

Municipality of Brockton Fire & Emergency Services



2023 – Year End Report





MISSION STATEMENT

“The primary mission of the Walkerton Fire Department is to provide a range of programs to protect the lives and property of the inhabitants of the Municipality from the adverse effects of fire or exposure to dangerous conditions created by man or nature. These programs include, but are not limited to, fire prevention, public fire safety education, rescue, emergency medical aid and fire suppression services.”





Jan 31, 2023

Mayor Chris Peabody and Members of Council

I am pleased to present the Walkerton Fire Departments 2023 Year End report. As you will see in this report there were 131 calls for service in 2023, this is a decrease of 22 calls from the previous year.

Calls for service in Brockton under our agreements in 2023 were as follows:

Hanover Fire 23 – an increase of 10 calls from the previous year

Paisley Fire 6 – a decrease of 2 calls from the previous year

Elmwood Fire 35 – An increase of 21 calls from the previous year

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this report, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Wells

Director of Fire and Emergency Services

2023 Emergency Responses

Total Emergency responses for **2023 – 131**. Shown below are the percentages and nature of these calls. 2022 numbers have been included for comparison purposes.

Fires – These responses are for fires that require the Fire Department to be called out to extinguish fires that resulted in property damage (Structural, vehicle, agricultural) or other pre-fire conditions.

2022 – 33 (22%) **2023 – 20 (15%)**

Motor Vehicle Collisions (MVC's) – These responses as indicated are motor vehicle accidents where our assistance is required to extricate occupants from motor vehicles, assist ambulance in stabilizing patients and removing them from the vehicles, assisting the police in securing the scene, traffic control and the cleanup of hazardous materials such as gasoline, oil etc.

2022 – 37 (24%) **2023 – 31 (24%)**

Medical Responses – The department attends these calls as they are usually life-threatening conditions, e.g. trouble breathing, possible heart attack, lift assists.

2022 – 33 (22%) **2023 – 21 (16%)**

False Alarms – These include fire alarm activations, e.g. human accidental activations, alarm system malfunctions, human perceived emergency, call cancelled on route.

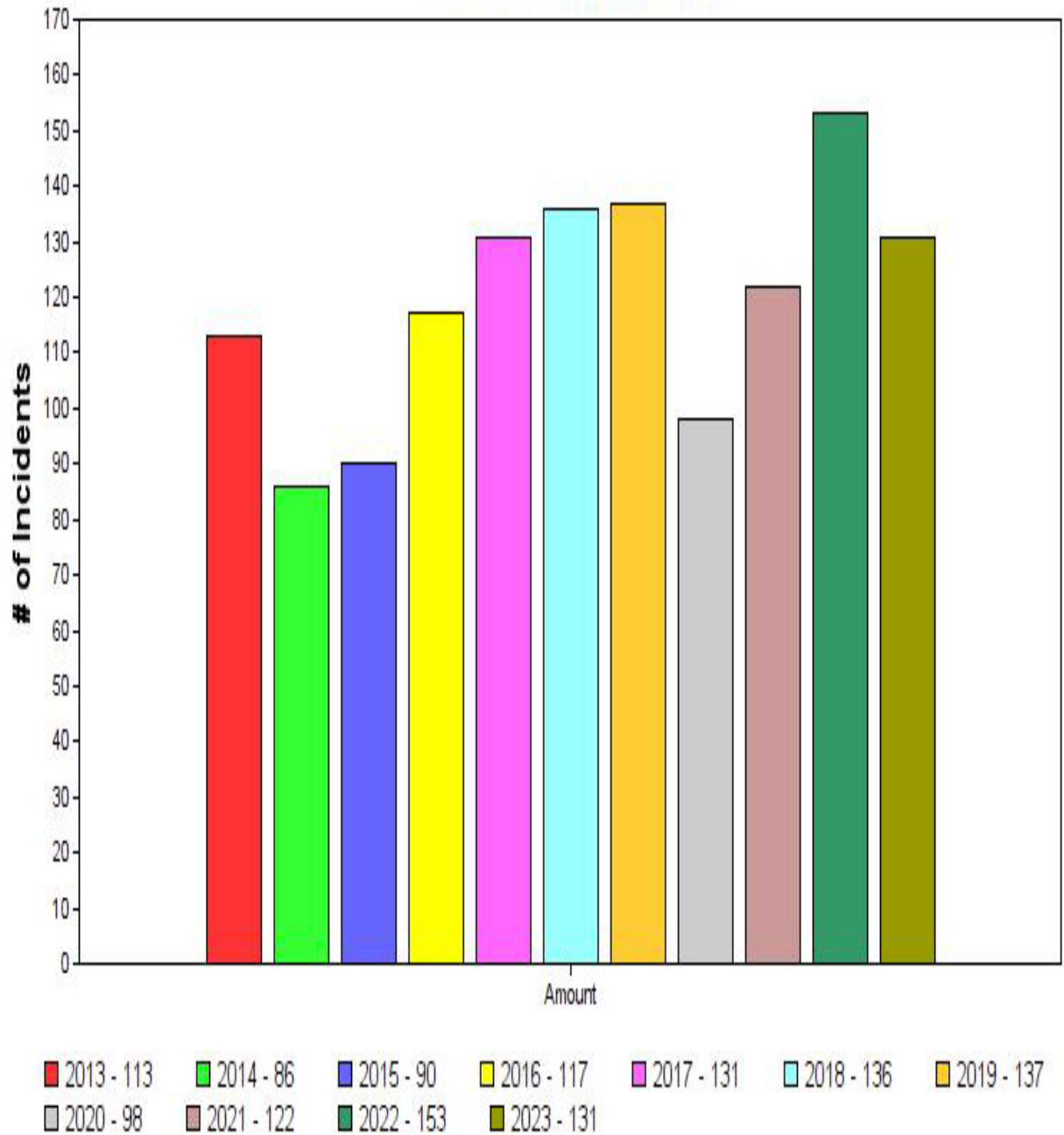
2022 – 33 (22%) **2023 – 37 (28%)**

Other – In this area we cover all the calls that are not specifically listed above. These could include anything from carbon monoxide activations, natural gas leaks, hazardous spills, burning complaints, no loss outdoor fires, unknown odour, rescue, public assistance as well as Mutual Aid assists as required by other fire departments.

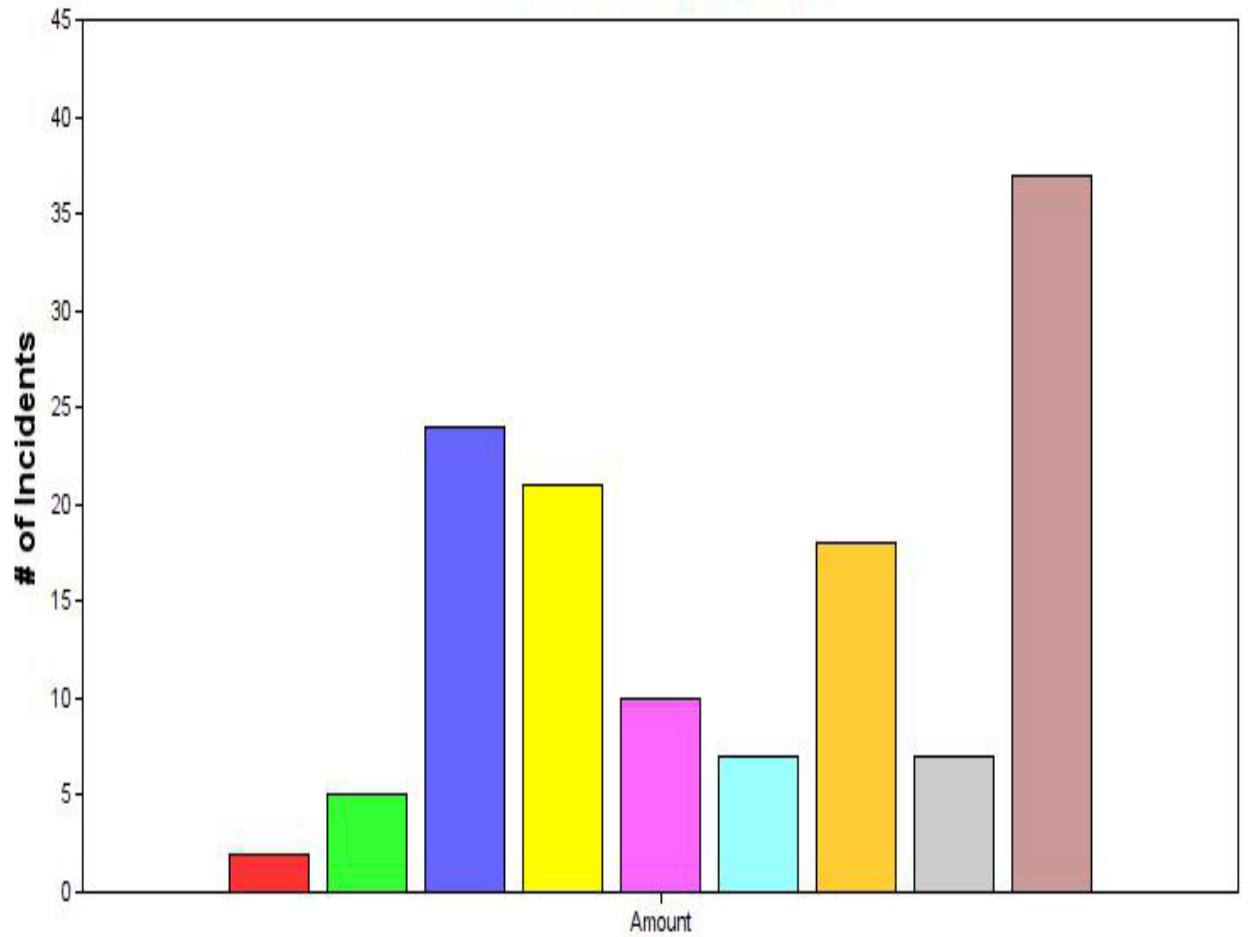
2022 – 17 (11%) **2023 – 22 (17%)**

10 Year History of Responses

Totals by Year
From Jan 1 13 to Dec 31 23



Totals by Type (grouped)
From Jan 1 23 to Dec 31 23



■ • BURNING (CONTROLLED) - 2 ■ • CO FALSE CALLS - 5 ■ • FALSE FIRE CALLS - 24
■ • MEDICAL/RESUSCITATOR CALL - 21 ■ • OTHER RESPONSE - 10 ■ • PRE FIRE CONDITIONS/NO FIRE - 7
■ • PROPERTY FIRES/EXPLOSIONS - 18 ■ • PUBLIC HAZARD - 7 ■ • RESCUE - 37

2023 Fire Department Training Summary

Walkerton station continued its training schedule through 2023 with 29 training events held for the complete department while several smaller training events were provided for smaller focused groups. Additional training was provided to all staff on the newly acquired truck including the new SAM system pump and driver training.

A new recruit class was hired and 5 new recruits were put through the onboarding process and began recruit training. 3 auxiliary firefighters attended NFPA1001 Level 1 certified training through the Brockton Regional Training Centre and 2 exterior firefighters completed the NFPA1001 Level 2 certified training again through the Brockton Regional Training Centre.



2023 Fire Prevention Summary

Based on the increased number of fire deaths in the province, (133- the most in over a decade), and the number of fires in Brockton, a continuous theme of having working smoke alarms was promoted throughout 2023. School visits and presentations occurred for grades JK- grade 3 throughout the year. The Fire Prevention Officer attended the Children's Safety Village several times when a class from a Brockton school was there on a field trip. The Fire Prevention Week colouring contest was very well received in all three schools.



Continuous fire prevention articles were written throughout the year for The Walkerton Herald Times and the Brockton Buzz and posted on our Facebook page. The Fire Prevention Department held several public interaction events such as: distributing over 300 loot bags to the local schools, participating in Farm Safety Day, and at our own 'Touch-a -Truck' event. The Fire Prevention Department was also responsible for creating and managing the radio ads for the Grey Bruce Fire Prevention Officers Association radio campaign. This advertising initiative runs from April through to December.

Inspections that occurred were in multi-unit buildings, or created by complaint, and requests from sellers or purchasers of properties. Mandatory inspections and fire drills at the long-term



care homes, the Hospital, and the numerous Walkerton Community Living homes along with homes that house international agricultural workers were completed.

Social Media: Facebook and Instagram were used to promote fire prevention messaging throughout the year. Monthly, weekly or daily topics were often posted regarding smoke alarms, escape plans, emergency preparedness, and mental health, and product recalls. The focus for 2023 was to encourage our residents to be fire safe in their homes.

Based on the increased number of fire deaths in the province, (133- the most in over a decade), and the number of fires in Brockton, a continuous theme of having working smoke alarms was promoted throughout 2023. The FPO followed up on a OFM initiative to promote Sept 28th, “Saved by the Beep” day. A social media blitz with photos of prominent businesses and their owners with the poster which was then posted on our Facebook page. This was very well received with numerous likes and shares.

