

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

PROTECTING LIVES & PROPERTY SINCE 1786



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

“Saving Lives and Property Since 1786” is stenciled on all our fire vehicles and is the welcome greeting presented on the wall of our fire administration office, at our No. 1 Fire Station. This first annual report in over a decade celebrates the pride and commitment to “Saving Lives and Property Since 1786” that this fire service has for those who live, visit, work, and play in Saint John.

Whether it be structure fires in residential or multi-unit historic properties, accidents at industrial facilities or transportation corridors, calls for medical first response, motor vehicle and equipment extrication, high angle, off-road, or water rescue services, invaluable fire prevention investigation and education services, or a full-scale emergency operations centre (EOC) activation, our commitment is to be completely and competently prepared to prevent, prepare, and respond – “to help”, in whatever way “help” is required throughout our large community.

Helping someone is always the right thing to do; it seems like a rather simple task, yet as the reader of this annual report will learn, being prepared to help for all things, when and where help may be required, is a substantial undertaking. Readers of this report will learn how our Mission, Vision and Values have transcended time, and shaped our proud department’s journey in 2022.

Saint John Fire has seen, first-hand, the impacts of the opioid crisis on our community. Crews have administered Narcan, the drug that is used for the emergency treatment of an opioid overdose, over 130 times in 2022.

We have also seen an elevated increase in mental health concerns related to PTSD, which led to the successful creation of a Peer Support Team within Saint John Fire.

This report celebrates the careers of 13 retirees; dozens of long serving and promoted employees; our female firefighter’s participation in the Maiden Voyage Career Fair; and the promise of 11 new recruits in 2022. This report also shares information on our continued efforts to build competence in all aspects of response to our community hazard/risk profile.

This annual report speaks to our desire to be better today than yesterday, and better tomorrow than today. Part of being better tomorrow is the need for us to be a more inclusive and diverse workforce, one that better represents the community we serve. We are committed to being more diverse and inclusive moving forward. We also intend to better utilize information technology to help us prepare and respond to the hazards in our community. Understanding the needs of our community and measuring how we perform is critical to being transparent and effective in the delivery of our fire and EMO services.

As a life-long resident of this City, I am proud of our community and the quality of life it provides everyone. I am immensely proud of all the people who are part of Saint John Fire / Saint John EMO. This community inspires us, and I hope the reader of this annual report will get a sense of how committed and proud we are to serve and to help.



MISSION

The Mission of the SJFD is to minimize the loss of life and injury, as well as damage to the environment, through effective and efficient traditional and non-traditional fire rescue services.

VISION

Through progressive planning and leadership, provide an effective and innovative response to the evolving Fire and Rescue needs of the citizens and industries of Saint John.

VALUES

We the members of the SJFD shall base our conduct on the highest ethical standards responding to the needs of our citizens.

We shall serve with professionalism, courtesy, and respect, recognizing the diverse nature of our community.

We shall hold devotion to duty above personal risk.

ABOUT SAINT JOHN FIRE

OUR DIVISIONS

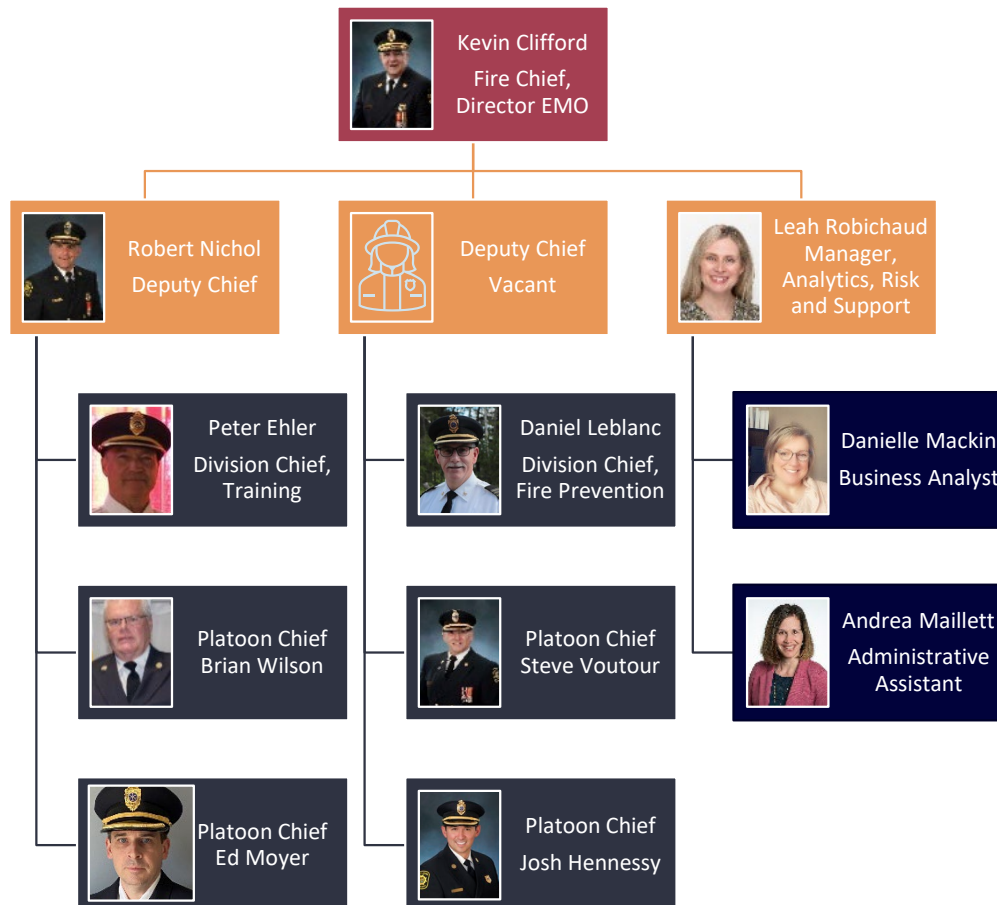


The SJFD is responsible for protecting & responding to emergencies covering 326 sq/km

The dedicated men & women of the SJFD take great pride in serving the citizens & visitors of Saint John

Each day our exceptional team delivers exceptional service to our growing & evolving community

SENIOR COMMAND STAFF & ADMINISTRATION



SAINT JOHN FIRE: OPERATIONS

FIRE RESCUE & SUPPRESSION



Provide emergency mitigation & rescue response to residential, commercial, and industrial incidents



Saint John's unique makeup of residential, old balloon frame housing stock, commercial properties & heavy industry presents firefighters with exceptional response challenges

MEDICAL FIRST RESPONSE

First Responders provide life-saving care

Using the latest techniques in CPR/AED care

Adapting to community needs- adding Narcan to our scope of practice



TECHNICAL RESCUE

Emergency rescue operations for individuals trapped by their physical environment

Our technical rescue team uses specialized equipment & training which adheres to the latest NFPA standards

Ice
Water
Motor Vehicle
Accidents

Structural
Collapse
Confined
Space
High Angle

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (HAZMAT) EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Team members are trained to operate highly specialized metering & monitoring equipment.

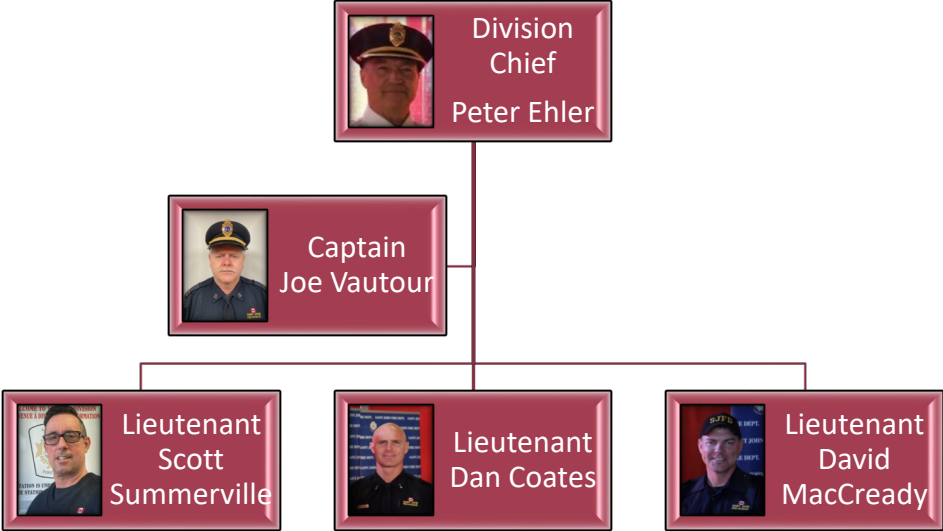
The SJFD is one of two provincial heavy hazardous materials response teams in New Brunswick



Specialized chemical protective clothing, hazard-risk assessment & decontamination

SJFD TRAINING DIVISION

Located on Grandview Avenue, the department's training facility has more than 2,500 square feet of internal training space and consists of offices, classroom, live fire facilities, and post-fire decontamination facilities



Annual Point Lepreau Training

Wildland Training all crews with DNR

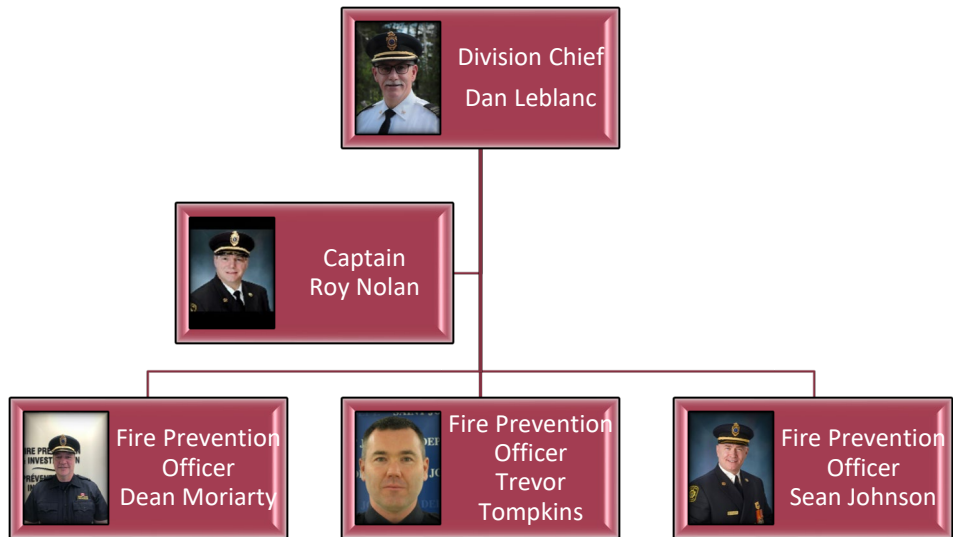
HazMat training in Moncton & Miramichi

24 Courses Dalhousie Henson College



FIRE PREVENTION & INVESTIGATION

The Fire Prevention Division promotes a proactive approach to fire & life safety through public education, training, inspections & code enforcement.



PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY EVERY DAY

It only takes minutes for smoke to fill your home

You may have as little as 2 minutes to escape a house fire when the alarm sounds



FIRE WON'T WAIT
PLAN YOUR ESCAPE



339 Inspections
167 Re-inspections

6 Schools
1923 Students

9 Community
Events

24
Investigations

140 Attend
Open House

15
OFM Orders



October

12	10 AM - 2 PM	Costco Information Table
	6 PM - 7:30 PM	Newcomer Connection YMCA Fire Prevention Workshop
13	1 PM - 4 PM	Walmart East Information Table
	6 PM - 7:30 PM	Newcomer Connection YMCA Fire Prevention Workshop
14	1 PM - 4 PM	Open House Fire Station 5: 35 Adelaide Street
	2 PM	Greeting & Cake Cutting
15	10 AM - 2 PM	Home Depot Information Table Kids Workshop

Fire Prevention Week

2022 LONG SERVICE AWARDS



40 YEAR FEDERAL BAR

- Robert Adams
- Kevin Clifford
- Joe Armstrong
- Dale Russell

35 YEAR PROVINCIAL BAR

- Steven Leaman
- Roy Melvin
- Roy Byers
- Mike Richard
- Les Hayward
- Leonard Dow
- Larry Kingston
- John McCarthy
- John Carruthers
- David Johnson
- Clifford Day
- Brian Wilson
- Barry Oickle

30 YEAR FEDERAL BAR

- Victor Cornfield
- Steve Voutour
- Peter Alexander
- Marc Carey
- Joe Voutour
- John Murray
- Doug Trentowsky
- Daniel Freeman

25 YEAR PROVINCIAL MEDAL

- Trevor Tompkins
- Stephen Johnston
- Sean Mayes
- Sean Johnson
- Roy Nolan
- Peter Lavigne
- Pat Currie
- Michael Carr
- Mark Higgins
- Kevin Comeau
- Jeff Kearney
- James McCormick
- David Ross
- Chris Clinton

20 YEAR FEDERAL MEDAL

- Serge Voutour
- Scott Summerville
- Scott Nordstrom
- Ron Kearney
- Reg Hayward
- Mike Paulin
- Matt Smith
- Larry Salmon
- Kevin Robertson
- Kevin Richards
- Joe Taylor
- Joe Cormier
- Jamie Maillet
- Erin Lydon
- Don McMillan
- Derek Ross
- Dean Moriarty
- David Harris

- Curt Palmer
- Corey Cassidy
- Chris Hoyt
- Chris Hanlon
- Chris Green
- Chris Bates
- Anthony Black
- Al Powell
- Al McLeod
- Adam Walker

The SJFD had the opportunity to show its sincere appreciation to members who have served 20+ years

These members were recognized for their commitment to serving the citizens of Saint John in protecting their lives & property from fire.



STATIONS & FLEET

Station 1 45 Leinster Street

Staffed Units

Engine 1- 1,000 Gallon Engine
Ladder Tower 1- 114ft Aerial

Support Units

Unit 85- Wildland Fire & Technical Rescue
Unit 87- Air supply
Quint 5- Spare 75ft Aerial

Station Specialty

Chainsaw and Rotary Saw Repair
Department Central Storage
ADMS Simulation Theatre

Station 2 842 Loch Lomond Road

Staffed Units

Engine 2- 1,000 Gallon Engine
Tank 2- 1,250 Gallon Tanker

Station Specialty

Fire Extinguisher Service and Repair

Station 4 36 Courtnay Avenue

Staffed Units

Rescue 4 – Heavy Rescue
Fire Prevention & Investigation Division

Support Units

Engine 9 – Spare Engine Apparatus

Station Specialty

Wildland Fire Equipment, Service & Repair
Fire Prevention & Inspection Division

Station 5 35 Adelaide Street

Staffed Units

Ladder 5 – 100ft Aerial
Fire 3 – Command Unit

Support Units

Unit 88 with RT1 (Regional Hazardous Materials)
Fire 4 – On Call Command Unit
Engine 8 – Spare Engine Apparatus

Station Specialty

Hazmat
Bunker Gear Laundry Facility
Spare Gear Storage

Station 6 286 King Street West

Staffed Units

Engine 6 – 1000 Gallon Engine

Station Specialty

Fire Hose Service & Repair

Station 7 41 Manchester Avenue

Staffed Units

Engine 7 – 1000 Gallon Engine
Tank 7 – 1250 Gallon Tanker

Support Units

Marine 7 – Boston Whaler Guardian
Jon Boat – 16ft Watercraft
Unit 84 – Ice Rescue

Station Specialty

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Service & Repair
Hand Tool Service & Repair

MAIDEN VOYAGE 2022

Saint John Fire coordinated Maiden Factor's Women in Non-traditional careers job fair on August 4, 2022, at Area 506.

The event was held to encourage and inspire future generations of women who may have an interest in pursuing a career in a non-traditional role.

Members of all city departments, and other agencies including Saint John Police, CBSA, NB Power and JDI participated.



2022 HIGHLIGHTS

Peer Support Group

Mental health has become a major concern within the fire service and the department has responded with a robust Peer Support group to assist firefighters who are struggling or need assistance.

Attended the ceremony for fallen firefighters in Ottawa to honour Lieutenant Daniel Finnigan



Signed a four-year term Collective Agreement with The City of Saint John And The Saint John Firefighters' Association Local No. 771

Conversion to digital Station Paging on the NB TMR network

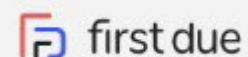
REGIONAL FIRE COOPERATION
working with our neighbours to be better prepared for a coordinated response



New Records Management Software

As times change, keeping up with demands of modern firefighting and response is more important than ever.

This year we implemented FIRST DUE software, a single platform which improves day-to-day operations, saving valuable time & reducing risks for our first responders & the citizens of Saint John.



RETIREMENTS

Captain

Mike Richard
John McCarthy
Peter King
Dave Johnson
Larry Kingston
Gordon Chase

Lieutenant

Douglas Trentowsky
Norman Burns
Fred Slipp
Victor Cornfield

Firefighter

Paul Britt
Joe Taylor
Charles Landers



OUR EMPLOYEES



We are committed to our employees & the service, dedication & expertise they bring to the Saint John Fire Department and Community

PROMOTIONS

Peter King
Joe Furrow
Gordon Chase
Steve Hamm
Mark McCormick
JD Murray

Captain

Peter Alexander
Jason Foley

Qualified Captain

David Ross
Sean Mayes
Chris Clinton
Sonny Urquhart
Terry Cropley
Joe Shelley
Todd Walsh
Paul Hallett
Peter Tait
Colin Lucas

Lieutenant

OUR EMPLOYEES

2022 HOLIDAY RELIEF FIREFIGHTERS

We welcomed a new class of recruits in 2022. The recruitment process includes several stages including an 8-week inhouse training program.

Noah Adams
Matthew Clifford
Daniel Ingleston
Matthew Palmer
Shaun Senyk
Bradley Yowart

Dylan Chase
Erik Doucet
Tyler McLaughlin
Adam Ramsay
Jacob Teehan



PERMANENT HIRES

Congratulations to our newest employees who became permanent in 2022.

Matthew Hanson
Julien Welsh
Barry Britt
Marcus Perry
Ben Richard

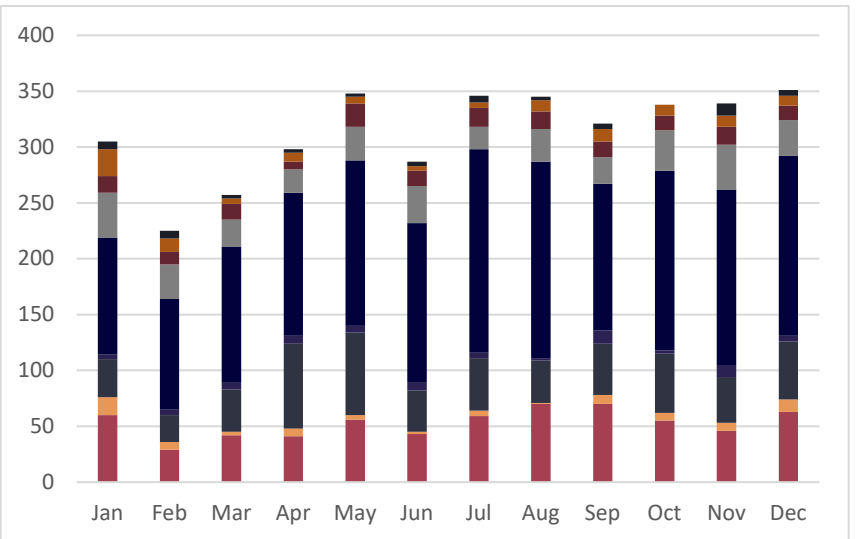
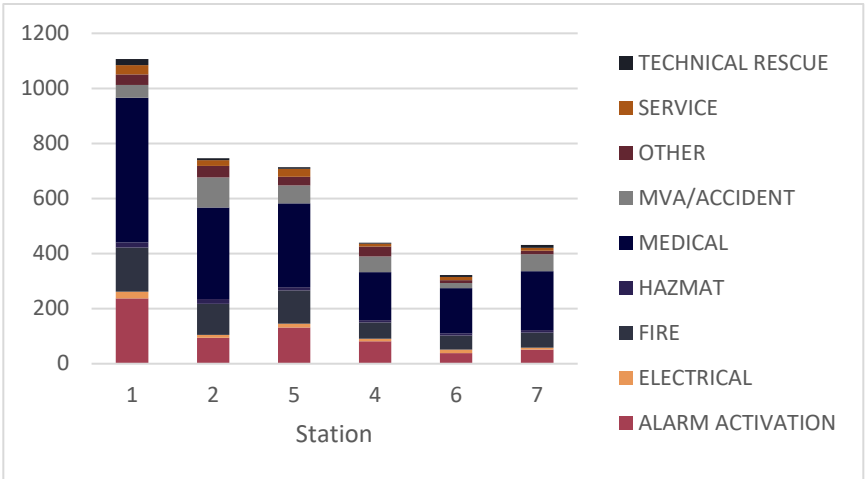
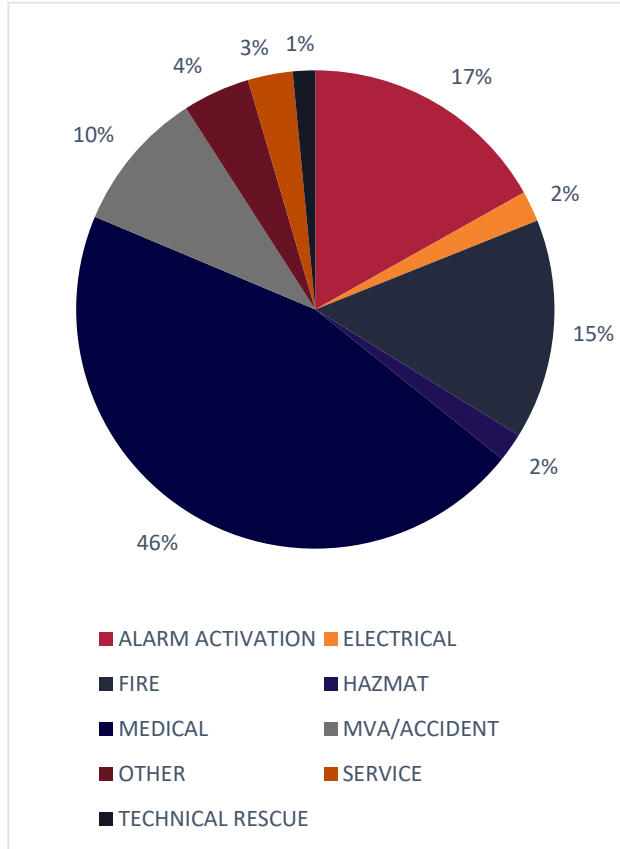
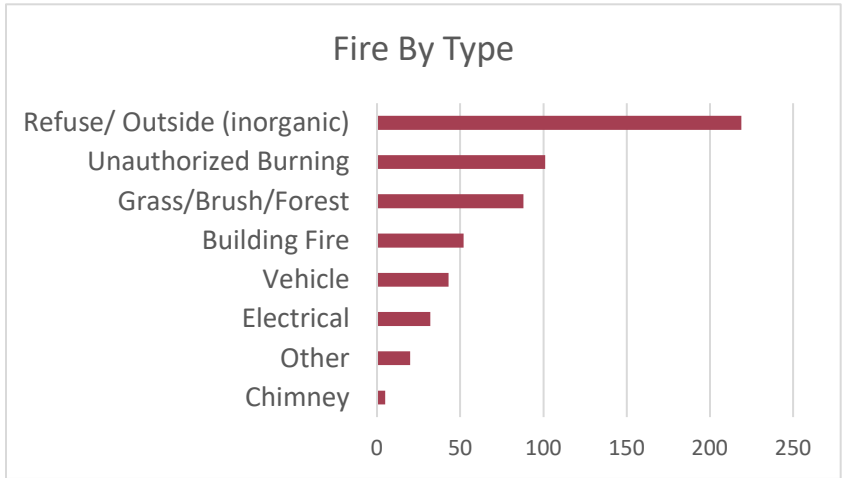
Mike Steele
Patrick O'Brien
David Fitzgerald
Chad Cathline
Kory Crowell

2022 STATS

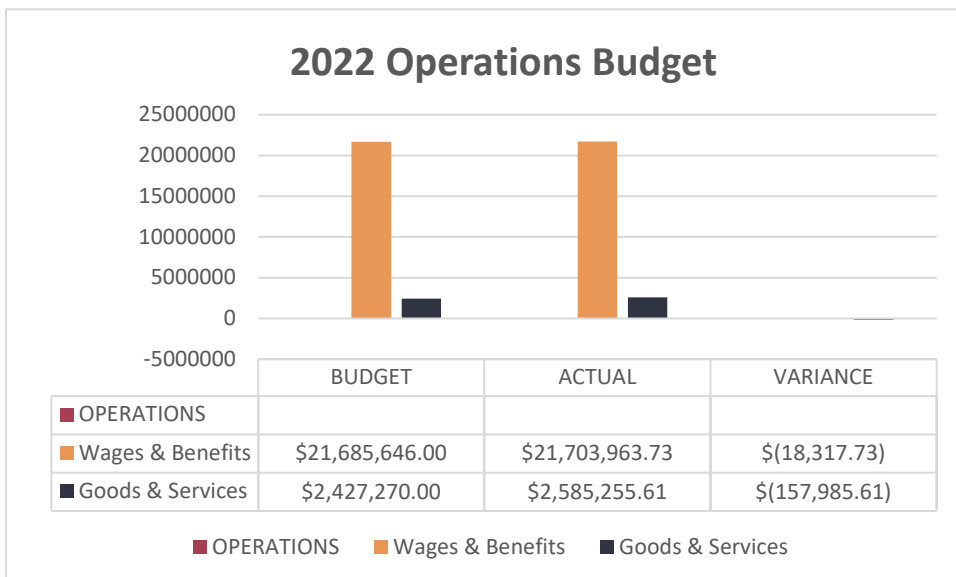
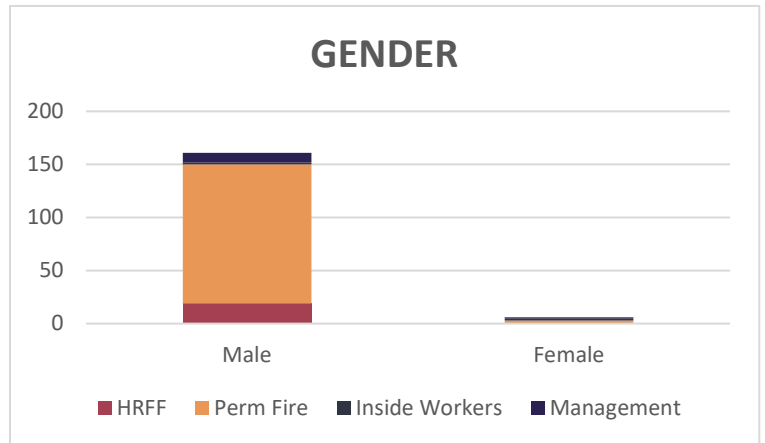
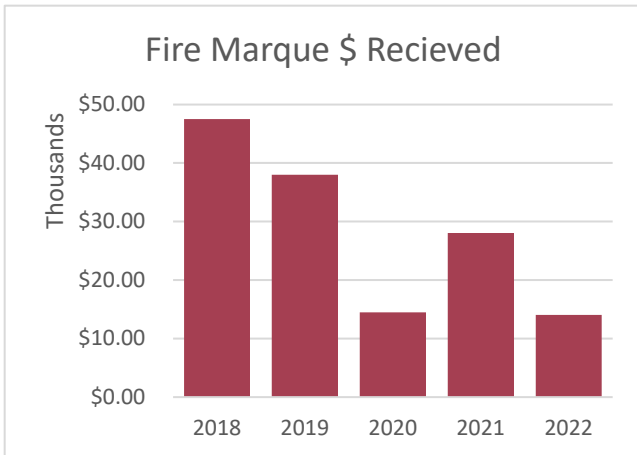
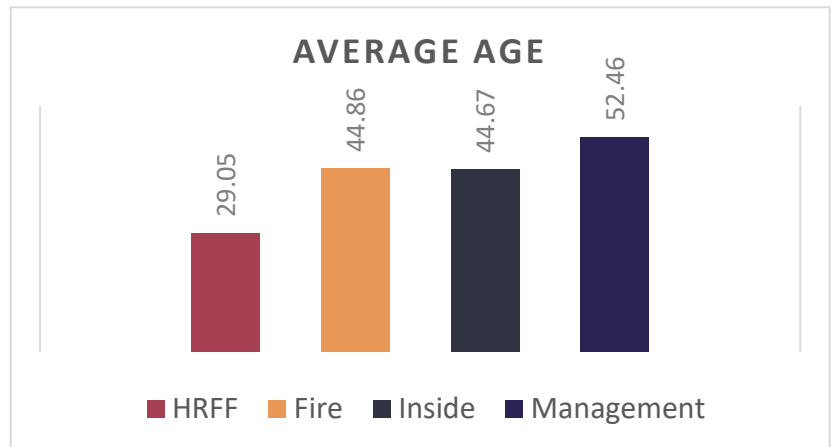
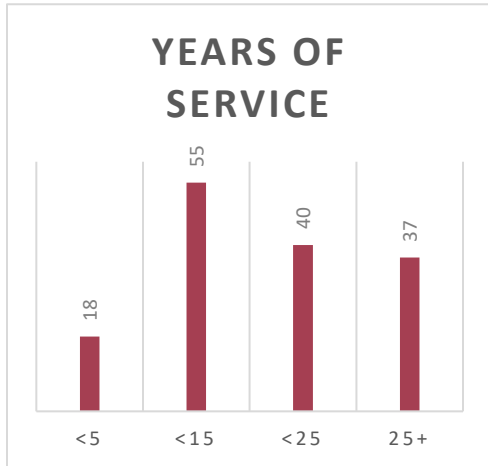
TOTAL CALLS
3760

STRUCTURE
FIRE
52

TECHNICAL
RESCUE
57



2022 STATS



* Wages & Benefits include retroactive pay for 2020, 2021, 2022

SAINT JOHN FIREFIGHTERS IAFF LOCAL 771



IAFF Local 771 had a busy 2022 with volunteer & charitable efforts

The following are some highlights of the great work the members of Local 771 are doing in our community.



Salvation Army Kettle Blitz. Over 100 volunteers for just one day, raising \$14,000

Memorial Cup – Repelling from the ceiling of TD Station for the opening puck drop.

Ways & Means Campaign – making Christmas special for over 40 local families.

Veterans Poppy Campaign - \$11,000 raised.

United Way donations from members of local 771 – with \$321,455.00 donated in the last 10 years.

Bobby's Hospice BBQ

Marathon By the Sea

Moonlight Bazaar

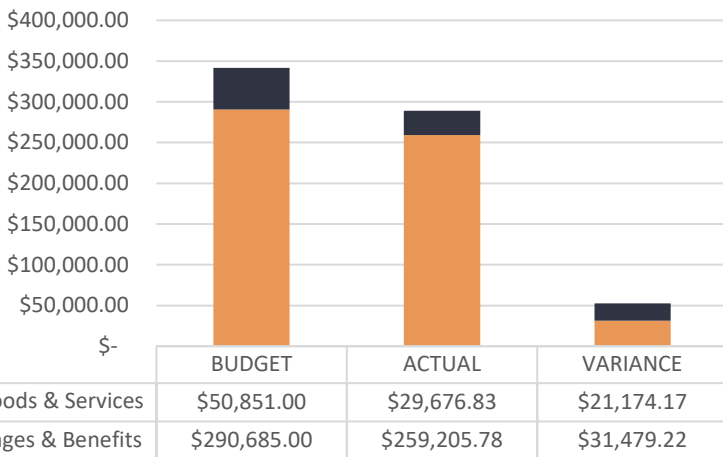


Saint John Emergency Management Organization

The Saint John Emergency Management Organization (“SJEMO”) has operated on a set of core principles over the last ten years. The principles “Better Today than Yesterday, Better Tomorrow than Today” and “Our Operations Tempo Begins from Yes” have guided our approach through some significant emergency environments over the last decade



Beginning 2015 to the first major flood in 2018, SJEMO transitioned to the Incident Command System (ICS) mode of managing emergency operations. The combination of the change in emergency management model and a series of unfortunate events garnered national recognition for our Saint John Emergency Management Organization in 2022



Incident Command System Training

Incident Command System Training focuses on the requirements needed for personnel who may be expected to perform in a management capacity by creating an emergency response strategy



INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM

- ICS Training is critical for creating a strong emergency response strategy
- SJEMO will be offering additional courses at the ICS 200 & 300 level in 2023



ICS 100 & ICS 200

- Gain essential skills for incident management
- Operate efficiently & confidently within the structured ICS to guide the response strategy
- Understand how to effectively manage administration & finance of an emergency event



ICS 300 & ICS 400

- ICS 300 is designed to enable staff to operate efficiently in a supervisory role
- ICS 400 is an advanced level course for staff in a management capacity to operate in a complex incident



Emergency Management – Exemplary Service Awards

In the Fall of 2022, 20 members of SJEMO received a significant and prestigious recognition of excellence from the federal government by email correspondence stating that:

“Provincial, and Territorial Senior Officials Responsible for Emergency Management, we are pleased to inform you that you have been selected as a recipient of the Emergency Management Exemplary Service Award”



The Emergency Management Exemplary Service Award is the prestigious national recognition of exceptional service and achievement in the areas of prevention, preparation, response, and recovery from emergencies and disasters in Canada

As a partnership between provincial, territorial, and federal governments, the award recognizes individuals and groups who have demonstrated excellence in the field of emergency management from a variety of areas, including community-based volunteers, representatives from multiple levels of government, and individuals from Indigenous communities

Our award winners:

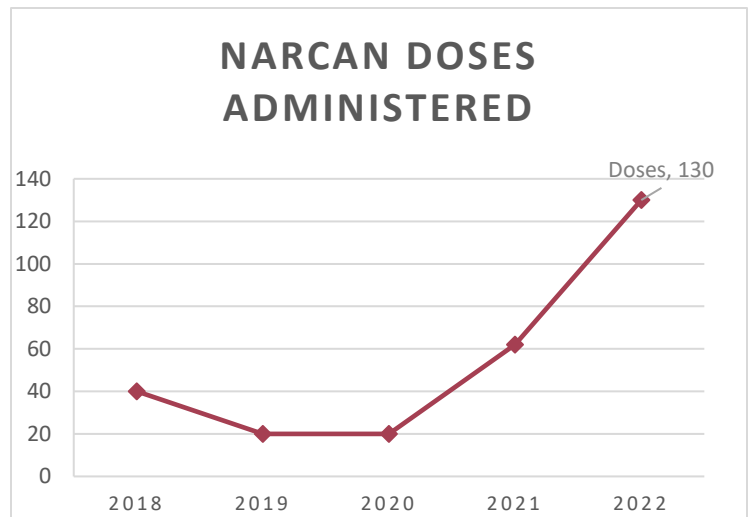
Chris Roberts
Jeanne Beltrandi-Chown
Monic MacVicar
Yves Leger
Tim O'Reilly
Tom McGrath
Jeff Hussey
Chief Kevin Clifford
Mike Carr
Peter Ehler
Deputy Rob Nichol
Dan Leblanc
David Dobbelstyn
Lisa Caissie

CHALLENGES WE'RE FACING

Opioid Epidemic

Saint John has been dealing with an opioid crisis leading to a major increase in overdose-related calls

Firefighters are trained to administer naloxone, an opioid overdose reversal medication, which was required **130** times during 2022, each dose is approx. \$100



Homeless Encampments

The COSJ has attempted to address the issue of homeless encampments through a variety of means



Photo Credit: CBC News

Calls have significantly increased to respond to fires at homeless encampments with over 200 in 2022.

People experiencing homelessness are at a greater risk for burn injury. Fires and open flames are being used as heat sources and pose many risks

Responding to a fire in a homeless encampment can pose hazards to responders due to sharps, chemicals and debris

Bunker Gear

- The International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) issued a warning to firefighters that synthetic chemicals (PFAS) in their protective bunker gear are associated with various health risks, including an increased risk cancer
- Firefighters will not be able to fully avoid the PFAS cancer risk until the chemicals are removed entirely from protective gear
- The development of PFAS free gear is underway

Every community needs a well-equipped fire department, have you ever wondered how much all the necessary equipment costs?

One set of bunker gear is over \$3,000, and a fire department needs one for each firefighter. This gear, according to NFPA requirements, must be replaced every 10 years



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