

Quarterly Update Report

Title: Q4 2024 Fire and Emergency Services Quarterly Update

Report Number: Fire Services Quarterly Report-2025-01

Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 22, 2025

Fire Services:

Incidents

Between October 1 and December 31, 2024, KFES responded to 61 incidents.

Total responses for 2024 are 236, 14 more than for the same date in 2023.



Public Education

KFES continues to provide safety messaging through various social media platforms and community events.

For the year 2024, over 40 various events and campaigns took place varying from attending local public events and promoting Fire Safety topics with presentations and materials, social media campaigns such as; Carbon Monoxide Week Safety, Fire Prevention Week Safety, the 12 days of Fire Safety to name a few.

Fire Prevention/Inspections

Prevention staff completed 6 fire safety inspections this quarter.

In 2024, there were over 75 various Inspections, follow up Inspections:

These include Complaint Responses, Commercial & Residential Inspections, Vulnerable Occupancy Inspections & Drills, Fire Code Violations & Enforcement and Prosecutions.

Projects

Projects approved in 2024 that not yet completed but in progress are:

- Air Compressor system replacement in Stn 12 – Ordered, in progress and expected to be completed in first quarter of 2025
- Tactical Repeater Replacements – Ordered, in Progress and also expected to be completed in first quarter of 2025
- Washroom/Shower facilities for women in Stn 12 – Initial stage of this project completed with Architects drawings and estimates completed. The cost exceeded the budgeted amount and new/additional capital is being proposed to council in order to complete this project.

Grants

The Municipality received word in December that the Fire Department was successful in receiving \$16,460 in funding for the purchase of Cancer Prevention items such as additional PPE, Portable Gross De-Con systems and PPE cleaning equipment through the Fire Protection Grant. These items will be purchased in early 2025.

Training

Forty-four training sessions were conducted in Q4. Twenty-nine subjects were covered for a total of 609.5 staff hours.

Members attended outside training and certification courses such as Fire Officer I.

Emergency Management:

Notable Events

- Several weather warnings/advisories were issued and reiterated through Emergency Management to notify and prepare the public including a 'multi day snow squall event' which was labelled as a 'historic weather event' by Environment Canada and Climate Change which impacted several areas of Ontario and Quebec and included: Power outages in many areas; Major highways being closed for various durations; OPP responding to hundreds of Motor Vehicle Collisions ranging from vehicles in ditches to fatalities (over 160 collisions in a 12 hour period); Municipal services being cancelled/rescheduled; Various modes of transportation being cancelled or delayed; Areas declaring a state of emergency; Mystic Cove gate opened early to address the need for an emergency route due to closed roads

- Compliance submitted for the Municipality of Kincardine Emergency Management program/activities to Emergency Management Ontario for 2024 and unofficially notified that we successfully satisfied all 13 elements of the Emergency Management Civil Protection Act.

Public Education

- Emergency Management continues to provide safety messaging through various social media platforms including preparedness advice, prevention tips, and warnings issued by government sources.
- Successfully Aging Seniors Forum (Presentation) – Being prepared – risk management – proper sources for information
 - October 1/2024
- Halloween – Social media engagement leading up to Halloween with education and tips for everyone to enjoy and have a safe day(s)
- 12 days of fire and Carbon Monoxide Safety Campaign – Emergency Management took the lead on this program to ensure other fire prevention activities were being prioritized which also included general winter safety advise
 - December 2024
- First Responder Food Drives (Kincardine)
 - December 2024
- Battle of the Badges – various emergency management materials and handouts available
 - December 23/2024

Community Engagement

- Red Cross ‘Ready When the Time Comes’ reservists located within Municipality of Kincardine – Red Cross, Kincardine EM, and Bruce County EM met with The Lions Club to show them the program for having community minded groups embedded with Red Cross in their own communities, working/training with Red Cross to ensure at all times regardless of remote areas and access to these areas we can help the public. The Lions Club resoundingly agreed to be part of this program. This program is a pilot project in Kincardine and Bruce County to eventually be a national program to ensure rural areas have immediate embedded support if needed. Meeting with Rotary Club early 2025 to discuss.
- Emergency Management Program Committee – Fall Meeting – Items from the course of the year as well as Hazard Identification Risk Assessments were discussed
- Coldest Night of The Year – First Responders team collecting donations for United Way (Feb 22/2025)

Projects

- Special Events Application Criteria (2025)

- Kincardine EM with the Special Events Planning Committee have initiated many new items in the application process to ensure special events whether they are private or public have proper safety measures in place for various hazards/situations.
- Water Quality/Safety
 - Acquired signage to be posted in the Spring of 2025 for any water quality issues that come from Public Health in testing areas of Kincardine
- Nuclear Facility Emergency - Sirens System Update
 - The siren system repeaters underwent an upgrade to ensure a contingency in the case there is a failure in the system, and to upgrade to new technology
- Community Emergency Preparedness Grant
 - Applied – results expected Spring 2025
- Nuclear Emergency Management Program – TP Fund
 - Applied – results expected Spring 2025
- Alert FM – Reboot
 - The companies that oversee the usage of the Alert FM devices recently switched satellite providers which resulted in the corresponding radio stations having to realign, which resulted in a campaign to notify users of the Alert FM devices (10km around Bruce Power) that they need to be rebooted.
- New - Emergency Operation Centre Location
 - The primary EOC was relocated to a more suitable location. This move has been completed and updates continue to occur at the centre.
- Exercises
 - Transportation Emergency Response Plan – Drill (Radiological material)
 - October 29/2024 (Port Hope)
 - Municipality of Kincardine – Environmental Services
 - November 19/2024
 - Cobalt Magnet 2025 (Planning – International Nuclear Facility Emergency)
 - March 2025
 - Huron Unity (Planning – Bruce Power Full Scale Drill)
 - November 2025

Training

- Radiation Basics Awareness Training in development (Bruce Power)
 - Spring 2025 (Kincardine)
- Reception and Evacuation Centre training in development
 - 2025

- Environmental Services – Training on integration of Emergency Management in water quality situations
 - November 19/2024
 - KI (Potassium Iodide) Pill campaign – The KI pill plan has been finalized to roll out throughout 2025 with a collaboration between Bruce Power and Kincardine EM in this effort. This plan includes public education, information, and community engagement with all sectors of the community.
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