relax after a busy

Fire Prevention Week. Ah!

*Submitted by Don Peters,
St. Andrews Fire Department*



NEW! Email Subscription

Sign up for the OFC's email subscription service and periodically receive information and updates important to you.

Go to: http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/email_list.html

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

Articles are accepted anytime!!

