

# **BURNABY FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **Public Safety Committee Meeting: 2021 November 10**

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### **STATUS REPORT**

The following status report is based on information regarding activities available to the end of September 2021.

1. Details on Major Incident occurrences within the City
2. High level Statistic Review to communicate trends within the City, including:
  - 2.1 Suppression Division Statistics
  - 2.2 Fire Prevention Division Statistics
  - 2.3 Training Division Programs
3. Summary of Community Outreach Initiatives, including:
  - 3.1 Community Engagements
  - 3.2 Recruitment Engagements

## 1. MAJOR INCIDENTS

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <i>Event Type:</i>     | Parkland Flare Activity   |
| <i>Date:</i>           | July 26, 2021   |
| <i>Street Address:</i> | 5201 Penzance Ave   |
| <i>Response:</i>       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Alarm:<br>5 Engines, 2 Ladders, 1 Rescue, 1 Command Unit  |
| <i>Detail:</i>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reports of fire visible from flare</li><li>• Facility electrical power loss from BC Hydro</li><li>• Resulting safety systems enacted to shutdown a processing unit and burn out of hydrocarbon products at the flare</li><li>• No emergency conditions were present</li><li>• Parkland Corporate Communications:<br/><i>At approximately, 10:15 p.m. last night, we experienced an electrical power outage from an external source. This resulted in the shutdown of multiple parts of the refinery and an elevated flare. The flare is a safe and immediate process that ensures we can safely stabilize the refinery after a disruption and an important part of the safe and reliable operations at the Refinery. There was no fire at the Refinery and there was no impact or risk to the employees or community.</i></li></ul> |

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <i>Event Type:</i>     | Construction Worker Struck by Vehicle  |
| <i>Date:</i>           | August 11, 2021  |
| <i>Street Address:</i> | Hastings & Ellesmere   |
| <i>Response:</i>       | 1 Engine, 1 Ladder, 1 Rescue   |
| <i>Detail:</i>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Construction Traffic Controller Struck by Vehicle</li><li>• Fatality</li></ul> |

*Event Type:* Highrise Building Fire  
*Date:* August 15, 2021  
*Street Address:* 4266 Grange St  
*Response:* 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm:  
5 Engines, 2 Ladders, 1 Rescue, 1 Command Unit  
*Detail:*

- 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor Fire
- Building is older and without a Firefighting Safe Elevator
- (1) Firefighter send to hospital for heat exhaustion

*Event Type:* Commercial Building Fire  
*Date:* August 20, 2021  
*Street Address:* 3215 Norland Ave  
*Response:* 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm:  
5 Engines, 2 Ladders, 1 Rescue, 1 Command Unit  
*Detail:*

- Fire quickly contain to building contents only, no building structural damage

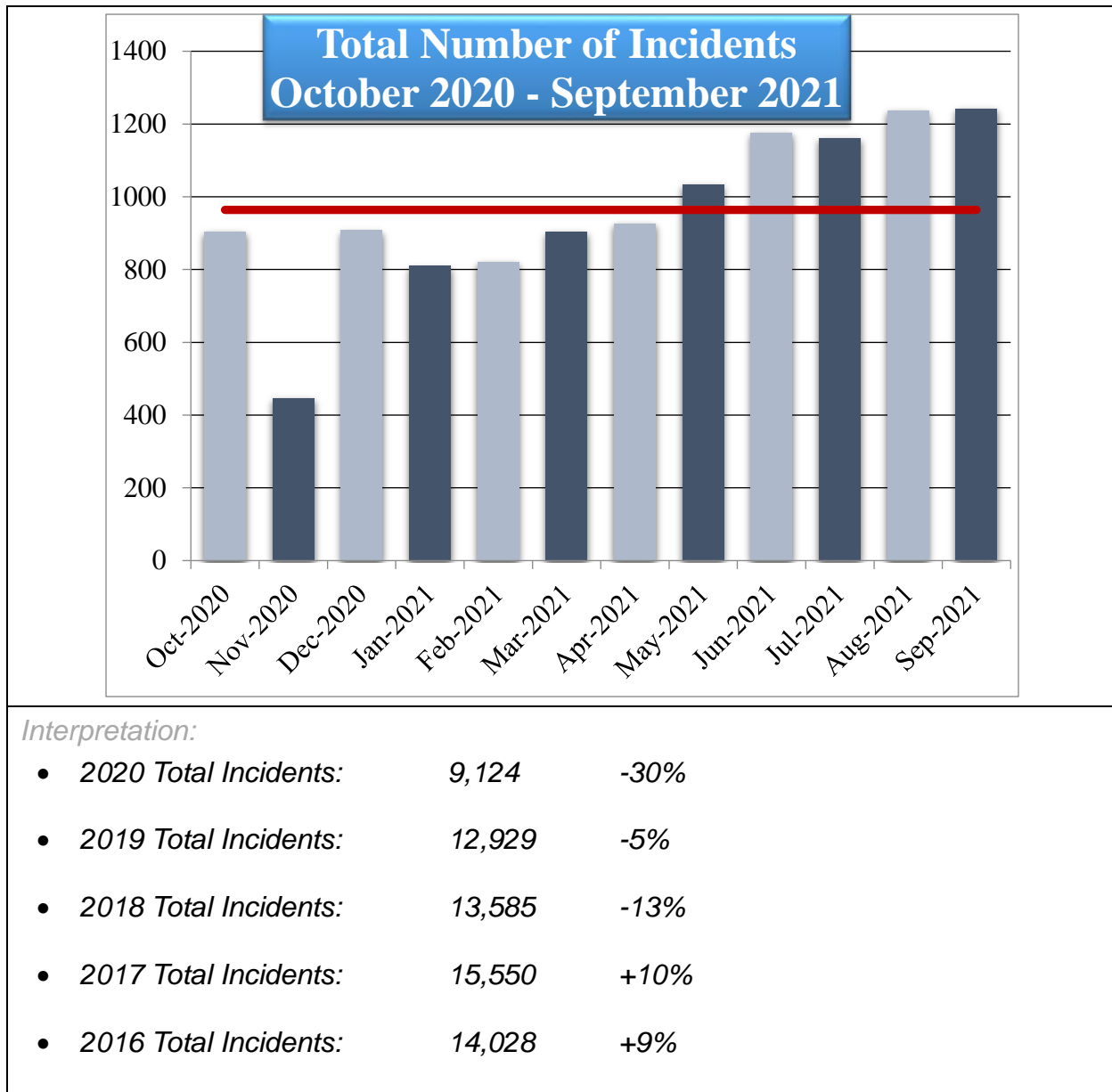
*Event Type:* Commercial Building Fire  
*Date:* August 30, 2021  
*Street Address:* 7747 6<sup>th</sup> St  
*Response:* 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm:  
5 Engines, 2 Ladders, 1 Rescue, 1 Command Unit  
*Detail:*

- Hookah Lounge
- Fire quickly extinguished with interior operations
- Email from Theo Lamb, Executive Director, Quest Outreach Society: *On behalf of Quest Outreach Society, I wanted to reach out and thank the team that showed up early Monday morning to address the fire that broke out next to our Burnaby Market location. The impact is devastating, of course. And, the fact that no one was hurt, and that Burnaby Fire was able to address the flames so quickly is nothing short of remarkable. Thank you.*

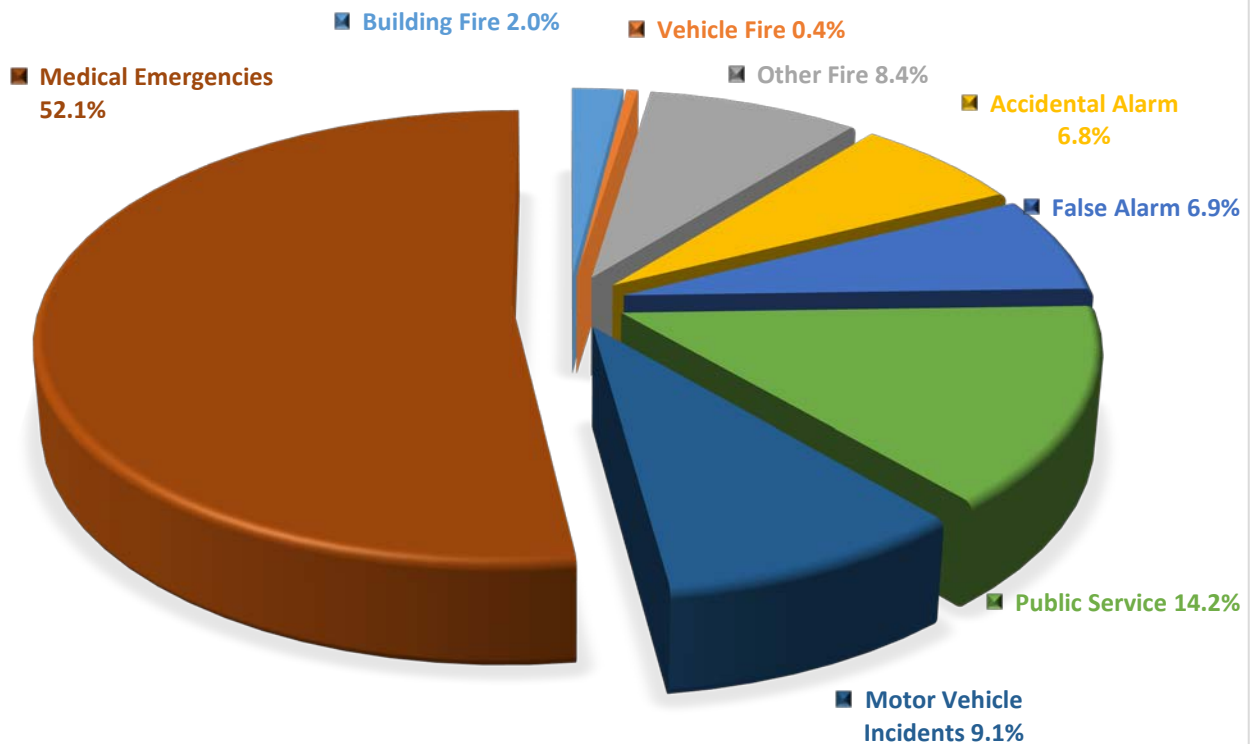
|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <i>Event Type:</i>     | Single Family Home Structure Fire   |
| <i>Date:</i>           | September 28, 2021  |
| <i>Street Address:</i> | 4550 Victory St   |
| <i>Response:</i>       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Alarm:<br>5 Engines, 2 Ladders, 1 Rescue, 1 Command Unit  |
| <i>Detail:</i>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• (2) occupants trapped by fire and structure collapse, rescued by firefighters from their basement suite</li><li>• CPR provide to injured occupants by BCAS and fire crews</li></ul> |

## 2. STATISTICS REVIEW

### 2.1 Suppression Division Statistics



## DISTRIBUTION OF INCIDENTS OCT 2020 - SEP 2021

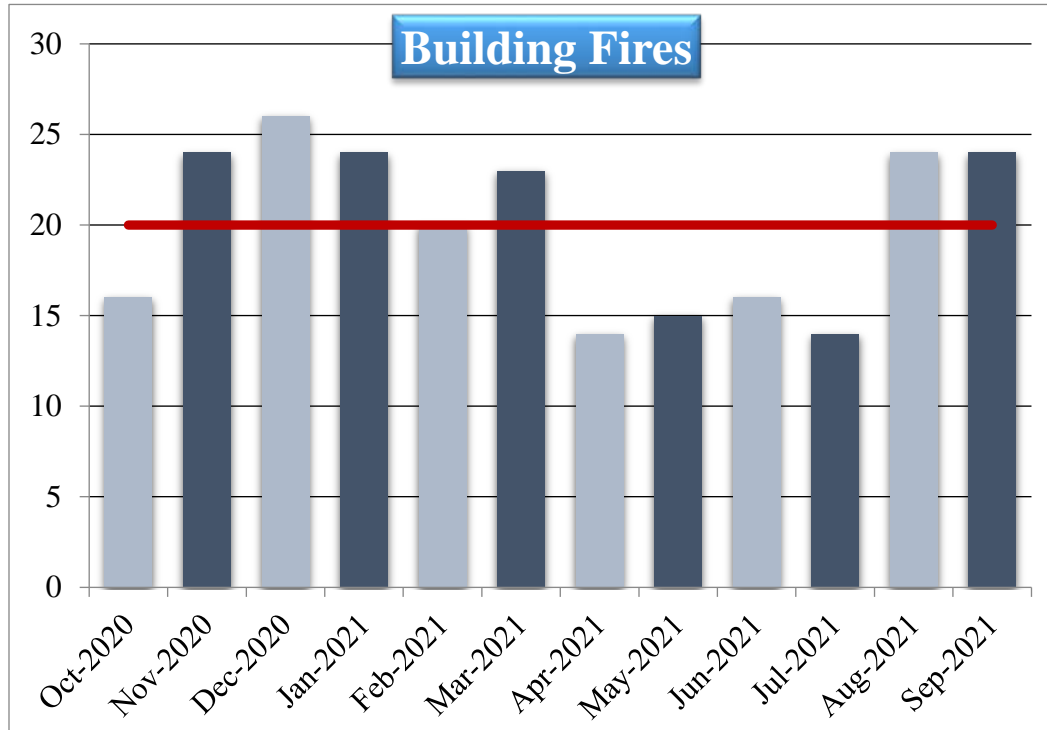


### Interpretation:

- *To Date 12 Month Distribution*

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Fire Incidents:          | -7.5%  |
| Motor Vehicle Incidents: | -0.9%  |
| Medical Emergencies:     | +10.1% |
| Public Service:          | -1.8%  |
- *2020 Distribution*

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Fire Incidents:          | 32% |
| Motor Vehicle Incidents: | 10% |
| Medical Emergencies:     | 42% |
| Public Service:          | 16% |

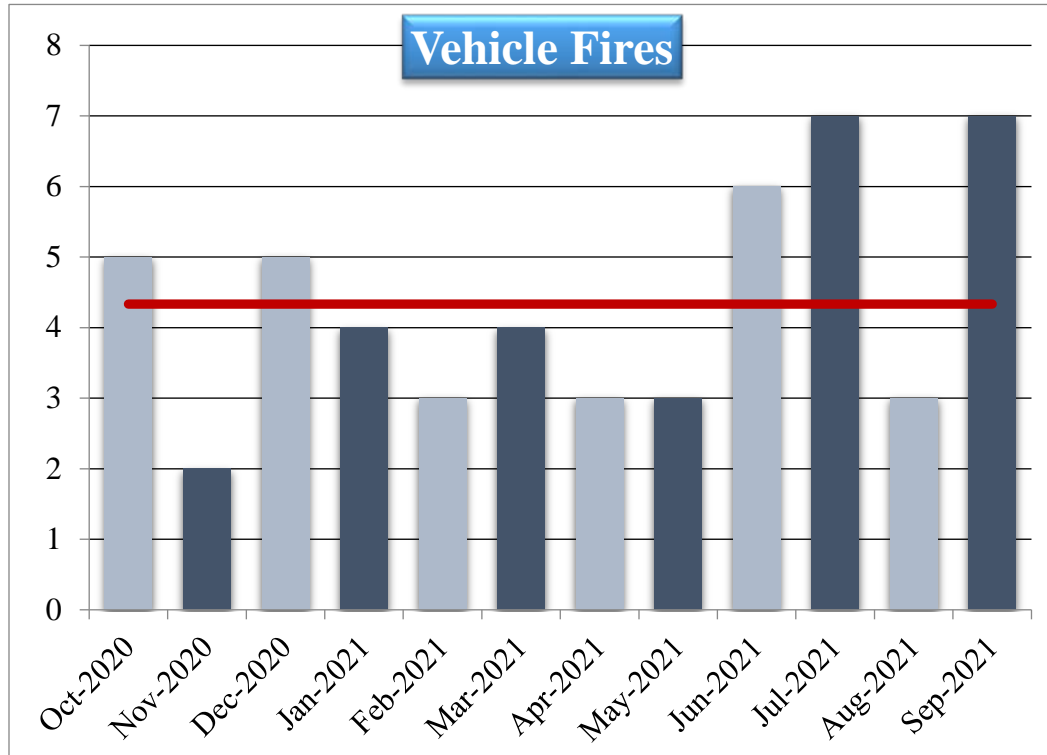


*Interpretation:*

- As the density of the City increases the number of multi-unit residential and commercial buildings, the firefighting resources required to attack fires within larger, more complex buildings with more lives present also increases. This leads to an increase in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Alarm fire incidents annually.

*Description:*

- Fires within all types of buildings and structures.



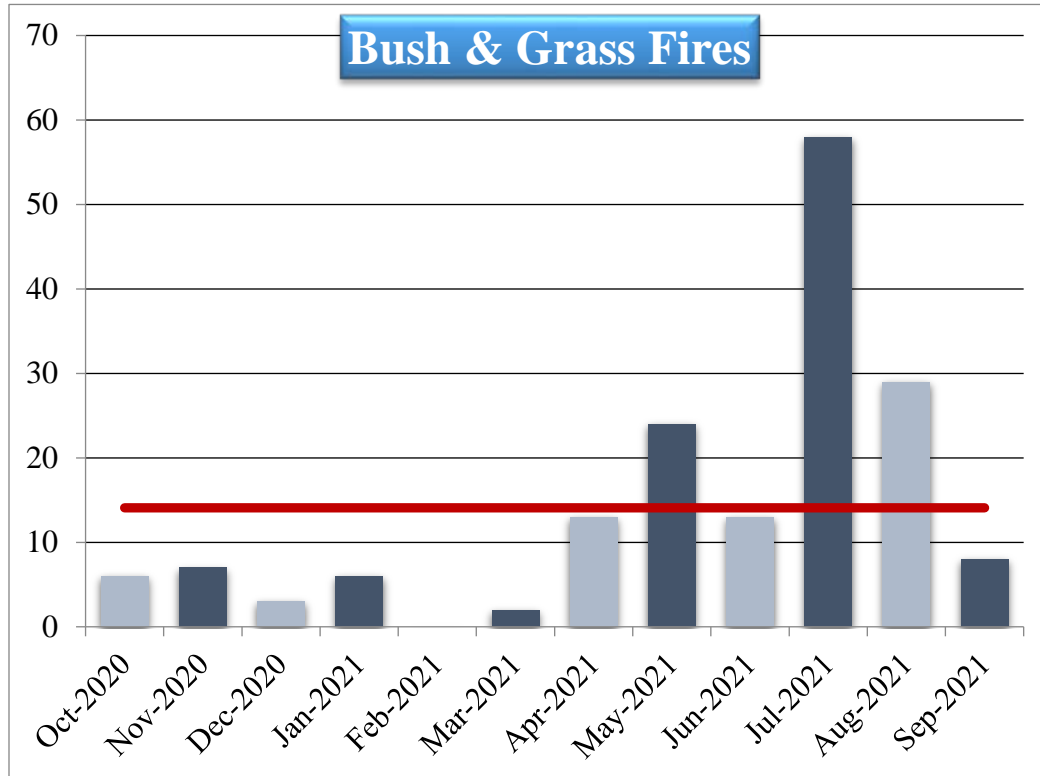
*Interpretation:*

- *None provided.*

*Description:*

- *Fire related to all types of vehicles and mobile equipment:*
  - *Automobiles*
  - *Cranes*
  - *Motorcycles*
  - *Tractors*
  - *Trucks*
  - *Boxcars*
  - *Fork-lifts*
  - *Motor homes*
  - *Trailers*
  - *Vans*



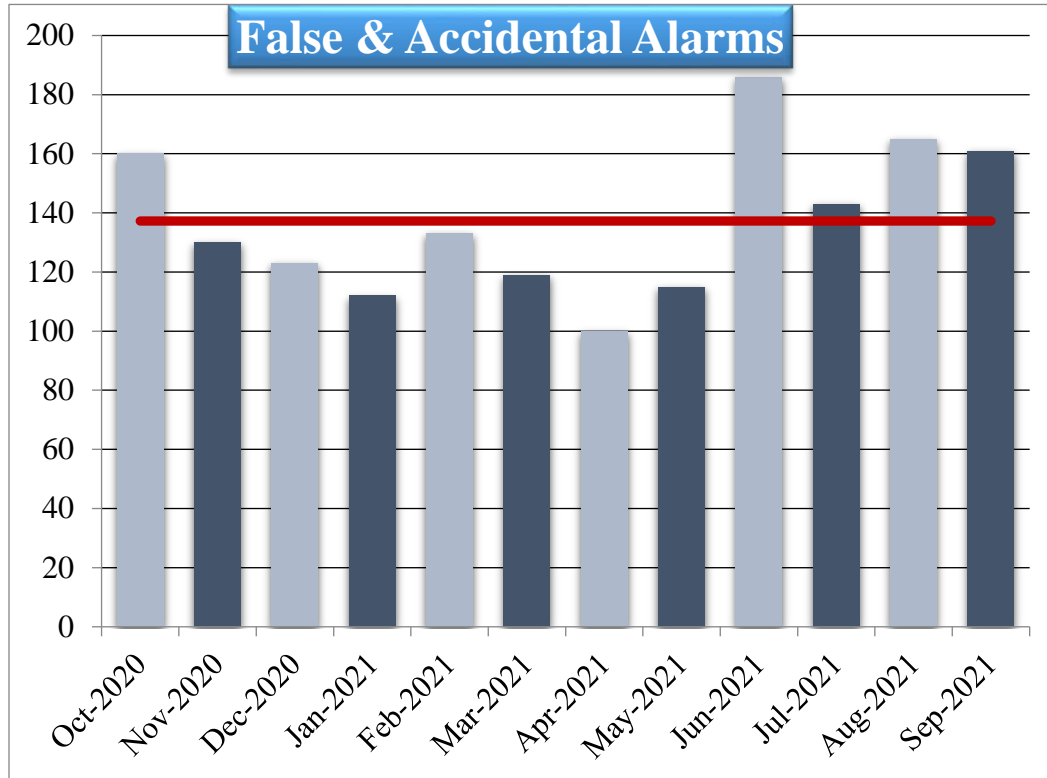


*Interpretation:*

- Fires in outdoor spaces typically increase during the summer months of the year.
- The drying effects of climate change on City wildland spaces has been notable.
- The dry wildland season now begins early in April and extends to October, a six month period.

*Description:*

- Fires related to outdoor space and land.



*Interpretation:*

- *It is expected that with the increasing density of living within the City, and the increase in buildings required to utilize automatic fire detection systems that the number of False & Accidental Alarm incidents will consistently and continually increase.*

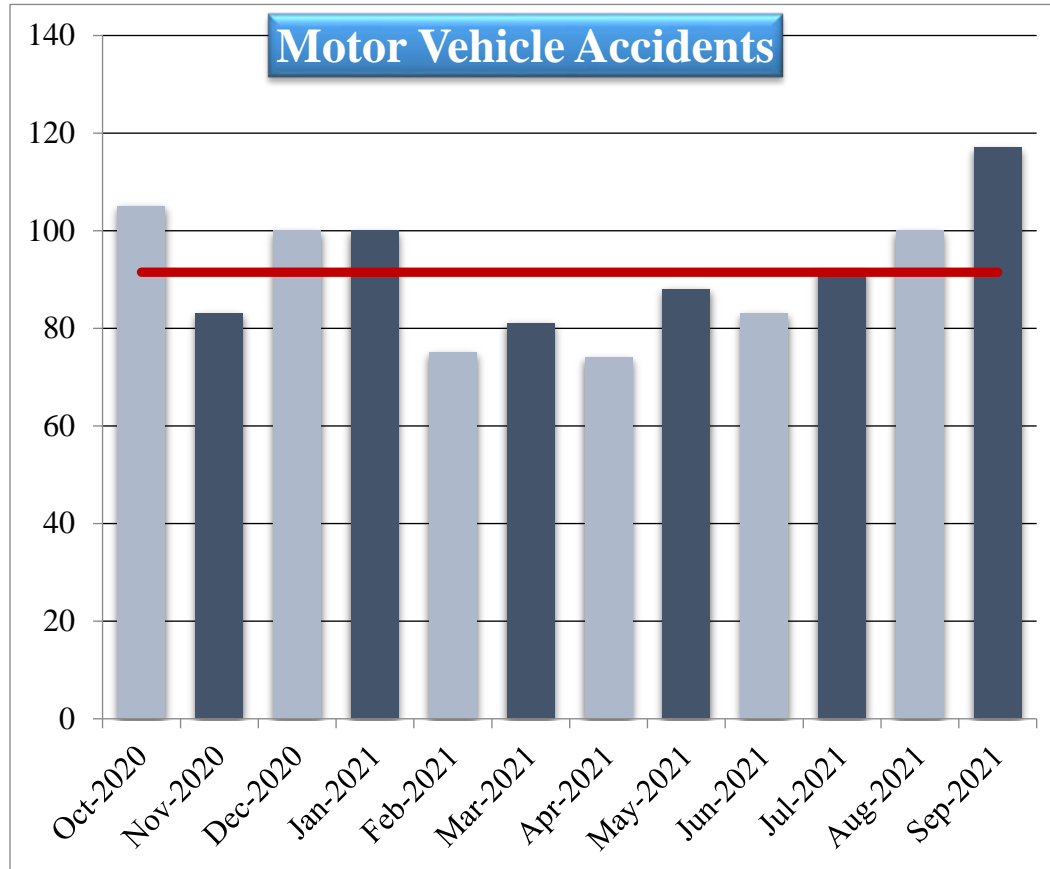
*Description:*

**Accidental Alarm:**

- *When there is a malfunction in a fire alarm system*
- *When a fire alarm is inadvertently activated*

**False Alarm:**

- *When a person deliberately reports a non-existent fire or emergency*
- *When a person deliberately activates an alarm system knowing that there is no fire or emergency*

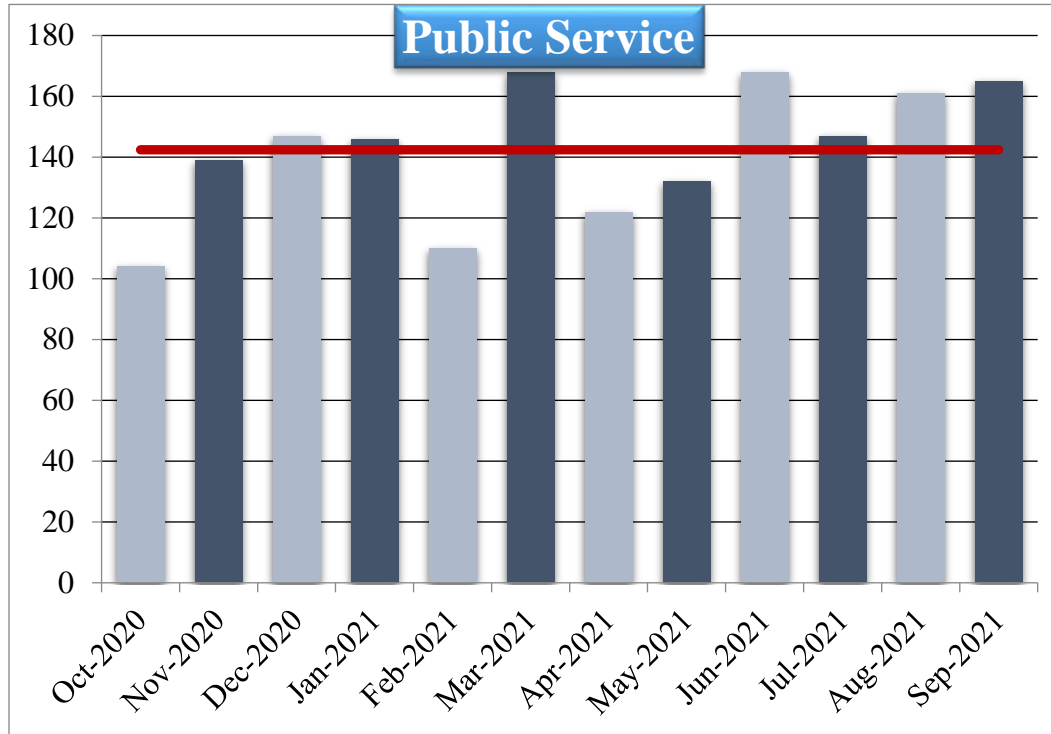


*Interpretation:*

- The reduction in incidents from 2020 Apr → Sep was related to BC Emergency Health Services altering the motor vehicle accident deployment models of the fire service during COVID-19 pandemic in order to sustain critical PPE needs of the Health Care Sector. During this initial period of the pandemic, the fire service was utilized only for high-mechanism of injury accidents where patients were more likely to be in need of Fire Department Heavy Rescue operations.

*Description:*

- Motor Vehicle Accidents with or without injuries.

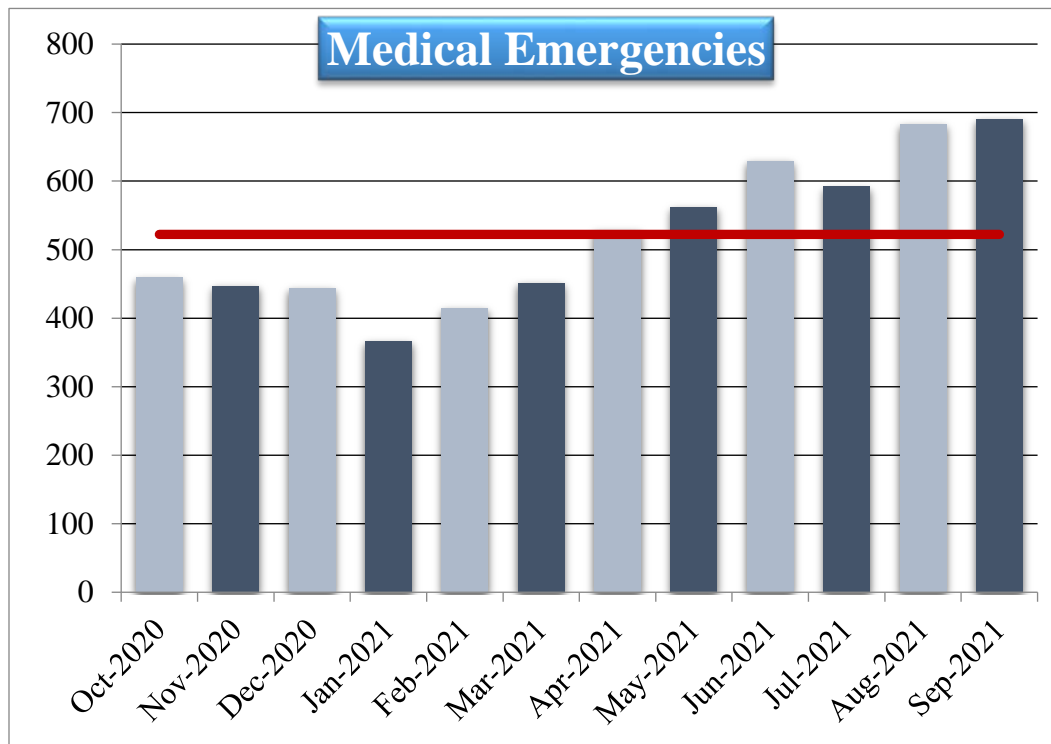


*Interpretation:*

- *Even through the pandemic with more residents staying at home, the City is identifying increased citizen needs for non-emergency assistance of the Department.*

*Description:*

- *Assist incapacitated person(s)*
- *Assist person(s) to gain entry*
- *Assist police or other agency*
- *Street/road wash down*
- *Utility wires down*
- *Vehicle problems*
- *Water problems*
- *Miscellaneous*
- *Filming on Location*
- *Public Education/Demonstration/Show & Shines*
- *Tower Crane Survey*

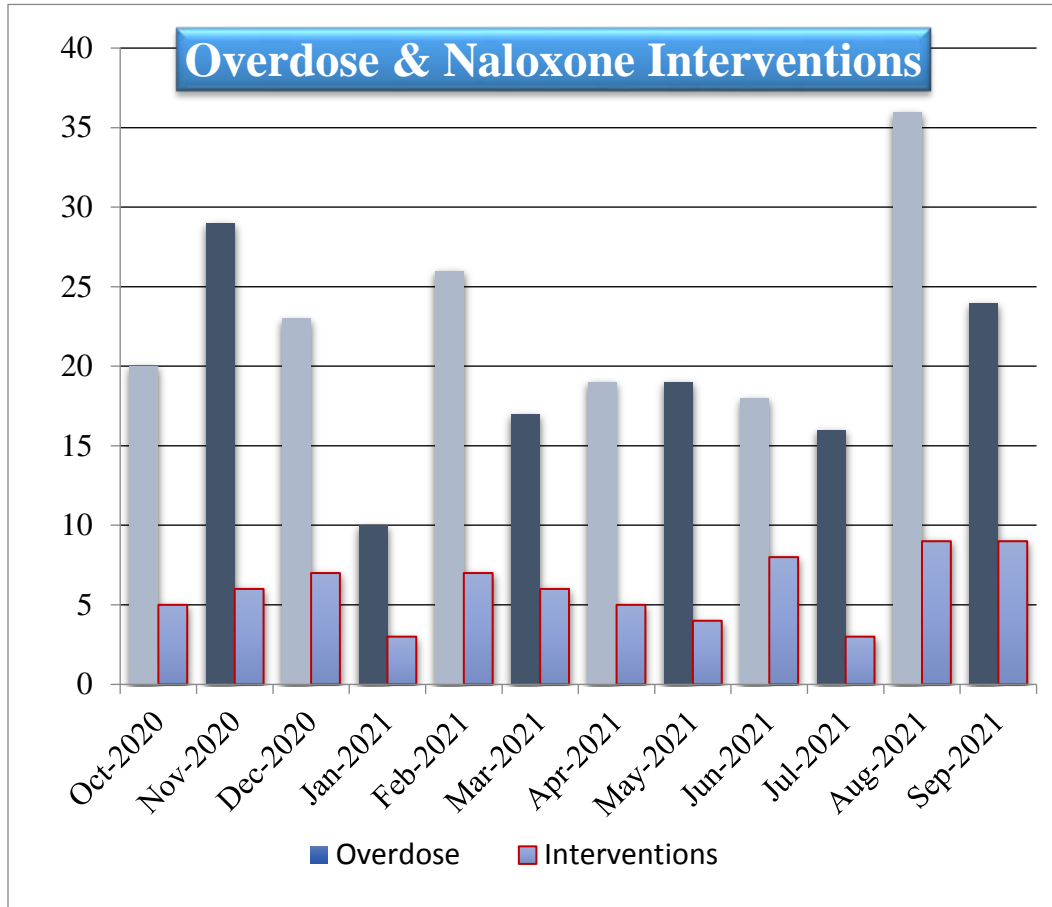


*Interpretation:*

- The reduction in incidents through 2020 and into 2021 was related to BC Emergency Health Services altering the medical emergency deployment models of the fire service during COVID-19 pandemic in order to sustain critical PPE needs of the Health Care Sector. These calls are being back for Fire Department response at an increasing rate.

*Description:*

- Home accidents
- Industrial accidents
- Sports accidents
- Other medical emergencies
- Cardiac emergencies
- Miscellaneous
- Technical rescues
- Medical emergencies involving assault
- Medical emergencies involving an overdose



*Interpretation:*

- Within Burnaby, the trailing 4 months in 2021 has seen an increase in the overdose events attended by the Fire Department compared to the spring months of 2021.

*Description:*

- These statistics provide a representation of the total number of overdose based events responded to by the Burnaby Fire Department, with a further identifier of the number of those events where Naloxone is utilized to counteract the impairing substance.

## 2.2 Fire Prevention Division Statistics

| <b>Approval &amp; Reviews - Completed</b> | <b>August</b> | <b>September</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---|---------------|------------------|--------------|
| Pre-Final Buildings                       | 0             | 0                | <b>0</b>     |
| Building Final Approvals                  | 14            | 14               | <b>28</b>    |
| Fire Safety Plan Approvals                | 3             | 4                | <b>7</b>     |
| Permit Application Reviews                | 46            | 18               | <b>64</b>    |
| Alternative Solutions Code Report Reviews | 2             | 0                | <b>2</b>     |
| Witnessed Life Safety Functional Tests    | 7             | 3                | <b>10</b>    |
| Business Licenses                         | 36            | 29               | <b>65</b>    |
| Sprinkler                                 | 12            | 18               | <b>30</b>    |
| Day Care Application                      | 2             | 6                | <b>8</b>     |
| Flow Tests                                | 0             | 0                | <b>0</b>     |
|   |               |                  | <b>214</b>   |

| <b>Investigations - Completed</b> | <b>August</b> | <b>September</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------|
| Fire Investigations Conducted     | 1             | 1                | <b>2</b>     |

| Initial Inspections                             |        |          |           |         |             |                 |            |       |       |
|---|--------|----------|-----------|---------|-------------|-----------------|------------|-------|-------|
|   | Annual | Building | Complaint | Lockbox | Maintenance | On-Site Request | Food Truck | Misc. | Total |
| <b>2021 August &amp; September - Completed</b>  |        |          |           |         |             |                 |            |       |       |
| High-Rise Buildings                             | 0      | 0        | 1         | 1       | 0           | 0               | 0          | 0     | 2     |
| Low-Rise Buildings & Multi Family               | 20     | 0        | 7         | 8       | 0           | 2               | 0          | 0     | 37    |
| Business Complexes ( <i>Warehouse, Office</i> ) | 8      | 0        | 0         | 0       | 0           | 0               | 0          | 0     | 8     |
| Base Buildings                                  | 7      | 0        | 1         | 3       | 1           | 2               | 0          | 0     | 14    |
| Child Care Facilities                           | 0      | 0        | 0         | 0       | 0           | 0               | 0          | 0     | 0     |
| Educational Institutions & Schools              | 0      | 0        | 0         | 2       | 0           | 0               | 0          | 0     | 2     |
| Food Trucks                                     | 0      | 0        | 0         | 0       | 0           | 0               | 2          | 0     | 2     |
| Misc. Building Type                             | 1      | 0        | 2         | 0       | 0           | 2               | 0          | 1     | 6     |
|   |        |          |           |         |             |                 |            |       | 71    |

| Re-Inspections                                  |        |          |           |         |             |                 |            |       |       |
|---|--------|----------|-----------|---------|-------------|-----------------|------------|-------|-------|
|   | Annual | Building | Complaint | Lockbox | Maintenance | On-Site Request | Food Truck | Misc. | Total |
| <b>2021 August &amp; September - Completed</b>  |        |          |           |         |             |                 |            |       |       |
| High-Rise Buildings                             | 0      | 0        | 0         | 0       | 0           | 0               | 0          | 0     | 0     |
| Low-Rise Buildings & Multi Family               | 77     | 0        | 0         | 0       | 0           | 0               | 0          | 0     | 77    |
| Business Complexes ( <i>Warehouse, Office</i> ) | 4      | 0        | 0         | 0       | 0           | 0               | 0          | 0     | 4     |
| Base Buildings                                  | 0      | 0        | 0         | 1       | 0           | 0               | 0          | 0     | 1     |
| Child Care Facilities                           | 0      | 0        | 0         | 0       | 0           | 0               | 0          | 0     | 0     |
| Educational Institutions & Schools              | 0      | 0        | 0         | 0       | 0           | 0               | 0          | 0     | 0     |
| Food Trucks                                     | 0      | 0        | 0         | 0       | 0           | 0               | 0          | 0     | 0     |
| Misc. Building Type                             | 2      | 0        | 0         | 0       | 0           | 1               | 0          | 1     | 4     |
|   |        |          |           |         |             |                 |            |       | 86    |



## 2.3 Training Division Programs

### ***Fire Company Training - Completed***

- SCBA Fit Testing
- Pre-recruit assessments for 2022 Hire
- Communicable Disease Protocols2Fire Company training
- Hyperbaric Chamber training
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging information
- Ropes and Knots
- Ammonia Leak procedures
- Fire Command System - ITAC
- AQI information
- Company and Recruit Hose Evolutions
- Driver Training - Pump & Road test
- Report Writing
- Watercraft – E4 deployment to Burnaby and Deer Lake
- Safety in the Fire Station review
- Satellite Phone Operations
- First Responder exams
- SPP-WFF Wildland Certification
- Social Media Policy
- Hydrant Dressing
- Hose loads, 1-3/4" hose deployment
- Nozzle Types and Usage
- Door Procedures/ Dressing In
- Inclusive Language
- Hose Stretch/Charge, hose loading
- Communications
- Power Tools
- Resilient Minds 1,2, 3 & 4
- Ground Ladders: roof, 28', 35', single/team, rescue
- Fire Dynamics (Behaviour and Flow Path)
- Burnaby Mental Health
- Staging Hose
- Advancing Hose Lines
- Building Construction
- 2-1/2" hand lines

### ***Professional Development Training - Completed***

#### Annual Testing

- N95 Fit testing
- SCBA Fit testing
- SCBA Confidence and Air Management

#### Monthly Checks/Calibration

- AED internal clock
- Monthly Satellite phone
- CO detector
- Vehicle Inventory
- Respirator Cartridge check/change over

#### Weekly Maintenance

- Truck Steam Cleaning
- AED Battery
- CO Detector

#### Fire Officer Training

- Fire Officer 3 Group 2.0 Mod 3 Preceptorship
- Fire Officer 3 Group 2.0 Mod 2 Online
- Fire Officer 3 Group 2.0 Mod 2 Written Exam
- Fire Officer Module 1 Online
- Re Preceptorship 3 members

#### Return to Work

- 3 Firefighters and 1 Officer Return to work program (2-4 weeks)

### ***Special Operations Training - Completed***

#### Technical Rope Rescue & Confined Space

- Certifications and Re-Certifications
- Confined Space training

#### Hazardous Material Responder

- Operations (scenarios in Station)
- Air Quality Indexing Trial
- SFU - Chemistry Dept

#### Rescue Task Force – Heavy Rescue & Rapid Intervention

- Auto Extrication scenarios
- Unrestricted Driver Certification
- RIT review

#### Watercraft– Ice Rescue

- Burnaby Lake Water Operations
- Deer Lake Water Operations
- Trailering Equipment

#### Wildland Firefighting

- Crew deployment

### 3. COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVES

#### 3.1 Community Engagements

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <i>Event Type:</i> | BHRT (Burnaby Hoarding Response Team)  |
| <i>Date:</i>       | On-Going   |
| <i>Detail</i>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Burnaby Fire Department, RCMP, Property Use/Bylaw Enforcement and Citizens Support Services collaborating to respond to mental health issues that develop hoarding compulsions</li><li>• Establishing training programs, statistics, and research of case studies</li><li>• Established connection with Vancouver Fire Department HART (Hoarding Action Response Team)</li><li>• (8) cases currently being managed</li><li>• Designing additional website content for citizen support</li><li>• Working on developing the program with the RCMP Mental Health Unit</li></ul> |

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <i>Event Type:</i> | BMART (Burnaby Mobilization and Resiliency Table)   |
| <i>Date:</i>       | On-Going  |
| <i>Detail</i>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Working with Community Services to provide support with Juvenile Fire Setter program &amp; other applicable cases that meet the BMART model for referral</li><li>• Supporting homelessness fire-life safety issues</li><li>• Providing support on all fire related issues</li></ul> |

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <i>Event Type:</i> | BCAT (Burnaby Community Action Team)  |
| <i>Date:</i>       | On-Going  |
| <i>Detail</i>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assisting team with overdose statistics and emergency response information</li><li>• Presentation on Opioid Awareness Day at Library Square Mayor and Council, MLAs and Dignitary's in attendance</li></ul> |

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <i>Event Type:</i> | Burnaby School Outreach Engagement<br>Life Safety Presentations   |
| <i>Date:</i>       | On-Going  |
| <i>Detail</i>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contacted Nick Christofides, District Principal</li><li>• Produced a introduction card about the program with social media sites and class room request scheduling application</li><li>• Developing presentations for classroom interactions</li><li>• Developing a demonstration that includes a inflatable fire safety house that will be able to use in the gyms for events and training at the schools as COVID19 restrictions lift</li><li>• Acquiring an Animatronic Fire and Life Safety dog for school demos and life safety education, Sparky the dog.</li></ul> |

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <i>Event Type:</i> | Social Media   |
| <i>Date:</i>       | On-Going   |
| <i>Detail</i>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Life safety, Throw Back Thursdays, and events</li><li>• Instagram</li><li>• Twitter</li><li>• Facebook</li></ul> |

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <i>Event Type:</i> | Community Outreach & Public Education Zoom Presentations  |
| <i>Date:</i>       | On-Going  |
| <i>Detail</i>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Engaging and providing fire education to new Burnaby residents</li><li>• Designing a Zoom Presentation Stage to support future engagements</li><li>• Built a summer fire risk reduction program for next year with the parks and the City of Burnaby</li><li>• Coordinated community and city outreach for Halloween with all community partners, city of Burnaby, bylaws, parks, RCMP, city security</li></ul> |

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <i>Event Type:</i> | City Website  |
| <i>Date:</i>       | On-Going  |
| <i>Location:</i>   | Station 7   |
| <i>Detail</i>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Providing a proper stand alone website for the Fire Department with content for fire based public education</li><li>• Desire to make a website that mirrors that of Richmond Fire</li></ul> |

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <i>Event Type:</i> | SCAC (Shelter Community Advisory Committee)  |
| <i>Date:</i>       | On-Going   |
| <i>Location:</i>   | Douglas Rd Shelter   |
| <i>Detail</i>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Report on BFD emergency responses</li><li>• Provide professional input – on fire and life safety</li></ul> |

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <i>Event Type:</i> | Fire Safety Week  |
| <i>Date:</i>       | October 3-15  |
| <i>Location:</i>   | Cancelled Due to COVID19  |
| <i>Detail</i>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Went to the Maywood Elementary<br/>Meet with two Grade 1 Classes<br/>Spoke about Fire Safety<br/>Handed out Fire Safety Information</li><li>• Created Fire Safety Banners for week,<br/>co-ordinated with Marketing</li></ul> |

### 3.2 Recruitment Engagements

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <i>Activity:</i> | Recruitment   |
| <i>Date:</i>     | August-September, 2021  |
| <i>Detail</i>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• (7) Candidate information sessions:<br/>Zoom meeting discussion on hiring process, requirement and preferred qualifications</li><li>• (5) Resume reviews:<br/>candidates submit reviews for suggested improvements, addition information, and format adjustments</li><li>• Candidate Orientation 42 persons over 6 days</li><li>• Preparation for Orientation, Physical Aptitude Test and upcoming Ride-Along Program</li><li>• (3) Candidate Performance Reviews and planning for current candidates cut from Orientation days</li></ul> |

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <i>Activity:</i> | Inclusion   |
| <i>Date:</i>     | August-September, 2021  |
| <i>Detail</i>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• City of Burnaby Learning Management System login test session – Training delivery to current Department personnel</li><li>• Building Cultural Competency course – Advanced Recovery Systems</li></ul> |

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <i>Activity:</i> | Diversity  |
| <i>Date:</i>     | August-September, 2021   |
| <i>Detail</i>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inclusion and Diversity course:<br/>Understanding Mental Health &amp; Substance Abuse in Indigenous Communities</li><li>• Driving Organizational Agility with Talent Acquisition Technology course – ADI</li><li>• Planning with City of Burnaby Human Resources for BFD inclusion in video for recruitment, video shoot now re-scheduled Spring 2022 due to weather</li></ul> |

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <i>Activity:</i> | Fire Department Marketing   |
| <i>Date:</i>     | August-September, 2021  |
| <i>Detail</i>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Social Media Posts on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn</li><li>• Edit of new BFD Candidate Guide (2 additional pages added), completion and printing scheduled November 2021</li></ul> |

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <i>Activity:</i> | Projects in Development  |
| <i>Date:</i>     | August-September, 2021   |
| <i>Detail</i>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Due to poor performance of Candidates in Physical Aptitude Test (3 failed test, 7 cut during orientation) a need for a Fitness workshop for Potential Candidates will be developed with target date for Spring/Summer 2022</li><li>• Outreach within Department to current members</li><li>• Spouse/partner night for Firefighter Mental Health: IAFF Center for Excellence will provide Councillor (Molly Jones) free of charge, tentative schedule April 2022</li><li>• Pre-Recruitment Workshops for target recruit candidates<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Edmonton Fire Camp Inspire</li><li>- Edmonton Fire Cadet Program</li></ul></li><li>• Introduction to Fire Fighting for Women: class visit scheduled</li><li>• Media/Marketing Development with Burnaby Marketing Department – (developing direction changes and feedback)</li></ul> |

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <i>Activity:</i> | Outreach  |
| <i>Date:</i>     | August-September, 2021  |
| <i>Detail</i>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• BFD Youth Academy<br/>Scheduled April 25-28<sup>th</sup><br/>Marketing Material updated and delivered to Burnaby High Schools</li></ul> |



## Conclusion

In addition to the information within this report, the Fire Department would like to communicate the following issues for consideration by the Public Safety Committee:

- The Department is currently planning and training to enhance its capabilities for next year's summer season. Specifically in the preparation measures to manage the increasing risks of wildfire and heat wave demands for service.
- Within Burnaby, the trailing 3 months in 2021 has seen a very slight increase in the overdose events attended by the Fire Department compared to the spring months of 2021.
- The Fire Department received a very appreciative letter from the community of Logan Lake (attached below).



Chris Bowcock  
FIRE CHIEF

:cb



**LOGAN LAKE LIONS CLUB**

P.O. BOX 213  
LOGAN LAKE, BRITISH COLUMBIA  
CANADA  
V0K 1W0

September 13, 2021

Burnaby Fire Department  
4867 Sperling Avenue  
Burnaby, B.C.  
V5E 2S9

To all those concerned;

As citizens of Logan Lake we would like to express our very deep appreciation for the efforts that you provided in saving our town from the Tremont Creek Wildfire this past August. You are truly heroes!

Many residents were able to honk, clap, wave etc. to express their appreciation when they returned to town on August 19<sup>th</sup>. However, there were many, many more residents that weren't present on that day. The Logan Lake Lions would like to take this opportunity to include them in our town's recognition of your efforts.

Thanks to your department as well as others, our town is still standing and looking forward to a future with our town intact.

Yours truly,

Joan Saunders  
President

**RECEIVED**  
SEP 28 2021  
BURNABY  
FIRE DEPARTMENT