



the Prevention Post

Manitoba Office of the Fire Commissioner

ISSUE

December
2013

No.4



Mark it on your

Calendars:

Thursday May 29th, 2014

Fire and Life Safety

Educators Conference



this issue

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Message from the Fire Commissioner:

Happy Holidays, and welcome back to Prevention Post. The Staff of the Office of the Fire Commissioner have been working hard over the past few months to gather articles for this edition of the Prevention Post, in order to make a Holiday season edition available to the Manitoba Fire Service and the public.

During the Holiday season, the number of fire incidents involving candles, home heating equipment, electrical sources including overheating of holiday decorations increase significantly compared to the rest of the year.

In Manitoba, we also see a rise in the number of fire incidents during the winter months involving wood burning stoves, portable space heaters, candles and clothes dryers. All of these fires are preventable.

During this holiday season I urge families to use special care to ensure that all Manitobans have a safe and enjoyable season. Below are a few tips to keep in mind that will assist you in meeting this goal:

- Remember to turn off or unplug all decoration lights before going to bed or leaving the house;
- Avoid overloading power outlets and ensure extension cords are being properly used;
- Inspect the condition of extension cords before using them, and do not cover them with any rugs, carpets etc.
- Turn off or unplug portable space heaters when not in use;
- Ensure combustible materials are kept away from hot appliances and objects;
- Do not leave candles, wood burning stoves or fire places un-attended;

As a home owner, parent or educator, visit our Fire and Life Safety Education section and download the Holiday Safety Kit and Holiday Fire Safety Tips to learn how to minimize your risk and maximize your comfort and festivities.

On behalf of all the staff of the Office of the Fire Commissioner, please have a safe and enjoyable Holiday season.

David Schafer

Fire Commissioner

Manitoba Fire Prevention Week



Fire Prevention Week Kick-Off

Monday October 7th, 2013

Rockwood School, Winnipeg



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.



Manitoba Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week Contest Winners 2013



Kindergarten Winner: Aiden, O.V. Jewitt School, Winnipeg

Grade 1 Winner: Jonathon, Linden Lanes School

Pictured Right:
Grade 2 Winner:
Charlotte, H.S. Paul
School, Winnipeg

Pictured Below:
Grade 3 Winner:
Jaycen, Arborg
Early/Middle Years
School



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



Pictured Right:
Grade 4
Winner: Kaelyn,
Erickson
Elementary
School



Manitoba Fire Prevention Week 2013



During St. Andrews Fire Open House Oct 2013 future firefighters were checking out fire trucks. Ella and Ava (sisters) were very happy!

Submitted by Don Peters, St. Andrews Fire Department



Who's the firefighter that wears that boot ??

(during the Open House two youngsters appeared puzzled on the size of the fire boot)

Submitted by Don Peters, St. Andrews Fire Department

Public Education Updates

AUSTIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

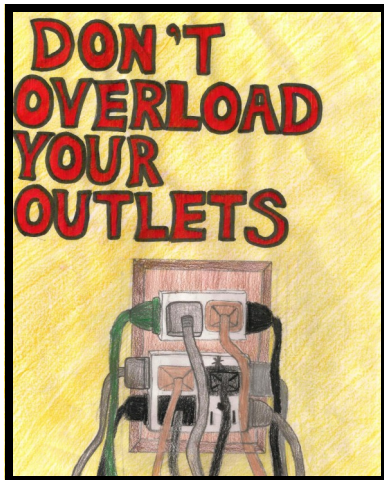
On October 11, 2013 the Austin Fire Dept visited the Austin Elementary School with the new Fire Education Trailer. Austin Fire Dept. Deputy Chief James Zacharias and member Johnny Hamm, and of course Sparky, had 125 students go through the trailer. Also there were 25 students from Pine Creek Colony School attend.

Submitted by Gerry Currie, Austin Fire Department



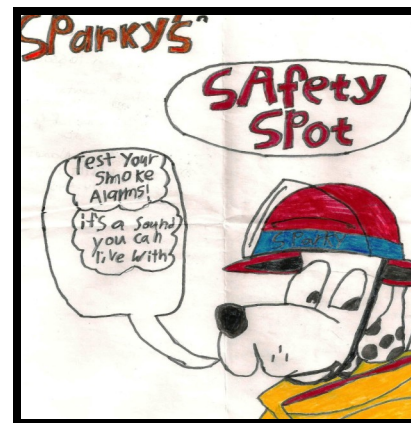
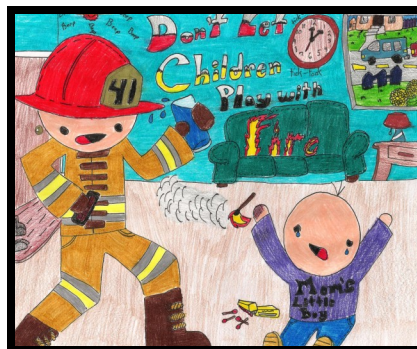
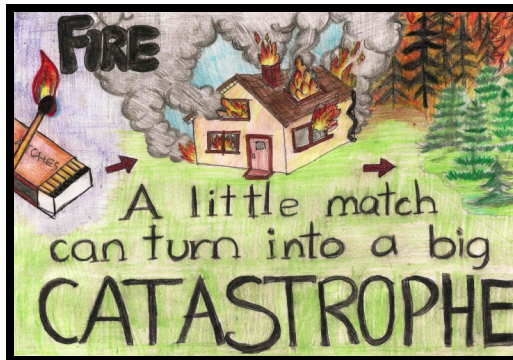
Public Education Updates

BURN AWARENESS WEEK POSTER CONTEST WINNERS 2013 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 2—8th, 2014, the Office of the Fire Commissioner and the Manitoba Fire Fighters Burn Fund will be sending out information to all Grade 5 to 8 students from all over the province to participate in a poster contest. For more information contact Kathy Danino at 1-888-253-1488 or email at Kathy.danino@gov.mb.ca. Please encourage your teachers and students to participate in the poster contest.



Picture Above: To order your free fire safety pamphlets go to www.leechprint.com/FireSafety

Pamphlets are in English and French

NFPA'S EASY-TO-READ HAND-OUTS 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/safety-information/safety-tip-sheets/easy-to-read-handouts-in-other-languages>

Public Education Updates

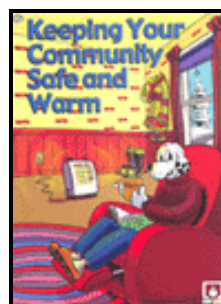
Check out NFPA's website for some holiday safety messages and free downloads:

<http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information>



Get your free copy of **Keeping Your Community Safe and Warm** from:

<http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-public-educators/community-tool-kits/keeping-your-community-safe-and-warm>



Check out the link below for NFPA reports on:

Home Christmas Trees and
Holiday Light Fires

Home Structure Fires that began
with Decorations

<http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/holidays/put-a-freeze-on-winter-fires>

MESC NEWS



Public Fire Paramedic Program (Diploma) News

The 42nd class of Public Fire Paramedic Program (PFPP) students commenced their training at the Manitoba Emergency Services College on September 6th, 2013. The 10-month diploma program is intensive and requires a significant commitment from the men and women who have chosen emergency response as their career path. The students participate in physical training, paramilitary marching, and maintenance/upkeep of their fire hall and apparatus, in addition to 7+ hours of daily training and homework.

Platoon A is currently wrapping up their Primary Care Paramedic classroom training and most have completed their hospital emergency room clinicals. They will move to Winnipeg after Christmas break to complete a 240-hour ambulance practicum with Winnipeg Paramedic Service. Here they will put their skills and knowledge to the ultimate test: treating patients under the watchful eye of a trained preceptor. Upon completion of their ambulance practicum, Platoon A will begin their fire/rescue training.

Platoon B will complete their Fire Fighting and Driver/Operator exams prior to Christmas break. The platoon has been busy in the classroom and Practical Training Site where they honed their skills in live fire evolutions including structural fires, vehicle fires, Class B fuel fires, plus vehicle extrication. This class was indeed fortunate – they found out first-hand the challenges of firefighting in a -40° C environment! After Christmas break Platoon B will begin their paramedic training.

In addition to the firefighting and paramedic courses, students must successfully complete the ICS 100, Rescue Practices, Fire and Life Safety Educator, Surface Water Rescue Technician, and Hazardous Materials Operations courses. Graduation and diploma presentation will take place at the Manitoba Emergency Services College on June 26th, 2014.

Submitted by Shirley Dufresne, OFC Program Manager

MESC NEWS



Thompson Training Weekend



NEWS/VIEWS



Pembina Triangle Mutual Aid District forms HazMat Technician Team

At the Pembina Triangle Mutual Aid District meeting on Thursday, September 5, 2013, district members were on hand for the formation of the Pembina Triangle MAD HazMat Team. The official hand-off of a fully stocked hazardous materials technician level trailer was achieved after months of preparation. The formation of the team was a collaborative effort between PTMAD and the Office of the Fire Commissioner. Richard Paetzold, Winkler's Fire Chief, and Irv Braun, Altona's Fire Chief, were instrumental in establishing the team. Departments participating in the venture include Altona, Emerson, Gretna, Letellier, Morden, Plum Coulee, St. Jean and Winkler, as well as Carmen/Dufferin Fire Department from the Boyne River MAD. A total of 8 members of departments from these two districts have successfully completed their hazardous materials technician training, with future plans to increase these numbers.

The strategic placement of the trailer in Winkler complements technician level units already located in Brandon and Thompson. The units are staffed and equipped to respond to large scale hazardous materials incidents in support of local jurisdictions' hazmat operations level response capabilities. Chief Paetzold will head up the PTMAD HazMat Team.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Disaster Strikes Rapid City And SCMAD Steps Up To The Plate

Just after midnight on October 21, 2013, the town of Rapid City suffered one of the greatest losses in its' history. The town offices and fire hall burned to the ground following an electrical problem.

Members of Rapid City Fire Department could only watch in disbelief while they waited for one of their South Central Mutual Aid District partners, Rivers Fire Department, to come to their aid.

Two fire trucks were destroyed in the blaze including a water tender just put into service the day before and a pumper purchased 1 year ago. Members were able to pry an overhead door open and drive their rescue van out of the building before conditions became unbearable. The rescue van suffered extreme smoke damage however and it's future is uncertain.

In the morning, as the news began to spread to the remaining partners of South Central Mutual Aid District (Onanole Fire, Erickson Fire, Minnedosa Fire, Rivers Fire, Strathclair Fire, RM of Harrison Fire (Newdale and Sandy Lake) and Oak River Fire), Rapid City's partners jumped into action. Firefighter's in these departments took time off work Monday to gather equipment that would be needed in Rapid City.

By 6pm that night, Rapid City Fire was operational once again. In addition to the rescue van which they had saved and their briefly-retired water tender that was quickly placed back in service, SCMAD was able to loan Rapid City a pumper, ladders, turnout gear, 1 ½" hose, 2 ½" hose, suction hose, nozzles, pike pole, etc.

Many other fire departments, organizations and government branches have also stepped forward with donations and equipment loans for Rapid City Fire.

Submitted by Andrew Dalgarno, Deputy Chief, RM of Harrison Fire Department (Station #1, Newdale)

AWARDS

ARBORG FIRE DEPARTMENT



On October 26, 2013 Arborg Fire Department held an appreciation dinner to recognize and honour members of the department for their years of dedicated service. Donica Franchewski, Assistant Fire Commissioner, Office of the Fire Commissioner, and James Bezan, Member of Parliament attended bring greeting from Government.

5-yr; 10 yr; 15 yr; and 35 yr awards were presented to Curtis Bartsch, Caleb Loewen, Eric Jonson, Chad Timchishen, Nathan Spring, Annya Foster, Kelvin Klassen, Randy Dueck, Susan Bauernhuber, Tyler Zubriski, Jeff Pearce, Andy Barylski, Richard Kozminski, and George Chyzy

In addition, Wally Goldau was honoured for 40 years of service with the presentation of the Exemplary Service Bar. Exemplary Services Medals, honours members of a recognized Canadian fire service who have completed 20 years of service (and Bars for 30 years and 40 years), with ten years of which have been served in the performance of duties involving potential risks.

Submitted by Donica Franchewski, OFC Assistant Fire Commissioner



the **Prevention Post**



To download a copy of the OFC holiday safety kit go to:
http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/safety_holiday.html

Thursday May 29th, 2014

Fire and Life Safety Educators Conference

Sunova Center, West St. Paul

For more information contact Kathy Danino at Kathy.danino@gov.mb.ca



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

Mark it on your calendars:

2014 Fire Prevention Week is:

Sunday October 5th—Saturday October 11th



Sparky the Fire Dog® says:

"Thanks for a great 2013 Fire Prevention Week!"

The theme for our next campaign will be announced in Spring 2014.



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!!