



TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HURON

Report No.
FR-2024-02

REPORT TO: Reeve Heffer and Members of Council
PREPARED BY: Kent Readman, Fire Chief
DATE: 05/02/2024
SUBJECT: FR-2024-02 Fire Department Activity Report - Q4 of 2023
ATTACHMENTS: None

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby receives the Fire Department Activity Report – Q4 of 2023, dated February 5, 2024, for information purposes;

AND FURTHER, THAT Council directs the Fire Chief to share this activity report with the Municipalities of Morris-Turnberry, Central Huron, and the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh if they wish to receive a copy.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information on the 2023 fourth quarter activities for the Fire Department of North Huron.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Fire Department produces quarterly reports for Council that provide information and statistics on staffing levels, incident response, response times, significant incidents, fire prevention activities, public fire and life safety education activities and training initiatives.

DISCUSSION:

This report reviews current staffing levels, incident response, response times, significant incidents, fire prevention activities, public fire and life safety education activities and training initiatives.

Staffing Levels

The current Fire Department of North Huron staffing levels are outlined in the below table:

	2023 (Q1)	2023 (Q2)	2023 (Q3)	2023 (Q4)	Target
Fire Chief	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Deputy Fire Chief	1	1	1	1	1
District Fire Chiefs	2	2	2	2	2
Captains	8	7	8	9*	8
Firefighters (Blyth Station)	15	14	13	12	16
Firefighters (Wingham Station)	16	16*	16*	15*	16
Total Personnel (staff & volunteer)	42.5	40.5	40.5	39.5	43.5

* One Captain is on extended leave and an Acting Captain is in place.

* Two Firefighters in the Wingham Station is on an extended leave.

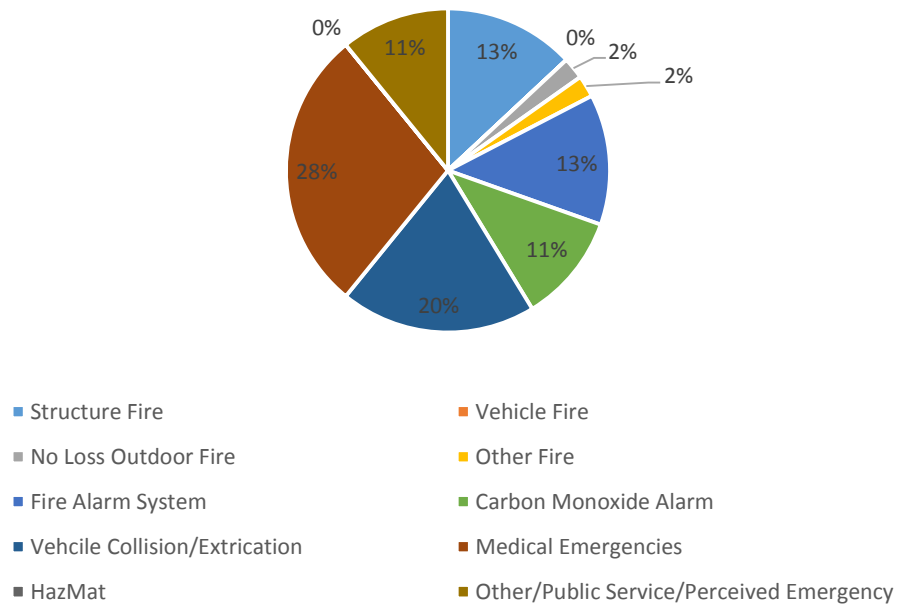
Incident Response

Below is the incident call breakdown from October 1 to December 31 2023:

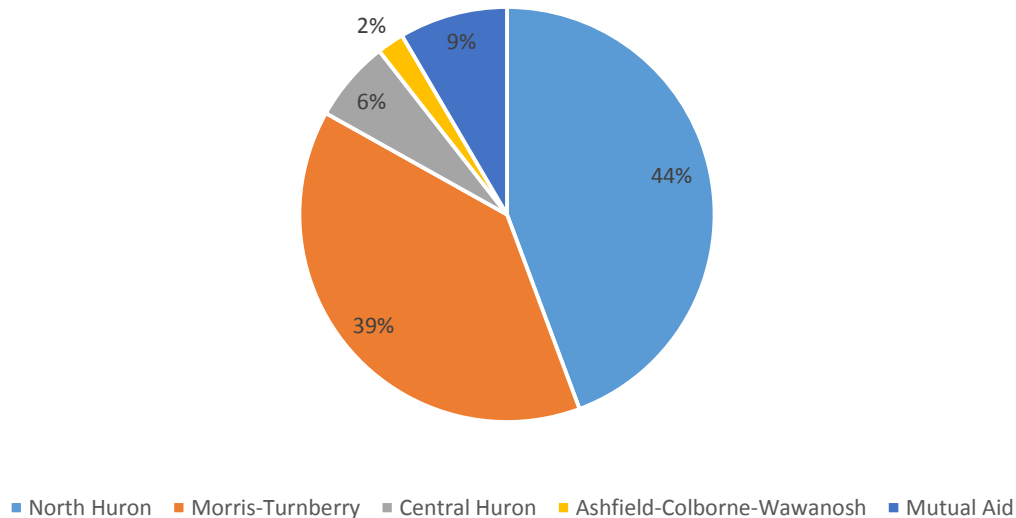
CALL TYPE	NH	MT	CH	ACW	MA	Total
Structure Fire	3	1	0	0	2	6
Vehicle Fire (includes farm equipment)	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Loss Outdoor Fire	1	0	0	0	0	1
Other Fire (includes electrical)	1	0	0	0	0	1
Fire Alarm System (Malfunction/Accidental/False)	5	1	0	0	0	6
Carbon Monoxide Alarm (False/CO Present)	2/0	3/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	5/0
Vehicle Collision/Extrication	1/0	5/0	1/0	0/0	2/0	9/0
Medical Emergencies	6	6	1	0	0	13
HazMat	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other/Public Service/Perceived Emergency	2	1	1	1	0	5
Quarter 1 (JANUARY 1 – MARCH 31 TOTALS)	17	8	5	2	3	35
Quarter 2 (APRIL 1 – JUNE 30)	30	14	8	1	10	63
Quarter 3 (JULY 1 – SEPTEMBER 30)	29	15	8	1	4	57
Quarter 4 (OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31)	21	17	3	1	4	46
2023 TOTALS	97	54	24	5	21	201

Total incidents in Q1 2023 is 35 which is below the 3-year average of 40 in the same time period.
Total incidents in Q2 2023 is 63 which is above the 3-year average of 43 in the same time period.
Total incidents in Q3 2023 is 57 which is above the 3-year average of 49 in the same time period.
Total incidents in Q4 2023 is 46 which is below the 3-year average of 52 in the same time period.
Total incidents in 2023 is 201 which is above the 3-year average of 186 in the same time period.

Incident Response



Incident Response by Area



Firefighter Turnout & Response Times

The below table outlines information related to firefighter turnout and response times for the 57 calls that occurred in the third quarter of 2023.

	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4	Target
Total Calls for Service	35	63	57	46	N/A
Average number of	12.97	12.85	13.23	13.43	15

firefighters per call					
Percentage of applicable calls achieving 6 Firefighters in 14 minutes (rural standard)	67.86%	74.36%	64.10%	83.33%	80%
Percentage of applicable calls achieving 10 Firefighters in 10 minutes (suburban standard)	20%	3.57%	12.50%	16.67%	50%
Average response time of first apparatus to all calls	10:56	9:09	8:15	9:56	8:00
Time of first defibrillator to patient (medical calls)	8:52	8:48	8:01	9:39	6:00

Significant Incidents:

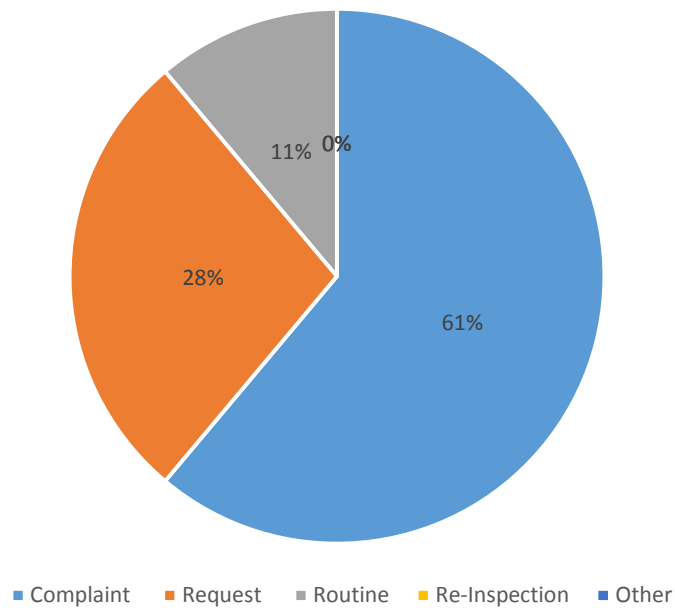
- On October 9th, 2023 FDNH responded to a structure fire on Scott Street in North Huron. 27 personnel from the Wingham and Blyth stations responded with 5 apparatus.
- On October 22nd, 2023 FDNH responded to a structure fire on Patrick Street in North Huron. 27 personnel from the Wingham and Blyth stations responded with 5 apparatus.
- On November 3rd, 2023 FDNH responded to a structure fire on Catherine Street in North Huron. 24 personnel from the Wingham and Blyth stations responded with 7 apparatus.
- On November 6th, 2023 FDNH responded at the request of Howick Fire Department to provide mutual aid at a structure fire on Orange Hill Road in Howick Township. 21 personnel from the Wingham and Blyth Stations responded with 7 apparatus. Mutual Aid was provided from Howick Fire Department and Huron East Fire Department (Brussels Station).
- On December 18th, 2023 FDNH responded to a structure fire on Glenannon Road in Morris-Turnberry. 26 personnel responded from the Wingham and Blyth Stations with 8 apparatus. Mutual Aid was provided from Howick Fire Department, South Bruce Fire Department (Teeswater Station), Huron Kinloss Fire Department (Lucknow Station) and Huron East Fire Department (Brussels Station). During the initial response to this incident Engine One from the Wingham Station was involved in an accident.
- On December 28th, 2023 FDNH responded at the request of Goderich Fire Department to provide mutual aid at a structure fire on Sharpes Creek Line in Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh. 24 personnel responded from the Wingham and Blyth Stations with 3 apparatus.

Fire Prevention Activities

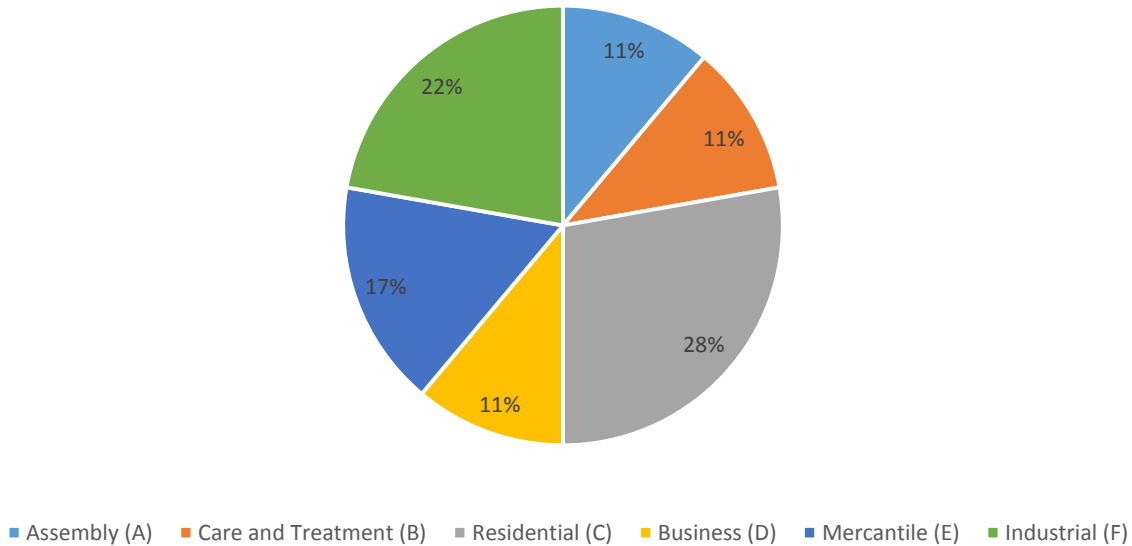
The below table outlines information related to fire prevention activities for the fourth quarter of 2023:

Inspection Type	Occupancy Type						Total
	Assembly A	Care and Treatment B	Residential C	Business D	Mercantile E	Industrial F	
Complaint	0	0	5	2	0	4	11
Request	2	0	0	0	3	0	5
Routine	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Re-Inspection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2	2	5	2	3	4	18

Fire Prevention Inspections by Type



Fire Prevention Inspections by Occupancy



Inspection Orders Issued	0
Inspection Orders Cleared	0
Fire Safety Plans Reviewed	10
Site Plan/Building Reviewed	14
File Search Reports	2
Smoke Alarms Installed	0
Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms Installed	0
Smoke/CO Alarms Installed	3

Public Fire and Life Safety Education Activities

In the fourth quarter of 2023, FDNH attended the following Public Fire and Life Safety Education activities:

- October 8-14 – *Fire Prevention Week 2023 – “Cooking safety starts with YOU.”* FDNH personnel hung posters in local businesses as well as signs at the Blyth Fire Station and North Huron Westcast Community Complex.
- October 11 – *Early Years group Blyth* – FDNH personnel hosted a station tour and information session at the Blyth Fire Station.
- October 12 – *Fire Prevention Week Open House* - FDNH personnel hosted Fire Prevention Week open houses at both the Blyth and Wingham Fire Stations. Firefighters had the opportunity at this event to hand out fire safety information to public of all ages.
- October 15 – *Wingham Firefighters Association fish fry* - FDNH personnel attended this event to hand out fire safety information to public of all ages.
- October 27 – *Wingham Witches Walk* – FDNH personnel attended this event to hand out fire safety information to public of all ages.
- October 31 – *Halloween* – FDNH personnel handed out candy and fire safety information during Halloween at the Wingham Station.

- December 12-24 – *12 Days of Holiday Fire Safety* – FDNH personnel posted holiday fire safety messaging as part of a provincial fire service effort to reach as many people as possible with consistent messaging leading into the holidays.

In the fourth quarter of 2023, FDNH created 38 social media posts and generated the following interactions:

- Post Likes = 277
- Post Comments = 16
- Post Shares = 165

The Fire Department of North Huron Facebook page currently has:

804 Likes (+37 from Q3)

990 Followers (+80 from Q3)

Training Initiatives

In the fourth quarter of 2023, firefighters committed approximately 902 hours towards training covering the following content:

- Apparatus and Station inspection and maintenance
- Smoke Alarm Campaign
- Pre-Incident Planning
- NFPA 1002 Pumper Operations Certification Course
- Medical Operations Review
- PPE Inspections, donning and doffing
- Auto Extrication
- NFPA 1001 Firefighter Level I Certification Testing
- Ventilation
- Gas Monitoring
- Thermal Imaging Camera
- Ladders

Other Notable Projects

The Wingham Fire Station bathroom renovations were commenced in Q3 of 2023 and will be completed in Q1 2024.

FDNH completed the final steps of researching Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus equipment prior to commencing the procurement process. The research process ensures that adequate education and information is gathered prior to making this significant purchase. This purchase has a large financial impact. Procurement award is expected in Q1 2024.

Emergency Management Group has begun the Community Risk Assessment within North Huron and is currently in the data collection stage of the project. The process is expected to be completed in Q2 2024.

Fire department leadership is working closely with our insurance company and service suppliers to find a resolution for Engine One that was damaged in December. Communication is ongoing and no timeline is available at this point.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

FUTURE/OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

N/A

OTHERS CONSULTED:

Chad Kregar, Deputy Fire Chief

Michael Roess, Fire Prevention Officer

Ken DeVries, District Chief

RELATIONSHIP TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN:

Our goal is to offer high-quality and well-balanced services that create a sense of belonging, support community well-being, promote safety, and encourage healthy and active lifestyles. 5.2 - Continue to deliver public education, fire prevention and fire service programs to ensure the safety of residents and visitors.



Kent Readman, Fire Chief



Dwayne Evans, CAO