

# Municipality of Brockton Fire & Emergency Services



## 2024 – 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, 2024

**Mayor Chris Peabody and Members of Council**

I am pleased to present the Walkerton Fire Departments 2024 Year End report. As you will see in this report there were 158 calls for service in 2024, this is an increase of 28 calls from the previous year.

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

Hanover Fire 19 – A decrease of 4 calls from the previous year

Paisley Fire 6 – Same number of calls from the previous year

Elmwood Fire 28 – A decrease of 7 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Wells".

**Chris Wells**

**Director of Fire and Emergency Services**

## 2024 Emergency Responses

Total Emergency responses for **2024 – 158**. Shown below are the percentages and nature of these calls. 2023 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.

2023 – 20 (15%)      **2024 – 18 (11%)**

**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.

2023 – 31 (24%)      **2024 – 27 (17%)**

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

2023 – 21 (16%)      **2024 – 20 (13%)**

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

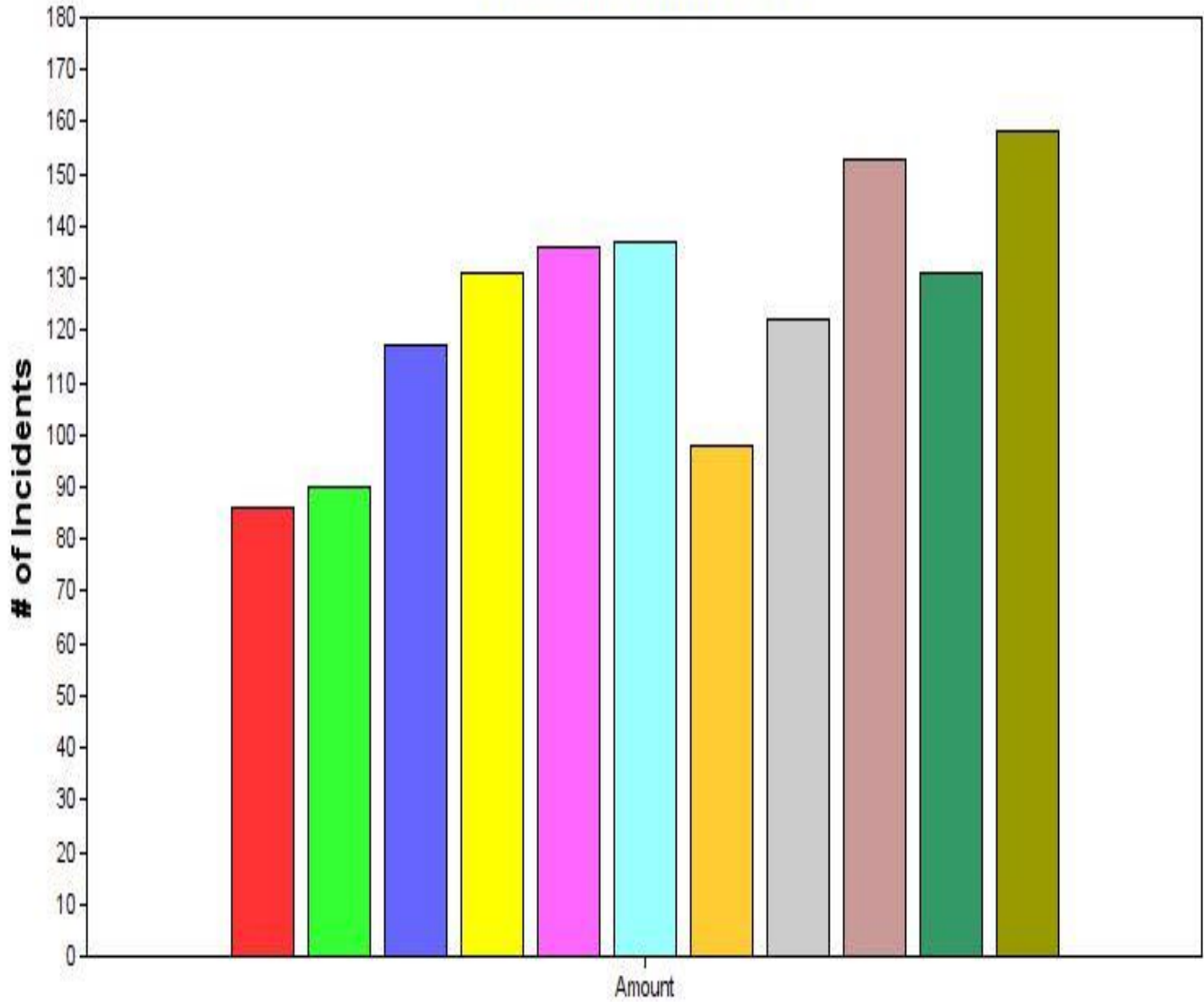
2023 – 37 (28%)      **2024 – 31 (20%)**

**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.

2023 – 22 (17%)      **2024 – 62 (39%)**

## 10 Year History of Responses

*Totals by Year*  
From Jan 1 14 to Dec 31 24



2014 - 86    2015 - 90    2016 - 117    2017 - 131    2018 - 136    2019 - 137    2020 - 98  
2021 - 122    2022 - 153    2023 - 131    2024 - 158

## 2024 Fire Department Training Summary

The Walkerton Training Department suffered a slight setback this year with the retirement of Training Officer Jeff Bradley who moved on to become the new Huron Kinloss Chief. Jeff was with the Walkerton Department for 20 years and we wish Jeff great success in his new role. Officer Joe Murray has agreed to step up into the Training Officer position and has hit the ground running without missing a beat. As such Walkerton station continued its training schedule through 2024 with 29 training events held for the complete department while several smaller training events were provided for smaller focused groups.

A new recruit class was hired and 4 new recruits were put through the onboarding process and began recruit training. 2 auxiliary firefighters attended NFPA1001 Level 1 certified training through the Brockton Regional Training Centre and 3 exterior firefighters completed the NFPA1001 Level 2 certified training again through the Brockton Regional Training Centre.

The Brockton Regional Training Centre (BRTC), in partnership with Bruce Power, offered 11 NFPA certified courses in 2024, a big step up from the 4 courses offered in 2023. These courses included a new partnership with Bruce County Firefighters Association offering 4 NFPA certified courses through Bruce County School which were focused on training of Bruce County specific firefighters. The Totals included over 140 firefighters across Bruce and Grey Counties trained to various national standard courses locally and affordably.



## 2023 Fire Prevention Summary

Based on the increased number of fire deaths in the province, (131), a continuous theme of having working smoke alarms and a fire escape plan was promoted throughout 2024. School visits and presentations occurred for grades JK- grade 3 throughout the year. The Fire Prevention Week colouring contest was very well received in all three schools. The Walkerton Fire Department was fortunate enough to receive a generous donation from Enbridge Gas of 126 Smoke and CO combo alarms. These will be distributed throughout the Municipality in our Alarmed For Life program in the spring of 2025.



Continuous fire prevention articles were written throughout the year for the Brockton Buzz and posted on our Facebook page. The Fire Prevention Department held several public interaction events including but not limited to:

Distributing over 250 loot bags to the local schools.

Attending the Christmas Market on Durham St.

‘Touch-a -Truck’ event.

Fire Safety and Safety Plan training Presentations were provided to multiple condo boards.

Fire Safety Presentation to the Walkerton Rotary Club.

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The FPO reviewed many Fire Safety Plans in 2024 for Businesses, Schools, and the growing number of special events including Dinner-on-Durham, Cargill Homecoming and Holmdale Rodeo to name a few. The Fire Prevention Department was also responsible for creating and managing the radio ads for the Grey Bruce Fire Prevention Officers Association radio campaign.

38 Inspections occurred in multi-unit buildings, businesses and apartments throughout the Municipality. Some inspections were scheduled or created by complaints while others were requests from sellers or purchasers of properties. Mandatory inspections and fire drills at the vulnerable occupancies within Brockton were also completed for 16 care or care and treatment occupancies.

Social Media: Facebook and Instagram were used to promote Fire Prevention messaging throughout the year. Monthly, weekly or daily topics were posted regarding smoke alarms, escape plans, emergency preparedness, mental health, and product recalls.

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