



# HARRISON <sup>Hot</sup> <sub>Springs</sub> Fire Department

## 2014 *Annual Report*

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*Photos Courtesy of Shelly Bryant, Phil Hardy, Neil Maclean and David Whittaker*

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## MISSION STATEMENT

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*"The Harrison Hot Springs Fire Department will provide to our community fire prevention and awareness information as well as quality and effective fire suppression capabilities to the best of our ability. This is our community and through team work and professionalism we will strive to protect lives, property and damage to our environment as our primary goals".*

Values: Trust, Teamwork, Integrity, Compassion and Professionalism



## INTRODUCTION

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Fire Chief D.M. Labossiere

It is an honour and a pleasure to once again present the Harrison Hot Springs Fire Department annual report to Council, our residents and our staff.

The primary mission of the Harrison Hot Springs Fire Department is to provide fire protection services and to protect the lives and property of the residents in the Village from the adverse effects of fires, specific medical emergencies or exposures to dangerous situations/conditions created by man or nature.

We are able to accomplish our mission through the dedication of 19 fire department members committed to providing excellent service to our community and to making a difference in the lives of the people we serve. We take pride in our service delivery and we use our training and skills to assist our residents, business partners and visitors on an average 60 calls for service per year. Our services have broadened over the years and our ability to respond to a variety of incidents speaks volumes of our desire to serve. We continue to evaluate the needs of the community and seek solutions to improved service.

Our Fire Prevention Team seeks to prevent fires through a fire prevention program that minimizes fire risk through regular fire inspections of business and public education and awareness.

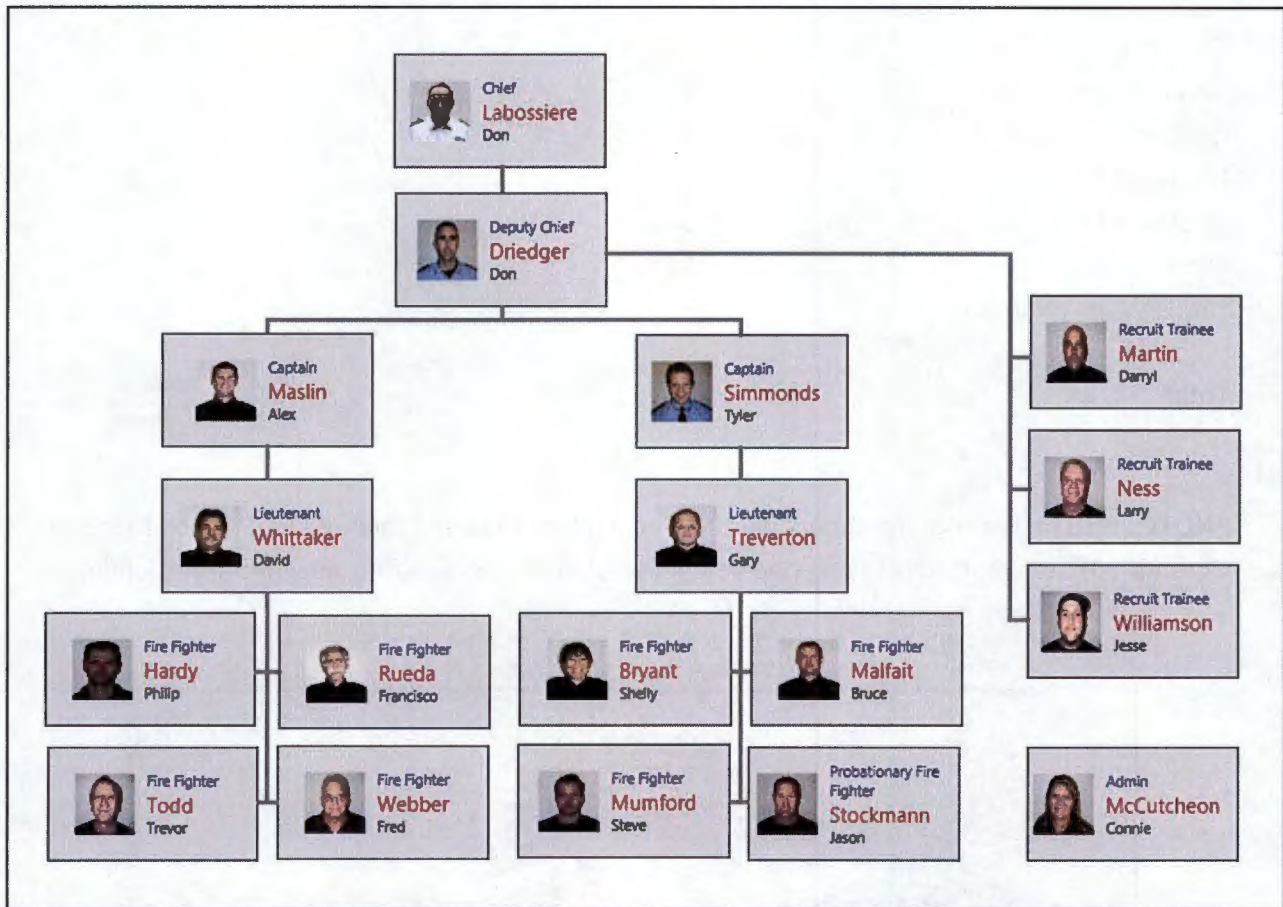
You also can do your part by planning an escape route from your home, establishing a meeting place for your family once you are safely out and ensure that your home has at least one smoke alarm on every level of the home and outside all sleeping areas. **"SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES"**

The Harrison Hot Springs Fire Department is well positioned to accept new challenges that may arise and will face them with the steadfast determination that has become the department's trademark.

Don Labossiere  
Fire Chief  
Harrison Hot Springs



## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



## PERSONNEL

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### PAID-ON CALL (POC) OFFICERS AND FIREFIGHTERS as of December 31, 2014

Fire Chief	1
Deputy Chief	1
Captain	2
Lieutenant	2
Lieutenant Fire Prevention Officer	0
Fire Fighters	11
Fire Fighters (on leave)	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>19*</b>

**\*NOTE:** In 2014, two POC members left the Department (Richard Shelley July 2 & Neil MacLean October 30), two members taking one year leave of absences and four new members joining.



## EMERGENCY RESPONSES

RESPONSES BY TYPE	2014	2013	2012	2011
Fires	11	5	5	2
Emergency Medical	9	11	13	12
Motor Vehicle Accidents	8	3	5	6
Burning Complaints	20	21	23	8
Public Service	2	0	1	1
Public Hazards	2	2	1	4
Rescues	3	0	1	1
Hazardous Materials	2	1	4	-
Alarms Ringing	11	24	15	16
Miscellaneous	2	3	1	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>50</b>

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL

Lift Assist (BCAS)	1
Breathing Difficulties	2
Cardiac Arrest	1
Landing Zone	1
RCMP Related	1
Drowning	2

### MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS

MVA	8
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### PUBLIC HAZARDS

Power Lines Down	2
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### RESPONSES

SINGLE ENGINE RESPONSE	48
MULTIPLE ENGINE RESPONSE	14
UTILITY RESPONSES	8

### FIRES

Reported as Structure	3
Smell or Smoke	4
Electrical	1
Dumpster	1
Small Fire	2

### ALARMS RINGING

Commercial Alarms	8
Residential Alarms	3

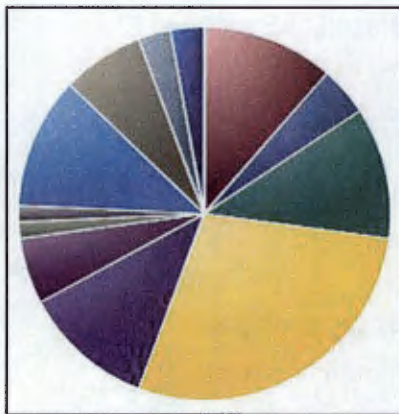
### BURNING COMPLAINTS

Burning Complaints	19
Beach Bonfires	1
Mutual Aid (District of Kent)	2

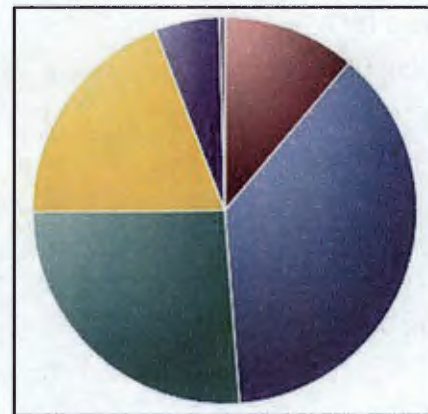


## FIRE LOSSES

FIRE LOSS	2014	0
	2013	0
	2012	\$300.00 (Naismith shed fire)
	2011	0
FIRE FATALITIES	2014	0
	2013	0
	2012	0
	2011	0
FIRE INJURIES	2014	0
	2013	0
	2012	0
	2011	0



2014 Responses by Type



2014 Time Distribution



## FIRE PREVENTION

	2014	2013	2012	2011
<b>FIRE INSPECTIONS</b>				
Business Licence Applications	158	178	131	-
Regular Inspections	98	90	111	-
Re-Inspections	21	15	16	-
Final Inspections (new buildings)	0	0	0	-
Complaint	2	6	10	-
Occupancy Load Request	1	1	3	-

**NOTE:** There were 158 business licences issued with 98 of those businesses operating out of Harrison Hot Springs that require regular fire inspections.

The Departments Fire Prevention Officer (FPO) also scheduled two public education sessions, one occupancy load check and followed up on numerous violations against the Fire Code during regular business hours.

The FPO attended the following courses/seminars during this fiscal year:

**April 12-13** – Two day LAFC seminar in Burnaby attended by LT MacLean.

**April 26-27** – Two day LAFC seminar in Burnaby attended by LT Whittaker.

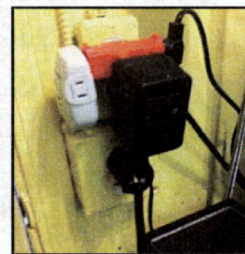
**May 30** – Completion of the Basic LAFC online course by LT Whittaker.

**September 11** – One day Hoarding seminar in Maple Ridge attended by LT's MacLean and Whittaker.

**October 30** – Lieutenant Neil MacLean resigned from the Department.



Lieutenant Neil MacLean  
Fire Prevention Officer



## BUDGET

	2014	2013	2012	2011
<b>ACTUAL OPERATING COSTS</b>				
Annual Operating Cost	\$124,308.90	\$119,671.00	\$130,406.00	\$116,149.00
Population estimate	1575	1575	1575	1575
Per Capita Cost	\$78.93	\$75.35	\$82.80	\$73.75
<b>POC WAGES</b>				
	2014	2013	2012	2011
Officer Honorarium	\$11,250.00	\$11,250.00	\$9750.00	\$5000.00
Fire Fighter Callouts	\$8072.11	\$6873.00	\$7465.40	\$4068.00
Fire Fighter Practice	\$24,928.94	\$25,404.00	\$20,642.00	\$23,310.00
Firefighter Training	\$12,803.64	\$17,963.00	\$13,000.42	\$7768.32
Fire Prevention Wages	\$3682.32	\$3307.00	\$3847.20	\$3600.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$60,737.01</b>	<b>\$63,697.00</b>	<b>\$54,705.02</b>	<b>\$43,746.32</b>

### 2014 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

#### Apparatus / Vehicle Purchases:

- N/A



#### Major Equipment Purchases:

- \$5000.00 for a deck gun for Engine 1-1 (September)

#### Other Purchases:

- Wildfire: McLeod tools, 5Gallon portable tanks (soft and hard tank)
- Safety: Traffic safety signs, Fire tape, Flotation devices, Water rescue rope
- 30 Gallons of Class 'A' foam

#### Repairs and Maintenance:

- Two 1.75" nozzles repaired
- Three SCBA air packs repaired, tested and re-certified
- Eleven cylinders hydrostatic tested and certified



## EMERGENCY FIRE FIGHTING APPARATUS

	No.	Apparatus	Year	Capacity
ENGINES:	408	Engine 1-1 (Spartan)	2012	1050 IGPM
	407	Engine 1-2 (Volvo)	1992*	1050 IGPM
UTILITY:	409	Utility 1-8 (Utility pickup)	1992*	n/a
ANTIQUE:	421	Ford	1941**	n/a

\* Fire Fighting apparatus more than 20 years old.

\*\* Currently in storage in the maintenance yard.



## TRAINING

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### **What we did in 2014:**

The Department had a moderately busy training year in 2014, beginning with eight members attending a one day Rail Safety course (Agassiz FD), three Officers completing the Wildfire in Urban Interface (WFF1) train the trainer course (Agassiz FD) and all the members of the Department completed the one day WFF1 course.

In September, seven members successfully completed the First Responder3 (FR3) certification course (one was a re-certification) bringing the number of FR3 certified members to sixteen. As well, two members completed a one day Emergency Vehicle Training (EVT) course and three members completed the Air Brake Endorsement certification course.

In October, the Department entered into the NFPA Firefighter2 vocational training program through the Justice Institute of British Columbia and began Module1. This is a multi-year training program with an expected completion by the end of 2016.

In November, one Officer completed the Fire Officer1 program, so all Department Officers are trained to the Fire Officer1 level and two Officers have begun courses at the Fire Officer2 level. It is expected that the Department Officers will maintain and build knowledge through the Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC) Officer training programs relating to incident management and firefighter safety.

### **What we plan to do in 2015:**

The upcoming year will see the weekly in-house training focused on the following:

- The Firefighter2 program (Modules 1-2)
- First Responder (FR3) first aid refresher training
- Topic lectures and SOP drill exercises to be conducted quarterly

Other specialized training will focus on the following topics:

- Recruit Training Program5 (RTP5) basic training for three recruits
- First Responder training for recruits and re-certifications for three members
- Officer development through the Fire Officer2 training program
- Driver/Operator training (Air Brake Endorsement , EVT, Pumps and Pumping and Traffic Safety)





## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

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### KENT HARRISON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Emergency Program Coordinator (EPC) is Gerald Basten with Marvin Anderson as the deputy EPC. Gerald Basten is continuing to actively work on developing a wildfire response plan for the emergency manual, and coordinated the Wildfire in the Urban Interface training course for the Harrison, Agassiz, Seabird Island and Popkum Fire Departments early in the year.

The radio communications team continues in developing a plan to have a portable radio system that will be able to be deployed in a number of places including the Harrison Hot Springs Fire Hall when required. The KHEMC was successful for \$10,000.00 in grant funding to fund this project (update communications equipment and portability component). (Gerald Basten).

### EMERGENCY SOCIAL SERVICES

The Emergency Social Services (ESS) team Coordinator is Pierre Groenenboom, who continues to acquire training for this position has completed the required core courses. Recruitment is ongoing with one new member and the ESS team has responded to 3 events in Agassiz that displaced four families. Pierre has developed ties with the Chilliwack team to utilize some of their pre-arranged suppliers and advice when required. (Gerald Basten).

### MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS

The Mutual Aid Agreement between the Village of Harrison Hot Springs and the District of Kent was updated and includes the HHSFD responding to reported fires on Rockwell Drive.

Members of the Department attended a live fire burning event sponsored by the Agassiz Fire Department which gained valuable experience to our members in a multi-Department setting. As well, members of the Department attended two Agassiz FD sponsored training sessions (Rail Safety and Wild Fire in the Urban Interface courses).





## MESSAGES AND MENTIONS

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1. The Department donated the following items to the *Fire Fighters without Borders* organization (Bob Duarte) in April:
  - a. Structural FF boots      x9
  - b. Balaclavas                x5
  - c. ERG 2008 books          x8
  - d. Floodlight                x1
  - e. Station Boots              x1
  - f. PASS devices              x5
  - g. Suspenders                x1
  - h. FF Gloves                 x10
  - i. Monitor pagers            x6
  - j. FF Helmets                x6
  - k. Turnout Gear              x5
  - l. TO Jackets only            x5
2. The First Aid Department held first aid training courses for members of the public with fourteen people being certified in Basic CPR/First Aid throughout the year.
3. Nestle Water for supplying the Department with a pallet of bottled water at no cost.
4. The Harrison Hotel and Resort and Spa for their continued support of the Fire Departments Annual Canada Day breakfast event at the Hall.

**BRITISH COLUMBIA BURN FACTS**

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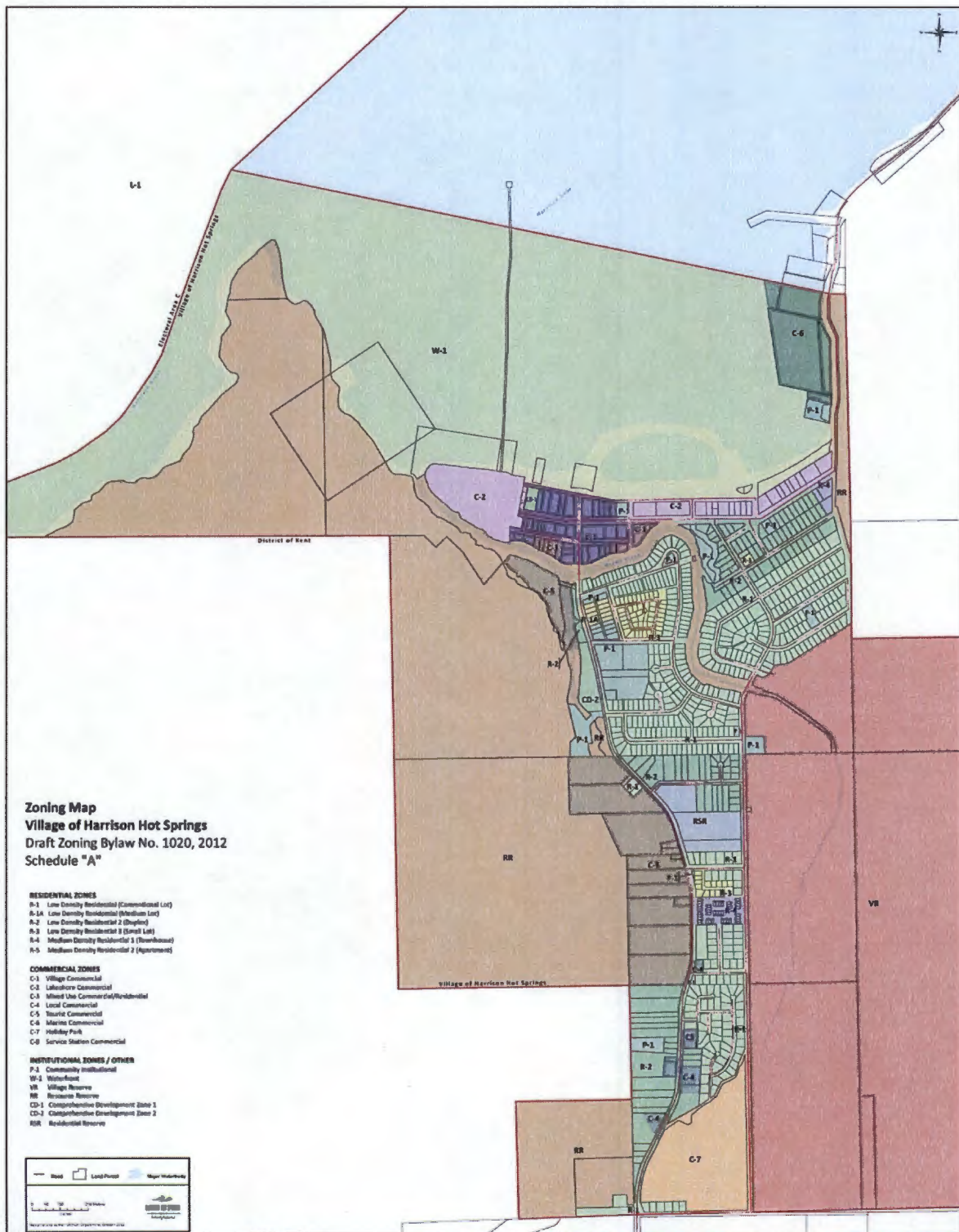
**2013 FIRE REPORTING**

<b>Fires Reported – Total</b>	<b>6715</b>
• Injuries due to fire	264
• Deaths due to fire	23
 <b>Residential Fires Reported</b>	 <b>2192</b>
• Injuries	196
• Deaths	13
 <b>Smoke Alarms Reported as Not Working (residential)</b>	
• No smoke alarm installed	317
• Not activated – reason unknown	307
• Not installed in a suitable location	100
• Not activated – no battery/dead battery	53
• Not activated – ac power off/disabled	30
• Not activated – mechanical failure	11
 <b>Most Common Causes of the Fires Reported</b>	
• Stove/range top burner involving fire	525
• Electrical wiring	38
• Smoker's material - cigarette	134
• Fireplace/chimney	90
• Cooking equipment	85
• Oven of stove/range	75
• Heaters includes water/space/portable	48
• Candle	47
• Wood stove - includes pellet stoves	45
• Cannot be determined	396

*Office of the Fire Commissioner – 2013 Fire Reporting*



## MAP OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS



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