

Fire Protection and Emergency Response

“The Municipal Role”

Presented to the AMM District
Meetings

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Fire Commissioner

Manitoba 

Today's Seminar Will Look At:

- 1) The Municipalities' Roles and Responsibilities regarding Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services
- 2) New requirements regarding adoption and enforcement of the Manitoba Fire Code
- 3) New Workplace Safety and Health Regulations and how these impact your fire department and yourself
- 4) Answer any questions you may have as Elected Officials regarding the operation of your fire department and emergency response services
- 5) Bring forward future concerns



Legislation and Regulations which have an effect on the operation of your Fire Department and Emergency Response Services

- 1) Municipal Act
- 2) Fires Prevention and Emergency Response Act (FPER) – Manitoba Fire Code
- 3) Workplace Safety and Health Act and Regulations
- 4) Emergency Measures Act
- 5) Wildfires Act
- 6) Employment Standards Act and Regulations
- 7) Workers Compensation – Cancer Coverage



The Municipal Act

Fire Protection Services

- 264 Every municipality must provide fire protection services within its boundaries to reduce the danger of fire, which may include education programs, inspections of property, the installation of alarms, instructions on fighting fires, the provision of fire fighting equipment and a fire protection force.



Fires Prevention and Emergency Response Act

- Provides next level of authority and responsibilities
- Changes to the act received assent in June, 2006 – Became law in November 2006
- Clarifies roles and responsibilities of local authorities and Fire Commissioner
- *Requires inspections of certain buildings*



Why the Changes?

- Fires and other emergencies continue to occur
- Public Expectation
- Risk Management
- Clarification of Roles and Responsibilities
- Safety for Responders



“Creating Safer Communities”

TOTAL FIRES

	<u>Number of Fires</u>	<u>Estimated Loss</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
2000	4758	\$75.3 m	28
2001	4714	78.6 m	20
2002	5377	83.0 m	21
2003	6186	93.3 m	12
2004	5256	82.7 m	19
2005	5261	103.4 m	18
Average	<u>5259</u>	<u>\$86.05 m</u>	<u>19.6</u>



“Creating Safer Communities”

Last five years, Rural Manitoba

“Targeted Occupancies”

- Day Care/Nursery Schools 15 Fires
- Schools 208 Fires
- Hospitals/Nursing Stations 61 Fires
- Homes for the Elderly 62 Fires

“People under care”

The expectation of safety should be higher”



Fires Prevention and Emergency Response Act Part 5

- Clarification of Roles, Responsibilities & Authorities.
 - “Local → Regional → Provincial → Federal”
- Definitions in line with EMO
- When Provincial resources are required, the Office of the Fire Commissioner is in charge of the site. EMO assists municipality
- Incident Management System to be consistent with that of the OFC—Incident Command
(by Regulation)
- Local authority to report annually on services capable of being provided



Fires Prevention and Emergency Response Act

Part 6: Fire Investigations

- Local authority to investigate all fires
- Must contact OFC with respect to specific fires
- Must complete report on fires. (*Internet reporting*)

Fire Commissioner or designate:

- Ability to enter adjacent land or premises for investigations
- May close land or premises during investigation
- Authority to take whoever necessary to assist
- Authority to seize documents, things, records



Part 6: Fire Inspections

- Local authority to adopt Manitoba Fire Code
- Local authority required to inspect ***prescribed*** buildings
- Fire Commissioner to inspect prescribed buildings
- Full authority to enter buildings to conduct inspections
- Municipality may contract this service by agency or personnel approved by OFC **but why?**
- Municipalities may charge for inspections



Part 7: Actions and Orders, after an investigation or inspection the Fire Commissioner or designate may:

Commissioner or designate may:

- Cause land or premises to be closed immediately and persons removed
- Post a fire watch, make repairs to existing fire safety systems and install temporary fire guards
- Remove combustive or explosive material and anything else that may constitute a fire menace
- Do any other reasonable thing immediately required to reduce threat to life or property



Part 11: Actions and Orders, after an investigation or inspection, the Fire Commissioner or designate may:

- Issues orders to remove things, demolish things, install or modify things or equipment
- Close land or premises
- Take other measures necessary for fire safety
- Orders must set out to review or appeal process
- Orders must set out time frames for compliance
- Costs may be recovered



Part 15: Review or appeal of Orders

- Reviews or appeals must be in writing
- 14 days maximum time frame for action
- Fire Commissioner deals with appeal of inspection from local authority
- Court of Queen's bench deals with appeal of inspection order by Fire Commissioner



“Creating Safer Communities”

Inspections are to ensure life safety measures are in place. What is the inspection going to include?

- If required, working fire alarm system
- Sufficient and un-obstructed means of egress and exit lights and emergency lighting
- Internal fire protection systems are in operating condition:
 - sprinklers
 - standpipes
 - extinguishing systems and fire extinguishers



“Creating Safer Communities”

- Where required, approved emergency evacuation plans
- General housekeeping and safety
 - improper use of extension cords
 - over accumulation of combustibles
 - unsafe practices or conditions



Buildings Requiring Inspections

- **Annually**
 - Elderly persons housing units or hostels
 - Child care centers
 - Personal care homes
 - Residential care facilities
 - hospitals



Buildings Requiring Inspections

- **At least every three years**
 - Licensed premises
 - Public or private schools
 - Recreation centers, community centers, arenas
 - Hotel or motel
 - Restaurants located in a building with one or more dwelling units



Inspection Policies and Forms

- Policies are required to be developed
- Forms for inspections, re-inspections and closure orders available on the Office of the Fire Commissioner Webpage (computerization and internet)



Home page of the OFC Webpage

OFFICE of the FIRE COMMISSIONER

Manitoba Emergency Services College Codes & Standards Investigations
Municipal Support Emergency Response Administration



Confidential Course Evaluation Open the MESC Course Catalogue in PDF Format



Send your comments about this webpage to firecomm@gov.mb.ca

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- Emergency Services Forms
- CPAT Testing
- Burning Issues
- Practical Training Site
- Mutual Aid Financial Incentives
- Employment Opportunities
- Accomodations
- Contact Us



www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca



Section 42

Workplace Safety & Health

Regulation 217/2006

- Came into effect February 1, 2007
- Provides regulation governing the Safety and Health of Fire Fighters
- Requires administrative and operational changes
- Reinforces Safety Principles that will help ensure *'Everyone Goes Home'*



Workplace Safety & Health Act

General duties of employers

- **4(1) Every employer shall in accordance with the objectives and purposes of this Act**
 - (a) ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety, health and welfare at work of all workers; and
 - (b) comply with this Act and regulations



Workplace Safety & Health Act

Further duties of employer

- **4(2) Without limiting the generality of an employer's duty under subsection (1), every employer shall;**
 - **(a) provide and maintain in a workplace, necessary equipment, systems and tools that are safe and without risks to health, so far as is reasonably practicable;**



Workplace Safety & Health Act

Further duties of employer

- 4(2).....
 - (b) provide to all workers such information, instruction, **training**, supervision and facilities to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety, health and welfare at work of all workers;



Section 42

Workplace Safety & Health

Firefighter Regulations

- Safe work procedures (operating guidelines)
- Personnel Accountability System
- Written records of all training
- Equipment and vehicle provided are appropriate and designed for firefighter safety
- Team in/team out equally trained and equipped for internal fire attack and specialized rescue situations



Bylaw Authority

- Do you know what services your fire department provides?
- Does your Fire Department have the legal authority to be doing what it is currently doing ?
- What do you want your Fire Department to be doing ?
- Do your **CURRENT** Bylaws reflect the **ABILITY** and **NEED** of your fire department and community?



Pre-Planning

- What kind of hazards can affect you?
- How bad can they get?
- What will be affected by the incident occurring?
- How will these hazards affect you and your community?
- Can your fire department provide a response?



Bad Things Can Happen Anywhere!



Ice Storm

Forest Fire



Tornado



Train Derailment



Are You Prepared??

Manitoba 

Emergency Preparedness



**Office of the
Fire Commissioner**



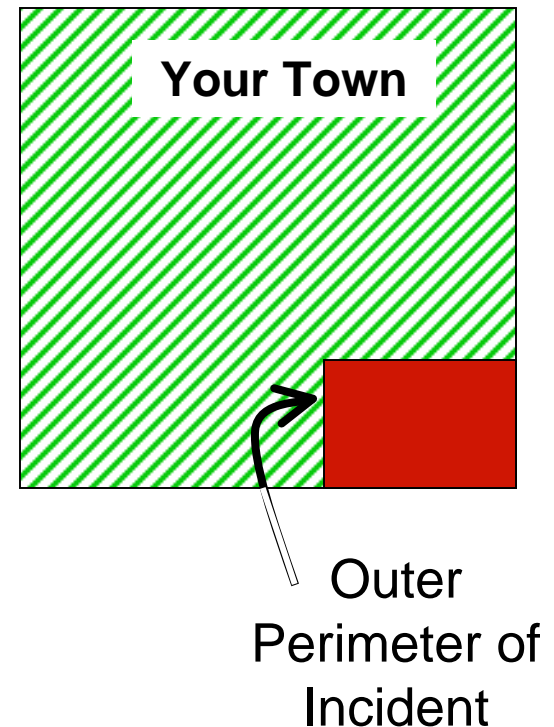
**Emergency Measures
Organization**

Other Provincial Departments & NGO's



Incident Command

- All incidents should be managed using the Incident Command System
- Systems used by Municipalities are not to be inconsistent with the ICS adopted by Provincial Legislation
- ICS 100 training is available on line free of charge (*OFC Website*)
- *More advanced levels available*
- Specific training for municipal officials – ICS for Agency Executives.



Incident Command

- Used at all sizes of incidents and training
- Management by objectives
- “The right person for the right job”
- Response broken into functional areas
- Personnel Accountability mandatory



SAFETY #1

P.A.S.S. DEVICE

"The Toolbox"

COMMUNICATIONS

COMMAND

THE PERSUADER

SAFETY OFFICER

INCIDENT COMMAND

ACCOUNTABILITY

RISK MEASURE

Manitoba



Fire Department Issues

- Membership – How to attract and maintain personnel
- Response to Alarms
- Training
- Mutual Aid
- Equipment needs
- Communication
 - 911 / paging / radios



Your Fire Service Partners

- Mutual Aid
 - a no cost RECIPRICOL agreement made between municipalities to provide assistance at the time of need. More important now than ever.
- Fire Protection Agreements
 - the provision of Emergency Response Services at a negotiated cost recovery rate between municipalities



Urban Interface

- Wildland or grassland fires should be of great concern
- Many grassland fires interface with built up property causing devastating damage
- Urban interface applies to built up recreational property areas as well
- Almost all spring fires are human caused
- Prevention is fire protection as well



Fire Protection and Emergency Response Costs Continue to Increase

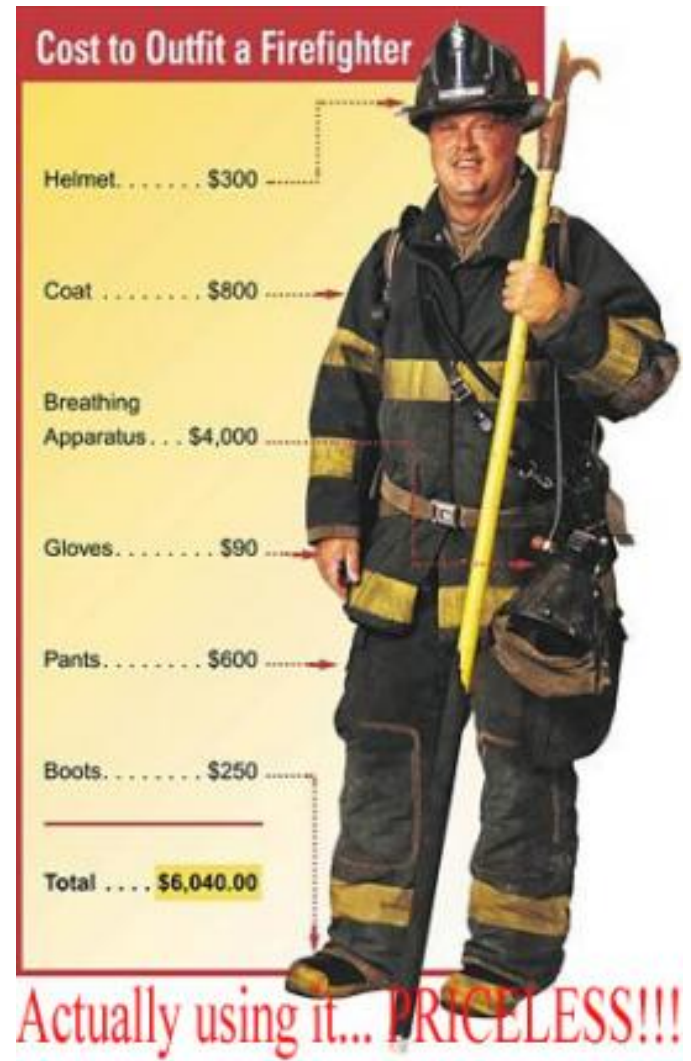
- **“Based on Services you Provide”**
 - Vehicles
 - Equipment
 - Communications
 - Training
 - Personnel
 - Technology



Cost of Doing Business

- In the last 10 years, the cost of an average piece of emergency response equipment has gone up by approximately 65%
- Turnout Gear and SCBA have seen a rise between 65 - 150%
- Fire Apparatus cost inflate annually





Mandatory Protective Equipment



Fire Protection and Emergency Response Costs

- Vehicles
 - Reserve and replacement policy
 - Annual general equipment costs
- Training and Report Keeping
 - **“Computer and Internet”**
- Personnel Costs
 - Salaries
 - Benefits
 - Insurance?
 - Rewards?
- Protecting your assets



Firefighter Injury/Death It Doesn't Have To Happen!



Municipal Challenges

- Legislation requirements
- Community needs
- Funding
- Personnel
- Capabilities
- You must decide how best to meet these challenges



Office of the Fire Commissioner

- Toll Free Number
Eastern Manitoba - 1-800-282-8069
Western and Northern Manitoba 1-888-253-1488
- Website – www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca
- General E-mail address – firecomm@gov.mb.ca
- Eastern Manager – Rick Vandekerkhove
- Western Manager – Dave Schafer

“Committed to assist you and your council and fire department any way we can”





Questions?

