

# **Fire & Emergency Services Annual Report – 2023**

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Please contact [accessibility@scugog.ca](mailto:accessibility@scugog.ca) / 905-985-7346.



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181 Perry Street, Port Perry ON, L9L 1A7

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## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Mayor Wotten and members of Council, I am exceptionally proud of the accomplishments made by the Township of Scugog Fire and Emergency Service (FES) team in 2023. FES was established to provide fire protection and emergency services through a range of programs designed to protect the lives and property of the inhabitants of the Township, our visitors, and to communities requiring assistance along with those we provided services to, from the adverse effects of fire, sudden medical emergencies, or exposure to dangerous conditions created by man or nature.

In 2023, the FES team renewed their commitment as community leaders in fire safety and emergency preparedness. Led by Inspector Green, Fire Prevention Programs including two-hundred and fifty-one (251) Fire Code inspections were accomplished and twenty-five (25) community events were attended with the sole aim of reducing and/or eliminating fire hazards having a significant impact on residential fire outcomes. Unfortunately, the department recorded the highest number of fires and dollar loss in several years. During these fires, three (3) civilians were injured and sadly, one (1) fire resulted in a fatality.

The mission of FES is to provide awareness programs and services that minimize the impact fire and emergencies may have in the communities we serve. This is only possible with Council's continued support. In 2023, Council was provided with a Community Risk Assessment. Staff will use the Assessment to develop a Community Risk Reduction Plan with an overarching goal of changing one's behaviour towards fire safety.

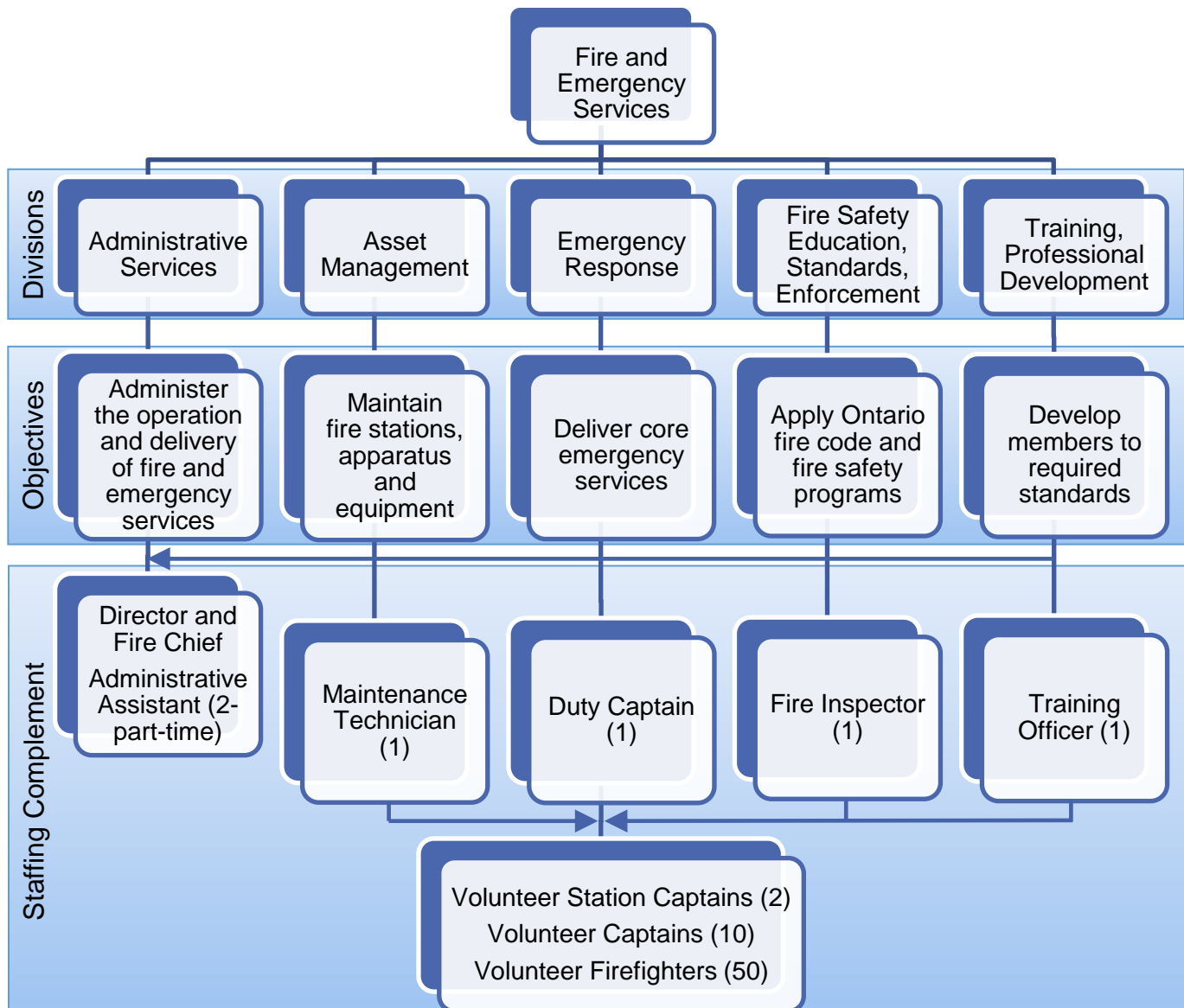
Lastly, I want to extend my sincere appreciation to the staff for their duty to the community. Thank you for your commitment to serving our Township.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Berney".

















Mark Berney,  
Fire Chief and Director of Emergency Services

# DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

The team at FES is a dedicated group that together provide a wide range of fire protection programs and services to residents, businesses and visitors of the Township of Scugog and communities we serve. The following illustrates each division with the department, primary objective and staffing complement.



## DEPARTMENT SERVICES

	Public fire safety education events (25)		Fire Code inspections general (153)
	Fire safety presentations (15)		Fire Code inspections – mixed use including residential units (81)
	Fire safety Information distributed to individuals (2,110)		Fire Code inspections – recreation centres (10)
	Witnessed fire drills (19)		Fire Code inspections – MSIFN buildings (7)
	Alarmed for life program home inspections (567)		Smoke/CO alarms installed by Department. (164)
	Fire station tours (10)		Junior Fire Chief program (150 participants)
	Emergency management preparedness training and exercise		Burning permits issued (1,737) Permit Inspections (98)
	Fire reports filed with the OFM (42)		Non-fire reports filed with the OFM (433)



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## PUBLIC FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION

Fires burn hotter and faster today than they did in the past. In 2023, Fire Services has responded to fourteen (14) residential fires, three (3) industrial fires and eighteen (18) vehicle fires resulting in over six (6) million dollars in fire losses, three (3) civilian injuries and sadly, one (1) fatality.

The primary causes of unintentional fires include mechanical/electrical failures and misuse of ignition sources. Delivering public fire safety education programs continues to be our number one risk reduction strategy followed by Fire Code enforcement. Programs in 2023 ranged from home inspections to Fire Code inspections of mixed-use occupancies, assembly occupancies and general inspections as a result of complaint or request.



With the 2023 Community Risk Assessment available, staff are preparing a risk reduction plan that will help develop effective fire safety programs that increase fire safety awareness and prevention across the Township. This is fundamental to the Township's strategic direction of Complete Community.

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## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Ontario regulation O>Reg.343/22 requires every municipality ensure its firefighters are certified to the prescribed National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) job performance requirements to perform fire protection services approved by Council. Scugog Fire and Emergency Services operates as a full-service fire department requiring firefighters to be certified in the following by July 1, 2026:

- Firefighter – NFPA 1001, “Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications”
- Fire Officer – NFPA 1021, “Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications”
- Pump Operations – NFPA 1002, “Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications”

Additionally, firefighters will require certification in the following disciplines by July 1, 2028:

- Auto Extrication – NFPA 1006, “Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications”
- Surface Water/Ice Water Rescue – NFPA 1006, “Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications”

37/49 active firefighter are certified to NFPA 1001. A 19% increase since June 2022.

1/5 recruit firefighters are certified to NFPA 1001, and 2 recruits wait for test results.

7/11 active officers are certified to NFPA 1021. A 7% increase since June 2022



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## EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Firefighters are alerted to various emergencies using the following definitions:

**Fire and Explosions:** Uncontrolled burning involving structures, vehicles and open area fires and includes the explosion of combustible solids, liquids or gasses which may or may not have resulted in a dollar loss or an explosion or rupture because of pressure, no fire.

**Outdoor, No Loss Fires:** Uncontrolled fires, outdoors, that did not result in a loss, injury or fatality and are not suspected to be caused by arson, vandalism or children playing.

**Burning (controlled):** Complaint call related to outdoor controlled burning, authorized or unauthorized. Fire Department did not take suppression action.

**CO (carbon monoxide) False Call:** A call where it is determined that the detection equipment malfunctioned or there was a perceived emergency - no CO leak.

**False Fire Call:** Alarm activation or fire call that, when investigated, is determined to be as a result of equipment failure, malicious/prank, perceived emergency, or accidental activation of alarm by a person.

**Medical/Resuscitator Calls:** Includes a response to a patient(s) suffering from asphyxia, respiratory condition, convulsions, epileptic, diabetic seizure, electric shock, traumatic shock, heart attack, stroke, drug related, cuts, abrasions, fractures, burns, person fainted, nausea and pre-hospital care such as administering oxygen, CPR, defibrillation or first aid.

**Other Responses:** Assistance to other Fire Departments, calls cancelled on route, non-fire incidents where an illegal grow operation or drug operation was discovered.

**Pre-Fire Conditions:** Incidents with no fire that involve heat or potential pre-fire conditions e.g. pot on stove, cooking - smoke or steam, lightning, fireworks.

**Public Hazard Calls:** Includes a response for spills and leaks of a hazardous product such as natural gas, propane, refrigerant, miscellaneous/unknown, gasoline or fuel, toxic chemical, radio-active material, power lines down or arcing, bomb, explosive removal standby, CO (carbon monoxide) or other public hazard.

**Rescue Calls:** A call for a person in danger due to their proximity to the occurrence and who is unable to self-evacuate and is assisted by Fire Department personnel i.e. vehicle accident, building collapse, commercial/industrial accident, home/residential accident, persons trapped in elevator, water rescue or water/ice rescue.





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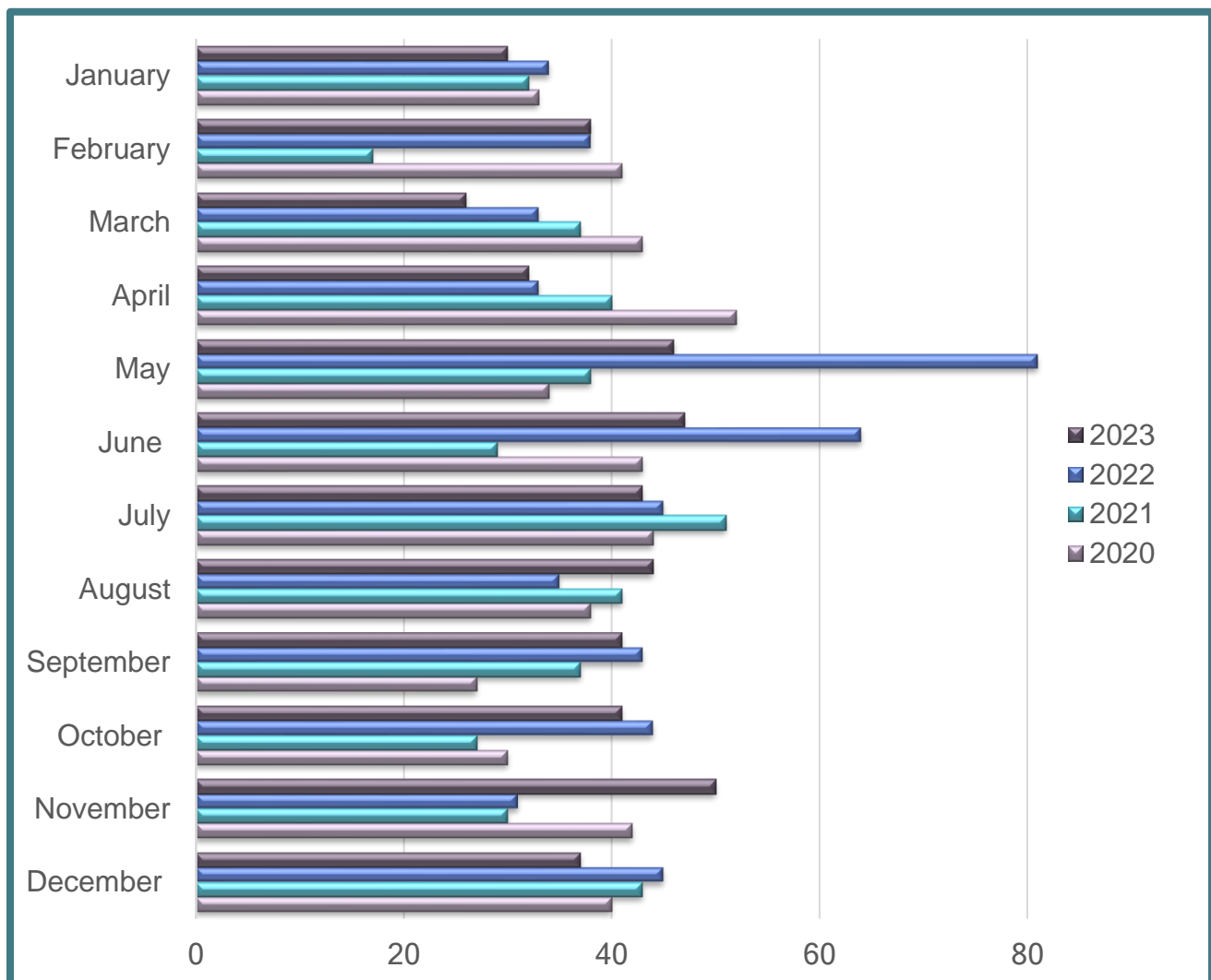
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## EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Annually, rescue calls followed by false fire calls and medical calls have the largest volume. In 2023, this trend continued.

**Total Emergency Calls in 2023 – 475**  
**2022 – 526; 2021 – 422; 2020 – 467**



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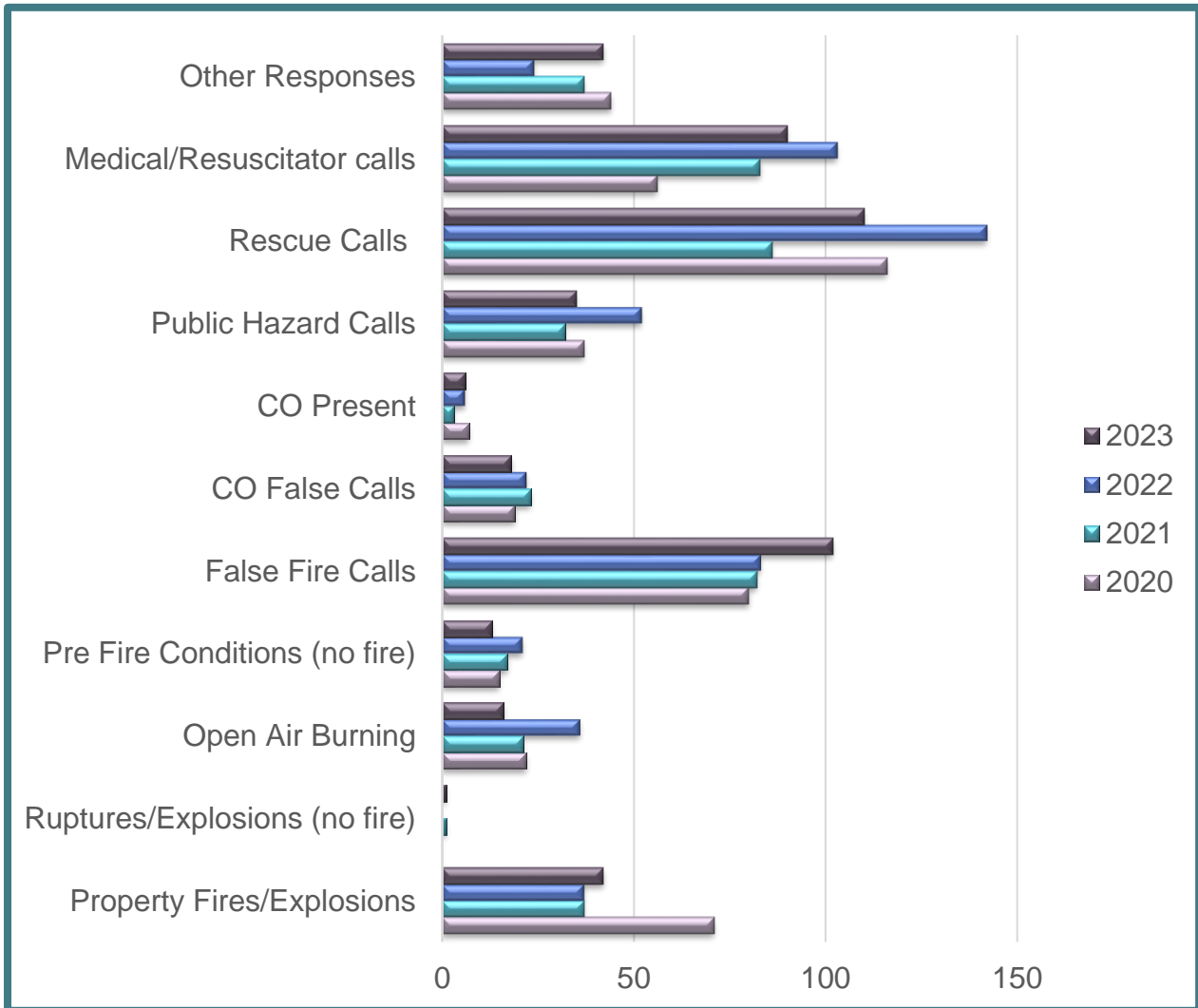
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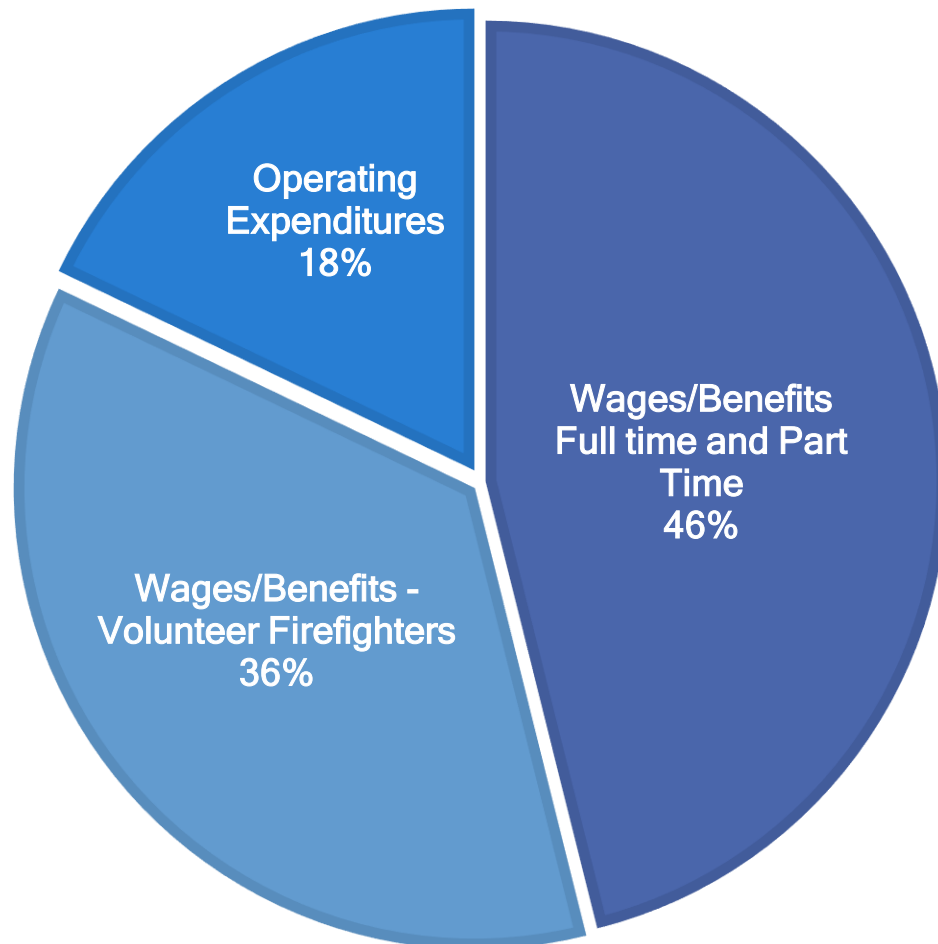
**Total Emergency Calls in 2023 – 475**  
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## DEPARTMENT NET OPERATING BUDGET

### 2023 NET OPERATING BUDGET



**Department Budget = \$2,029,300**

**11.5% of 2023 Township Net Operating Budget**



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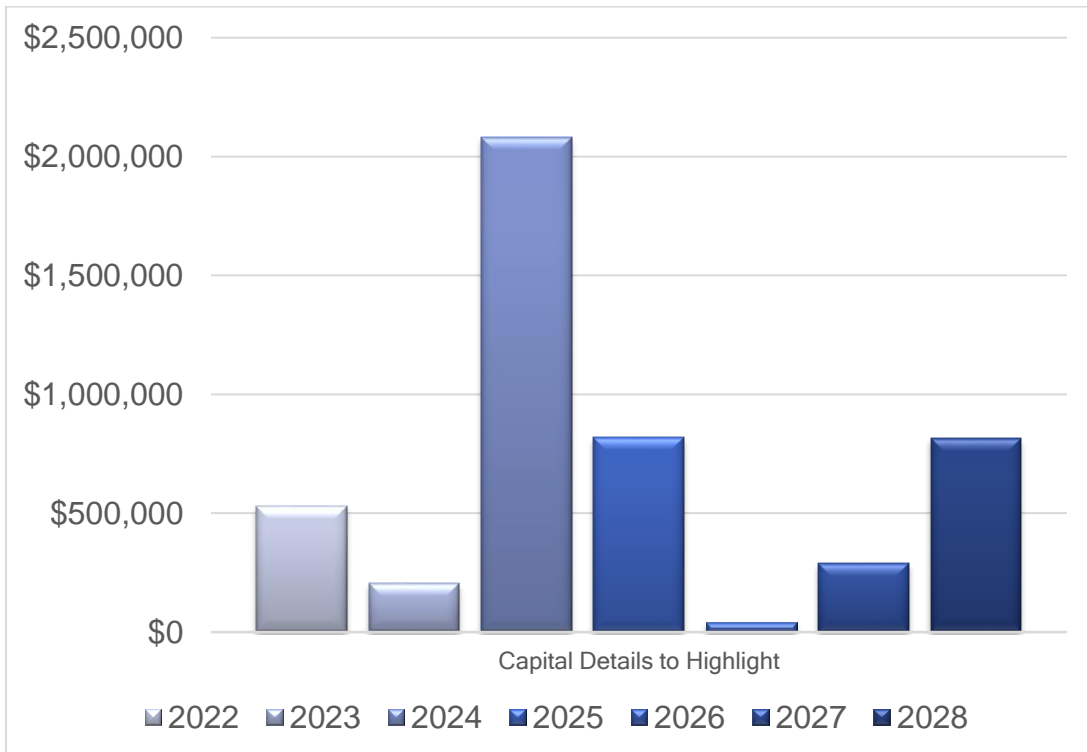
# DEPARTMENT CAPITAL BUDGET

With Council's support, staff have used capital budget funding to maintain the department's two fire stations, fleet of emergency vehicles, and equipment.

Staff have used industry technical documents to develop a fleet replacement schedule. Over the past three years, significant investments have included the purchase of a pumper truck, tanker truck, replaced a 4x4 truck, replaced extrication tools, and began to replace the department's portable radios.

Capital budget proposals in the coming years continue to address fleet replacement along with the purchase of an aerial pumper truck, second 4x4 truck, continuing with the portable radio replacement program, fire station maintenance and equipment that will enhance the department's cancer prevention program.

In 2025, the capital budget amount is reflecting the purchase of an aerial pumper truck and second 4x4 truck using development charges.



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## 2023 CAPITAL PROJECTS

FES001 Portable Radio Replacement. Firefighters require intrinsically safe portable radios to do their job safely, particularly in environments immediately dangerous to life or health. This project is in the first of a three-year replacement program.



FES003 Heavy Extrication Equipment Replacement. Trauma patients' survival rate increases dramatically when they arrive to a trauma center within what is known as the "golden hour". Firefighters having reliable extrication tools increases operational efficiency when faced with situations requiring forcible entry, disentanglement, and extrication. This project includes the purchase of an electric spreader, cutter and ram tool, and completes the replacement of the department's aged hydraulic equipment.



FES06 Firefighting Equipment. This project replaced worn equipment and provided for the purchase of remote rescue equipment including a first stretcher trailer.



FES010 Community Risk Assessment. Was completed and presented to Planning and Community Affairs Committee December 11, 2023.

FES016 Station 61 Maintenance and FES 017 Station 62 Maintenance. Both projects provide updates to the buildings thereby allowing them to continue to serve the community.

## GRANTS

Any grants applied for, received etc.

Grant Program	Agency	Project Description	Grant Amount	Status
<b>Safe Community Project Zero</b>	Enbridge Gas	Program provided Fire Departments with combination smoke/CO alarms.	228 alarms	Received
<b>Safe Community Project Assist</b>	Enbridge Gas	Program provided Fire Departments with CO and firefighting training materials.	\$5,000	Received
<b>Mental Wellness Program bursary</b>	A.J. Stone Co. Ltd. Safetek Profire	Bursary is provided to assist Fire Departments	\$500.	Received
<b>Public Safety Foundation</b>	Fire House Subs	Foundation supports government entities and registered charities with equipment	\$58,752	Denied



**Combination Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm with a 10-year sealed battery**

## STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Merit Award** is provided to a firefighter who delivers Fire Service Excellence in the performance of their duties under unusual, complicated, or hazardous conditions.

Clint Walker, John McLellan, Kevin Morash and Kristy-Lynn Pankhurst all received a merit award for exhibiting bravery and resilience on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020, at a residential structure fire on Fralicks Beach Rd.

**Team Merit Award** is provided to a group of firefighters who deliver Fire Service Excellence in the performance of their duties under unusual, complicated, or hazardous conditions.

Firefighters Todd Soomre, Clint Walker, Noel Sanders, Kevin Pike, Jared Olsen, Chris McAuley, Mark Sauder, Ethan Green, Adam Noguera, and Jeremy Feran all received the team merit award for exhibiting creativity and skill on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, during a large animal rescue.

### **Firefighter of the Year, 2023:**

Annually, the volunteer firefighter associations from each station recognize an association member as firefighter of the year. The 2023 Firefighter of the Year awards went to Noah Bray (station 61) and Bradley Taylor (station 62).

### **Service Anniversaries in 2023:**

Ken Elliott, 10 Years; Chris McAuley, 10 Years; Mark Sauder, 10 Years; Adam Willison, 15 Years; Noel Sanders, 25 Years

**25 Year Long Service Medal, 2023:** Noel Sanders

**30 Year Federal Service Pin, 2023:** Todd Soomre, Clint Walker

**Promotions, 2023:** Brendon Agnew and Jack Irvine for their promotion to Captain.



**NFPA Certification:** Firefighter Level I – Brendon Agnew; Firefighter Level II – Kevin Morash, Chad Reid, Bradley Taylor, Darren VanUden, Jesse Zajko, Ryan Voscek, Jamie Lowe, Ken Elliott; Hazardous Materials Operations – Brendon Agnew, Chris Dawson

### **Recruit Volunteer Firefighters:**

Jake Pilkey, Kevin Kobold, Connor Jarvis, Owen Simms

### **Retirements/Departures:**

James Hillier, 5 years; Cheryl Tensen, 5 years; Angelo Volpe, 5 years; Aiden Taylor, 7 years  
Jason Behling, 9 years; Clint Walker, 31 years



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## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024

2024 is expected to be a very busy year for our Scugog Fire and Emergency Services team including:

- Build our team and skills as we work towards achieving the Academic Standards and Evaluation basic certification target of July 1, 2026.
- Enhance our wellness program specifically addressing firefighter cancer prevention and mental health.
- Maintain our fire stations, trucks and equipment.
- Obtain Tanker Shuttle Accreditation.
- Develop a Community Risk Reduction Plan.
- Assessing the origin, cause, and circumstances of fires to ensure our public fire safety programs are suitable.
- Optimizing the first two lines of defence including public education and fire prevention, and the utilization of fire safety standards and fire code enforcement.
- Advance our Emergency Management Program and achieve Provincial compliance.
- Tender for the aerial pumper truck.
- Collaborate with our community public safety partners, neighbouring communities, and Township departments to provide an efficient fire protection service.





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# FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES TEAM

	Station 61	Station 62
Volunteer Station Captain	David Hollett	Shane Robinson
Volunteer Captains	Mike Martin	Rob Leslie
	Jared Olsen	Rick Olaisen
	Kevin Pike	Brendon Agnew
	Mike Waller	Jack Irvine
	Chris McAuley	
Volunteer Firefighters	Erik Betlem	Ryan Agnew
	Noah Bray	Mark Azeez
	David Buxcey	Daniel Burg
	Taylor Dallas	Chris Dawson
	Grace Dempsey	Colten Dixon
	Corey Durward	Ken Elliott
	Brooklyn Feasby	Ethan Green
	Jeremy Feran	Connor Jarvis
	Dick Hofman	Jonathan Kirwin
	Brianna Lusted	Kevin Kobold
	Luke Lusted	Jamie Lowe
	Mike Matthews	Whit MacKenzie
	Owen Matthews	Clay McIntyre
	Kevin Morash	Harrison Riches
	Adam Noguera	Owen Simms
	Katy Nunan	Collin Staples
	Jonas Parker	Bradley Taylor
	Jake Pilkey	Jordan Urry
	Chad Reid	Liam Urry
	Simon Renison	Braedyn Vannetten
	Noel Sanders	Darren VanUden
	Mark Sauder	Ryan Voscek
	Greg Soomre	Adam Willison
	Dylan Whittaker	Jesse Zajko
	Will Woodstock	
Administrative Assistants	Jacqueline Bjorklund	
	Cheryl Henderson	
Day Staff	Lieutenant Joe Goris	
	Officer Kristy-Lynn Pankhurst	
	Officer Todd Soomre	
	Inspector Ethan Green	
	Fire Chief Mark Berney	

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