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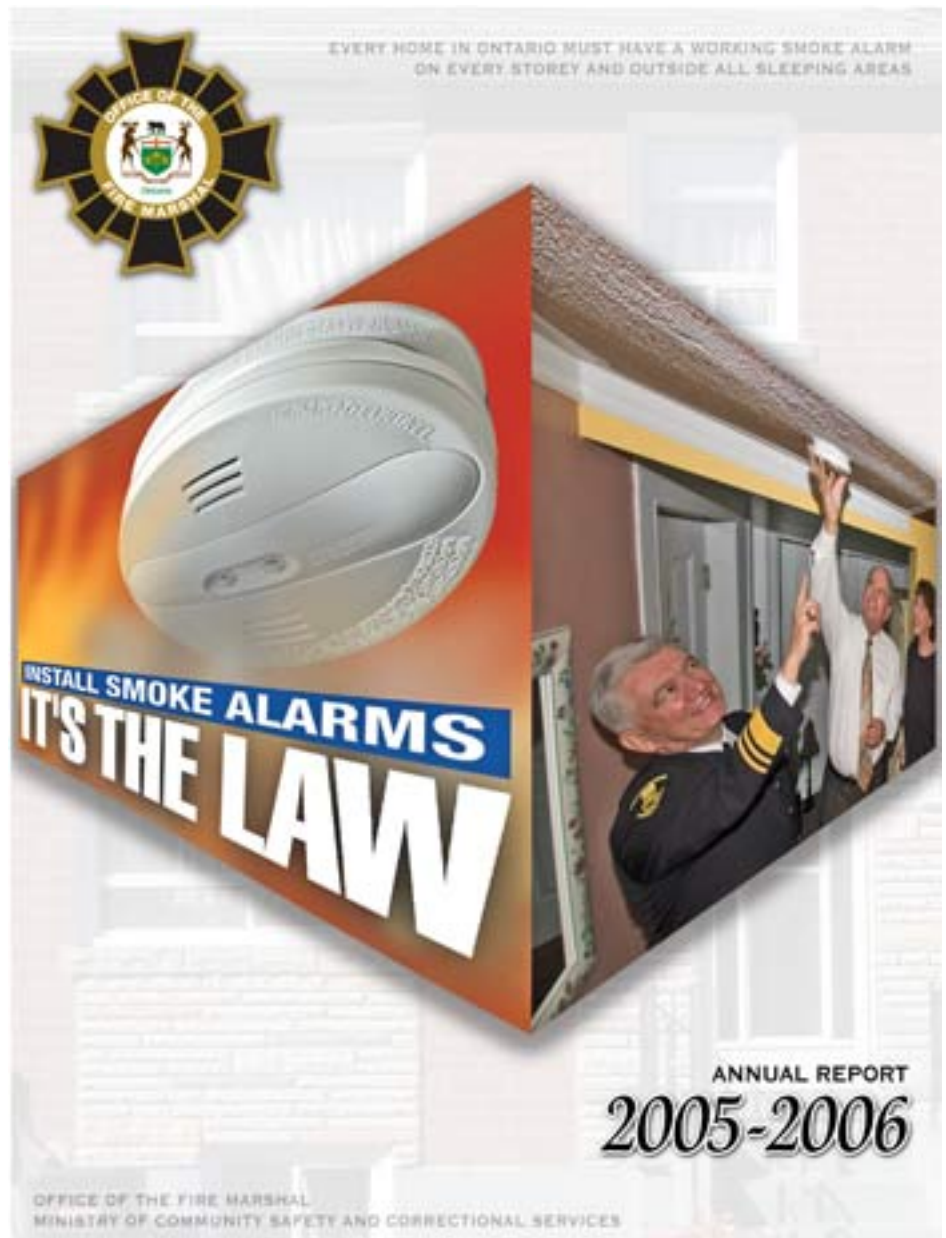
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BELOW: In July 2005, a fire destroyed several row houses on

Roberts Street in Toronto. Because the structural integrity had been compromised and access was unsafe, Fire Investigator Larry Cocco used a lift bucket truck in order to document the fire patterns of the upper levels of

the unit of fire origin.



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BRIEF OVERVIEW: OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL



MISSION

To contribute to an environment for the residents of Ontario that is safe from fire and other public safety hazards by providing leadership and expertise in the reduction and elimination of these hazards

The Fire Marshal acts as the principal adviser to government on public fire protection policy and fire safety issues, and provides leadership, advice, guidance, and assistance to municipalities and the Ontario fire service in

matters relating to public fire safety.

The Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM) is responsible for administering the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 (FPPA), which promotes fire prevention and public safety in Ontario, and the Ontario Fire Code, a regulation made under the act that contains comprehensive fire safety requirements applicable to all buildings and premises in the province.

The FPPA grants the Fire Marshal authority to review and monitor fire protection services and take action to resolve fire-related threats to public safety.

The FPPA also governs the operation of the Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council—a diverse group of organizations, associations, and individuals working voluntarily to promote fire prevention and public education in Ontario with the technical and administrative assistance of the Office of the Fire Marshal.

The OFM develops and delivers academic and training programs to enhance and promote fire prevention, public education, firefighter safety, and fire protection for the Ontario fire service through the Ontario Fire College as well as other fire protection and support programs at the local level.

ROLE AND MANDATE

The mandate of the OFM is to minimize the impact of fire and other public safety hazards and their effects on people, property and the environment. Recognized as a foremost centre of knowledge in fire and other public safety matters, the OFM fulfills its mission by using an integrated multi-disciplinary approach.

The OFM serves as the government's adviser on public fire safety and policy, and provides leadership, education and expertise through a variety of programs and activities that include:

- Advising on policy
- Creating partnerships
- Designing public education and fire prevention programs
- Investigating fires
- Monitoring fire protection services
- Implementing policy
- Participating in research
- Offering support
- Acting as a catalyst
- Influencing legislation
- Training and certification programs
- Supporting the Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council

VALUES

Values that guide the OFM in its relationship with employees and client groups are:

- Co-operation and participation
- Partnerships
- Learning
- Professionalism
- Openness in communications
- Honesty, integrity and fairness
- Effort and achievement
- Innovation and creativity
- Quality service
- Team approach
- Planned growth and developmental opportunities
- Diversity

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UP FRONT

New Smoke Alarm Requirements Under the Ontario Fire Code

On March 1, 2006, an amendment under the Ontario Fire Code came into effect. The regulation added the requirement for all single family, semi-detached, and town homes to have working smoke alarms on every storey, whether owner-occupied or rented. In addition to the existing requirement for smoke alarms outside all sleeping areas, the increased number of smoke alarms in the home could result in earlier warning of fire that could prove to provide the life-saving, extra seconds needed to

escape the fire, and earlier arrival of the fire department on the scene.

The OFM launched a province-wide media campaign called Working Smoke Alarms: It's the Law! in December 2005 to heighten awareness of working smoke alarms, the new smoke alarm requirements, and enforcement of the regulation. The OFM also provided fire departments with a variety of information and resources they could use to advise members of their communities about their new responsibilities under the law.

Non-compliance with the smoke alarm requirements can result in a ticket for \$235, a fine of up to \$50,000, or up to one year in jail.

BELOW:
Ontario Fire
Marshal
Bernard
Moyle (left)
and Minister
of
Community
Safety and
Correctional
Services
Monte
Kwinter help
Toronto

resident
Helen
Tennyson
install a
smoke
alarm in her



house.

Stovetop Fire Survey

The leading cause of residential fires is careless cooking, and most of these fires are initiated on the stovetop. High losses (deaths, injuries, and property damage) resulting from these fires are of serious concern.

The Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council established a Stovetop Fires Working Group to investigate approaches to the reduction of stovetop fires, including the development of stovetop technology that is more effective at preventing and managing cooking-related fires. The data required to fully analyze the problem and develop more effective prevention strategies did not exist.

The Office of the Fire Marshal initiated a one-year survey designed to collect the details needed to support the Council's work. On June 24, 2005, the Fire Marshal issued a Communiqué asking Ontario fire departments to distribute the survey to fire suppression staff. Crews responding to stovetop fires would collect data on scene and may conduct interviews with persons involved in the fire or witnesses to the incident.

The Stovetop Fire Survey began August 1, 2005 and will conclude July 31, 2006.

Legislative Amendment Grants Firefighters in Personally Owned Vehicles Access to Closed Roads

The OFM struck the Closed Road Working Group in January 2005 to address certain

matters associated with volunteer firefighter use of personally owned vehicles for emergency response on closed roads that could have a potentially serious impact on service delivery and firefighter safety. The working group developed a strategy that could be effective so long as the Highway Traffic Act, 1990, was amended to permit firefighters the access they required.

Through the efforts of the working group and the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services, the Highway Traffic Act was amended to allow firefighters to respond on closed roads in personally owned vehicles in the performance of their duties effective November 21, 2005. Before this change, firefighters and police faced a tough decision on whether to obey the Highway Traffic Act or break the law in favour of protecting the public.

**Report on
the ontario**

fire service grant

The Province of Ontario supported municipal fire departments by providing one-time funding to help strengthen municipal fire protection and prevention services. As grant administrator, the Office of the Fire Marshal dispensed \$30 million to 385 municipal fire departments in March 2005 and surveyed them at the end of the year to determine how the municipalities allocated and spent the funds. All 385 fire departments completed the survey.

In April 2006, the OFM completed a report on the Ontario Fire Service Grant. Some of the survey findings indicated that 31% of the funds were allocated to the purchase of equipment, 10% was used to fund the training of firefighters, 3% was used for fire prevention and public education, and 36 % was reserved for future fire department expenditures.

ONTARIO FIRE SERVICES LONG SERVICE MEDALS AND AWARDS

The Ontario Fire Services Long Service Medal is an expression of appreciation and recognition of uniformed staff for 25 years of dedication and hard work within the Ontario fire service. At 30 years of service and every 5 years thereafter, a service bar may be requested and added to the medal's ribbon. Spouses of medal recipients receive a companion brooch. Approximately 500 medals and 300 service bars are awarded each year.

The Fire Marshal of Ontario issues medals, bars, and brooches under the authority of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997, based on established eligibility criteria. Fire chiefs submit application forms for medal candidates to

the Awards Coordinator of the Office of the Fire Marshal. The Fire Marshal issues the medals at investiture ceremonies held throughout the province as warranted from April through November each year. The OFM held eight investiture ceremonies this year.

The Fire Marshal also recognizes administrative personnel of fire departments and the OFM who have completed 20 years of service. Each female recipient receives an engraved brooch and certificate, and each male recipient receives an engraved tie tack and certificate.



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ONTARIO FIRE COLLEGE

The Ontario Fire College offers in-residence courses of study in fire protection technology to municipal fire department officers. Together with Fire Protection Services, the college coordinates regional training for municipal firefighters in the basic skills of fire prevention and firefighting. The college also offers fire departments curriculum assistance in the development of training programs.

The college had a very successful year. Through several new initiatives and a focus on high quality service to clients and fire service stakeholders, the number of student attendees at the college increased 13.6%, and off-campus (regional delivery) course attendees increased 20% from last year. Total attendees (students and other clients) at the college increased 6% to 28,168. The registrar's office input over 15,389 course registrations into the OFC database.

Highlights of this year's activities include:

- Development and delivery of the first courses through the Window of Opportunity for the Training Officer Diploma Program
- Acquisition of rail and road tankers to augment HazMat Ops and Tech training
- Delivery of HazMat Ops and Tech courses with more realistic scenarios to members of the fire service
- Implementation of Web access to pre-class learning materials
- Posting of course vacancies on the OFC Web site
- Recognition of OFC courses by several community colleges for credit in their programs

The college held several special events such as the official opening of the new facilities attended by Minister Kwinter and Fire Marshal Moyle, the EMO/OFM Executive Leadership Seminar, the OPP Recognition Luncheon, the

Northern College Pre-Service Firefighter training week, the Ontario Native Fire Fighters Society's firefighter training course, and the Industrial Firefighter training course.

A number of groups from other ministries used the college as their site of choice for various training courses, seminars, and meetings, allowing the OFC to generate revenue and to showcase its facilities to new potential users and decision-makers.

In addition to securing substantial repairs to campus buildings from Ontario Realty Corporation, the college fast-tracked the installation of energy-efficient lighting along with heating and air conditioning adjustments to help mediate energy consumption.

BELOW: Librarian Judy Humphries speaks to Minister Kwinter and other attendees about the new Resource Centre at the official opening of the college's new facilities on April



20, 2005

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FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES

The Fire Protection Services section supports the mission of the OFM by providing advice and assistance to municipalities and territories without municipal organization, and by monitoring municipal fire protection services. This section helps municipalities to optimize their fire protection services based on local needs and circumstances and meet their responsibilities under the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997.

The key service areas for this section were identified as advisory services, protecting provincial interests through monitoring activities, emergency management and response, and program development.

Advisory services

- Initiated 12 municipal reviews/master fire plans
- Inspected 110 occupancies in unorganized territories

northern fire protection program (NFPP)

- Completed major re-write and update of standard operating guidelines
- Completed information gathering for department survey
- Developed and implemented an agreed-to health and safety policy
- Completed all required annual inspections of equipment and apparatus
- Secured additional \$100,000 in one-time funding through the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines

- Supported the development of vision, mission, and goal statements for Northern Program Action Committee (NPAC)

All 52 NFPP fire departments comply with the minimum requirements of the FPPA.

protecting provincial interests through monitoring activities

- Initiated 75 Municipal Fire Protection Information Surveys – 67 Certificates of Compliance issued

emergency management and response

- Provided support to CBRN preparedness project including support to NFPA 472 review and further development of technical training grounds at the Ontario Fire College
- Completed the Hazard Identification Risk Assessment for OFM
- Reacted to new requirements and satisfactorily delivered required business continuity planning documents, including providing support to other division members
- Conducted a business continuity/pandemic planning exercise for OFM managers
- Implemented bar-code tracking of equipment
- Continued to develop internal capabilities of Emergency Management and Response team by providing specialized training for CBRN and HUSAR responses
- Provided training to fire investigators on issues related to structural collapse
- Provided support to development of Executive Leadership Matters in Complex Emergencies at Ontario Fire College
- Purchased and implemented back-up electrical supply system for OFM Emergency Operations Centre at Ontario Fire College
- Monitored associate instructor program for CBRN instructors in MOU partner communities
- Monitored deployment exercise for Toronto HUSAR team to verify response capability
- Provided input and financial support to expansion of CBRN/haz-mat training grounds at OFC including installation of road and rail training aids
- Developed and delivered successful fire coordinators seminar

- Initiated process to renew MOU agreements for CBRN response with Windsor, Ottawa, and Toronto, and HUSAR response with Toronto
- Provided ongoing support and consultation with Emergency Management Ontario on the development of common incident management systems and solutions to inter-operability communications concerns
- Implemented system and issued communiqué to fire service regarding accessing OFM resources in support of emergency responses by local municipalities to incidents that are beyond the capabilities of the local county/district/region mutual aid system but that are not defined as significant emergencies requiring a response by an MOU partner

Program Development

- Completed an overhaul of the Basic Fire Prevention and Inspection courses

Ontario Fire Service Performance measurement and benchmarking system (PMBS)

- Continued participation in the PMBS initiative to further develop performance measures and provide user support
- Conducted several successful PMBS training sessions and presentations at conferences around the province
- Completed development of local data entry and smoke alarm survey for PMBS
- 150+ fire departments became users of the system

Work continued to ensure the long-term sustainability of this system, including a focus on integrating important performance measurement information into fire service business decision-making. The Data/Measures Team focused on refining and expanding the measurement framework, identifying additional benchmarks and peer grouping opportunities, and designing ways to gather additional information from fire services to support and share these measures.

phase II of shaping fire safe

communities (SFSC)

In 2002, the OFM introduced the Phase I of Shaping Fire Safe Communities (SFSC), a leadership program for the Ontario fire service that introduced a new approach to risk management. In Phase II, a project team comprised of OFM, municipal, and fire service experts began developing a Web-based tool to assist fire departments in applying this model. By March 2004, a pilot web site was released in trial format to more than 25 fire service stakeholders. Work continued in 2005-06 to prepare for a June 2006 release of the Web-based risk management software to support master fire planning.

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ACADEMIC STANDARDS & EVALUATION

Academic Standards & Evaluation is responsible for the development of training programs and evaluation systems for improving practices related to fire protection services, the development and administration of certification and accreditation programs for fire service and OFM occupational roles, and the development of partnerships and alternative delivery mechanisms for enhancing fire service accessibility to standardized educational/training programs. This section also directs the development of OFM occupational performance standards, advises staff on internal professional development and corporate training initiatives, and ensures program quality and integrity.

Certification and Accreditation Programs

Certification is a voluntary process for individuals. It is based on a candidate's ability to meet established education/training qualifications, meet job experience and employment requirements, and demonstrate competency to current standards. Once deemed to have met the requirements for certification, the Ontario Fire Marshal awards candidates a certificate. Certification renewal requires candidates to demonstrate ongoing training and education and continued competence to the current standards.

Accreditation is a voluntarily sought status that is given to an educational institution or program that has been found to meet or exceed stated criteria of educational quality. Accreditation, a quality assurance measure by an internationally recognized organization, adds credibility to a certification program. The OFM has a number of programs and courses accredited by the International Fire Services Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) and the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications.

Emergency preparedness / Response Core Planning committee

The OFM continued to support multi-agency, provincial emergency response through the Multi-Agency Emergency Preparedness/Response Core Planning Committee. The committee's mandate is to provide advice and recommendations on the development and coordination of training projects for multi-disciplinary team response to large scale or complex emergencies. Members are representatives of more than 17 agencies that include fire, police, emergency medical services (EMS), Emergency Management Ontario (EMO), emergency health services (EHS), public health, and hospitals.

The following is a list of current courses that were offered.

Terrorism / Hazardous Materials Awareness Training

The Terrorism/Hazardous Materials Awareness for First Responders in Ontario: Self-Study course continued to be downloaded by many multi-agency first responders in the province from the OFM Web site. This course is based on NFPA 472, Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents, 2002 Edition. In keeping with the Provincial Response Strategy, the OFM encourages all first responders to develop the skills and gain the knowledge to meet the outcomes of awareness level training. The Ontario Fire College continued to offer Certificates of Completion to those who completed the course.

Multi-Agency Senior Officer / Manager Course

The Multi-Agency Senior Officer/Manager Course continued to be delivered in regional locations to support communities in their emergency preparedness when dealing with complex emergencies, and in keeping with the Provincial Response Strategy. The target group is senior decision-makers, officers, and managers who work together in local communities to plan for and respond to complex emergencies.

Hazardous Materials Operations Course

The OFM continued to offer a Hazardous Materials Operations Course to firefighters in Ontario. It has been accredited by the International Fire Services Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) to meet the Operations level of the NFPA 472 Standard. Using in-depth classroom activities that focus on both skill and knowledge, this course targets responders who will support the local Level One teams, and will be prepared to analyze hazardous materials incidents, determine the nature of the hazards, plan a safe response, and practice decontamination procedures.

Hazardous Materials Technician Course

The Hazardous Materials Technician course provides a high level of technical training to members of Level Three, the OPP Pert, and to other firefighters from Ontario. Based on NFPA 472, this two-week course provides participants with an opportunity to analyze situational factors that involve hazardous or other CBRN materials. Learners go through several rigorous simulated hazardous scene responses, where they assess and identify hazards, develop and implement action plans, and practice responding safely as team members. Learners also focus on rescue, recovery, and scene restoration, while using specialized protective equipment.

Provincial CBRN Response Teams Training and Exercise

The OFM hosted annual exercises for the Level Two and Three teams, where responders worked at enhancing their capabilities in responding to a simulated complex CBRN emergency. The workshops associated with these training sessions focused on identification of hazards, intervention, rescue and recovery, decontamination,

mass decontamination, and radiation safety. A major one-day multi-agency exercise tested the response and decision-making actions within a unified Incident Management System. Participants and observers from OPP, EMS, and EMO supported the team members in the exercise.

National Emergency Stockpile System (NESS) Mobile Training Hospital

The Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, in partnership with Health Canada and the OFM, provide this training. The goal of the course is to provide an overview of the management and set up of the hospital and related equipment and supplies. This includes learning about the types of units and supplies, how inventory is controlled, the distribution warehousing, and the federal legislation, policy standards, and guidelines that administer NESS. Using a train-the-trainer model, this course targets Community Emergency Management Co-ordinators that are selected by EMO.

Pre-Service Firefighter Education and Training Program

Community colleges continued to offer this three-semester certificate program in partnership with local fire departments, the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (O AFC), and the OFM. It is designed to prepare potential firefighters for entry into the Ontario fire service. Twelve community colleges and 17 fire departments are involved in delivering this program.

The program's standardized curriculum incorporates a strong theoretical base with an applied skills focus. The goal of the program is to prepare a pool of qualified, skilled, and professional candidates (firefighters) for full-time hire.

Testing Unit Update

The Testing Unit manages test banks for Components 1, 2, and 3 of the Firefighter Curriculum, Pre-Service Tests A and B, Hazardous Materials Operational Level and Technician Level, Fire Cause Determination, Advanced Fire Cause Determination, and OFM Fire Investigator. This unit also develops tests for graduates of the Company Officer and Fire Prevention Officer programs.

This year's highlights:

- Number of tests increased 21% over last fiscal year
- Developed the OFM Fire Protection Adviser test bank
- Conducted a major review of the Firefighter/Pre-Service question banks

OFM ACCREDITED PROGRAMS AND COURSES

PROGRAM/COURSE	IFSAC	PRO BOARD

Ontario Firefighter Certification Program	Initial August 1999 Reaccredited April 2004 To Ontario Standards (NFPA 2002 Standard)	Initial Fall 2002 (NFPA 1001 Level I, Level II providing completion of accredited Hazmat OPS) (NFPA 2002 Standard)
Company Officer Certification Program	Initial April 2004 To Ontario Standards	
Fire Prevention Officer Program	Initial September 2005 To Ontario Standards	
Training Officer Certification Program	Initial August 2006 To Ontario Standards	
Advanced Fire Cause Determination and Investigation Course	Initial Fall 2002 Reaccredited April 2004 NFPA 1033 (2003 Standard)	Initial Fall 2002 NFPA 1033 (2003 Standard)
Public Fire and Life Safety Educators' Certification Program	Initial Fall 2003 Reaccredited April 2004 NFPA 1035: Levels I & II (NFPA 2000 Standard)	Initial Fall 2003 NFPA 1035: Levels I & II (NFPA 2000 Standard)
OFM Hazardous Materials Operations Level Course	Initial April 2004 NFPA 472 (2002 Standard)	Initial November 2005 NFPA 472 (2002 Standard)
OFM Hazardous Materials Technicians Level Course	Initial September 2005 NFPA 472 (2002 Standard)	Initial November 2005 NFPA 472 (2002 Standard)
Pre-Service Firefighter Education and Training Program		Initial Fall 2002 (NFPA 1001 Level I, Level II providing completion of accredited Hazmat OPS) (NFPA 2002 Standard)
OFM Fire Investigator Certification Program	Initial April 2004 Accredited to OFM Standards	
OFM Fire Protection Advisor Certification Program - FPA	Pending submission April 2006	

TESTING STATISTICS

TESTS ADMINISTERED	# TESTS 2005/2006
Ontario Firefighter Curriculum (includes C1, 2, 3)	693
Pre-Service Firefighter Education & Training Program (includes A & B)	954
Company Officer Written Comprehensive Exam (open-ended questions)	45
Fire Prevention Officer Written Comprehensive Exam (open-ended questions)	23
HazMat OPS	214
HazMat Tech	38

certification program statistics

PROGRAM/COURSE	LAUNCH DATE	# CERTIFIED FROM LAUNCH DATE	# CERTIFICATES ISSUED APRIL 1, 2005 - MARCH 31, 2006
Firefighter Certification	1998		
Career Firefighters		1717	279
Firefighters		607	31
Total		2,324	310
Fire Prevention Officer Certification	September 2001	158	21
Company Officer Certification	May 2003	38	14
Public Fire and Life Safety Educators' Certification	April 2004	140	140
HazMat Operations Level Course	April 2004	345	186
Adv. Fire Cause Determination & Inv. Course	Fall 2002	33	0
OFM Fire Investigator Certification	April 2004	29	0
OFM Fire Protection Advisor	June 2005		

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PUBLIC EDUCATION & MEDIA RELATIONS

The mandate of this section is to research, identify, develop, implement, and evaluate key fire and life safety programs to assist the fire service in reducing fire deaths, injuries, and property losses in Ontario through public education and awareness. Staff are responsible for news media relations on public education issues, including public service announcements, training videos, media advisories, and special media events. This section publishes The Ontario Fire Service Messenger magazine that contains educational material and feature articles of interest to the Ontario Fire Service. On an ongoing basis, staff provide administrative and technical assistance to the Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council and participate in several Council activities.

Media Campaign: Working Smoke alarms: It's the Law!

To coincide with the announcement of the new amendment to the Ontario Fire Code requiring working smoke alarms on every storey of a dwelling unit that does not contain a sleeping area, the Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM) and local fire departments launched a media campaign entitled Working Smoke Alarms: It's the Law! at news conferences in Toronto, Hamilton, Sudbury, Thunder Bay, Windsor, and Ottawa, held from December 13 to 15, 2005.

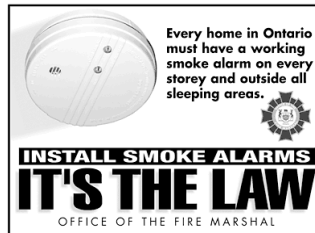
The purpose of the campaign was to inform landlords and tenants of residential occupancies and homeowners about their responsibilities under the Fire Code. To assist fire departments in conveying this important information, the OFM developed the following resources.

Public Service Announcements (PSAs)

Video (television): The smoke alarm PSAs Emily's Room and La chambre d'Émilie were distributed to television stations across the province with a letter asking them to air the PSA now and throughout the rest of the year.

Audio (radio): A radio PSA was distributed to radio stations across the province with a letter asking them to air the PSA now and throughout the rest of the year.

Print (newspapers): A print PSA was sent to newspapers across the province. It informed Ontarians about the new amendment to the Ontario Fire Code. It also emphasized the responsibilities of homeowners, landlords, and tenants for smoke alarms in residential occupancies.



ALARMED FOR LIFE!

The OFM revised Alarmed for Life!, a resource package for fire departments to use in developing their community smoke alarm programs.

TAPP-C

The new publication TAPP-C Community Implementation Manual was distributed to every fire department in Ontario on CD in English and French. It was produced in digital format only so that it could be easily and economically amended or updated.

The new manual will assist fire departments, mental health professionals, and other community agencies with the introduction and ongoing management of their TAPP-C programs.

Manuel à l'intention des éducateurs des services d'incendie, the French version of the TAPP-C Fire Service Educator's Manual, was also distributed to the Ontario fire service.

The TAPP-C Fire Department Data Collection Form was developed as a method of tracking activities related to TAPP-C and as a tool to assist in measuring the application and effectiveness of TAPP-C province wide.

Canadian editions of Risk Watch

The Office of the Fire Marshal and SMARTRISK finalized the French and English Canadian editions of Risk Watch. Both editions were produced on CD and distributed to Risk Watch Coalitions throughout the province.

The Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council requested quotations for the production of the binder version.

A workshop on the Canadian edition was delivered at the annual Fire and Life Safety Public Educators' Conference in November. The workshop previewed the new and different aspects of the Canadian edition and included a look at the new lesson plans and activities.

Fire Prevention Week

The Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM) and the Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council developed a number of media resources to assist fire departments with their Fire Prevention Week activities held October 9 through 15.

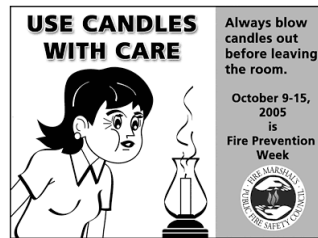
These resources focus on this year's Fire Prevention Week theme, Use Candles with Care: When you go out, blow out!

Public Service Announcements (PSAs)

Television PSA: The PSA entitled You Meant to Come Back was distributed to television stations across the province on September 27 with a letter asking them to air the PSA during Fire Prevention Week and throughout the rest of the year.

Radio PSA scripts: PSA scripts were sent to radio stations on September 27 with a letter from the OFM requesting that they work with local fire departments to record the PSAs or that they have their on-air talent record the scripts for broadcast.

Print PSAs: Five PSAs were sent to newspapers across the province on September 27. The PSAs covered vital fire safety information about candles, smoke alarms, and home fire escape plans.



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APPLIED RESEARCH

Applied Research staff provide expert technical advice to the fire service, OFM staff, the private sector, and other stakeholders. They investigate and report on large fires that may endanger the community or environment, conduct inspections to enforce provisions under the Lightning Rods Act and regulation, administer the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 (FPPA) powers that deal with immediate threat to life and building closures, prepare articles for the fire service on new issues and trends, and maintain an emergency management Web site for high-rise and high risk buildings. This section operates the Fire Sciences Library & Audio-Visual Resource Centre, whose extensive collection serves OFM staff, fire and emergency services, and others interested in fire safety.

This year, Applied Research staff:

- Delivered 8 training sessions (e.g., Community and Environmental Impact of Fire, Flammable and Combustible Liquids)
- Carried out 429 inspections of new lightning rod system installations throughout Ontario under the Lightning Rods Act
- Responded to 900 telephone inquiries and 170 pieces of correspondence on technical issues from external clients
- Posted 66 recalls/warnings that are relevant to Ontario on the OFM Web site
- Carried out applied research projects that impact fire safety (e.g., stovetop fire mitigation, effectiveness of interconnected smoke alarms, wireless/visual alarms for the hearing impaired, new fibre reinforced plastic 20 lb. propane cylinders)
- Reviewed legislation and regulatory changes proposed by other jurisdictions where there may be

an impact on the FPPA and Ontario Fire Code (e.g., Ministry of the Environment's Guidelines for Environmental Protection Measures at Chemical and Waste Storage Facilities, MOE's scrap yard regulation)

- Reviewed and commented on standards under development [e.g., ULC, NFPA, CSA, National Fire Code (NFC)]
- Assisted fire departments in cleaning up two other outdoor tire sites containing 100,000 and 20,000 tires respectively
- Paid for newspaper ads to be placed in local newspapers in an area served by 16 fire departments warning of the possibility that sprinkler systems installed in that area may have been installed improperly
- Developed Ontario Fire Service Messenger articles and Fire Marshal's Communiqués on topics of interest to the fire service (e.g., hazards of floor finishing products, counterfeit products, impact of Part 4, fire extinguisher recalls, outdoor citronella candles)
- Investigated/inspected and reported on two plastic manufacturing fires and an abandoned chemical plant for potential impact on the environment or the community
- Provided ongoing technical support to the objective-based codes project
- Participated on national and international codes and standards technical committees (e.g., NFPA-30 and NFC–Flammable Liquids, CSA N-293-Nuclear Fire Protection, CSA B72 Installation Code and Lightning Protection Systems, ULC – Standard on Fire Extinguishers)

The Fire Sciences Library & Audio-Visual Resource Centre

The library and resource centre provides current fire resources to support the Office of the Fire Marshal as well as fire departments, emergency services, fire-related industries, and the general public throughout Ontario.

The collection consists of books, reports, journals, standards, statutes and regulations, and audio-visual resources representing safety, disaster and emergency planning, fire investigation, fire science and technology, training, leadership, and management. In addition, the library has a specialized collection of standards for the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), ASTM (American Society of Testing and Materials), Underwriters'

Laboratories of Canada (ULC), and Canadian Standards Association (CSA).

The Fire Sciences Library provides current awareness services to OFM staff and fire-related industries through the monthly New Resources newsletter, which provides a listing of new books and videos as well as the table of contents of the top thirty journals.

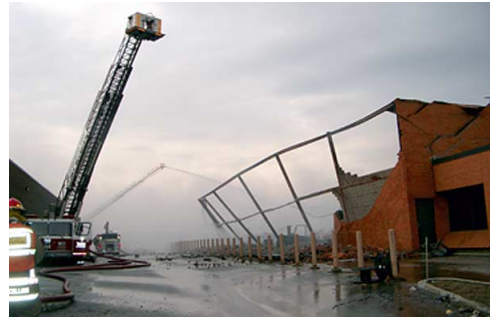
Online information is available via the Resources section of the OFM Web site.

Fire Sciences Library & Audio-Visual Resource Centre

# Reference questions & requests answered	1,942
# Onsite users	581
# Items circulated	3,643
# New books, technical reports, standards added	364
# New videos/DVDs added	90
# Fire-related news items clipped	3,597

BELOW: A fire originated in combustible yard storage (plastics goods) at the rear of a property, spread to the plant, and consumed the building. The building was protected by automatic sprinklers, but they were ineffective against this exposure fire. This photo was taken about 19 hours after the fire started. Applied Research staff attended the scene to evaluate the fire's

environmental impact.



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FIRE INVESTIGATION SERVICES

The Fire Investigation Services section has the primary responsibility of investigating any fire in which there is provincial interest in accordance with the duty outlined in the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 (FPPA). In addition to the cause and origin of the fire, this section reports on all factors that contributed to the outcome. Fire investigation staff provide expert testimony in court.

Local municipal fire and police departments notify the OFM of any occurrences that meet the criteria. Once the preliminary information is received, the OFM determines whether the occurrence fits the criteria for OFM investigation, the urgency of response that is required, and the level to which the investigation is to be conducted.

The levels of investigations

are identified as Phase 1, 2, or 3. An investigation conducted at a Phase 2 or a Phase 3 level involves a more comprehensive evaluation of factors beyond origin and cause that may have affected the outcome of the fire than an investigation conducted at a Phase 1 level.

During the 2005/06 fiscal year, staff investigated a total of 517 fires of which 12 were investigated at a Phase 2 level and two were investigated at a Phase 3 level. One of the Phase 3 investigations was conducted on a fatal fire on the Kashechewan First Nations where two persons were killed in a fire while in detention at the Nishnawbe-Aski Police Service detachment. The other was a five-fatality fire on Sommerset St., Ottawa.

This section implemented a new Internet-based fire investigation reporting system to improve the quality and consistency of investigative reports. The system also serves to provide relevant data for the performance measures being monitored for the section.

New digital photographic equipment and training was provided to all investigative staff with upgrades made to the reports and procedures for documenting photographs. The OFM respiratory program was developed and related policies and procedures were revised.

This section was involved in the identification and review

of the potential fire hazard associated with compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFL). Fire services are notifying the section of all incidents involving CFL lightbulbs.

Fire Investigation Services delivered 12 Fire Cause Determination courses to fire and police services throughout Ontario. These courses help the responding agencies assess the preliminary cause of the fire and the need for OFM involvement for investigation.

Fire investigators respond to fire and explosion occurrences anywhere in the province in accordance with the following criteria.

**ALL FATAL
FIRES OR
CRITICAL
INJURY
INCIDENTS**

24-hour response

EXPLOSIONS

24-hour response

**SUSPECTED
INCENDIARY
FIRES**

Monday through
Sunday during
normal working
hours, 0830 hours–
1700 hours

**LARGE LOSS
FIRES**

\$500,000 and over,
0830 hours–1700
hours

**FIRES OF
UNUSUAL
ORIGIN OR
CIRCUMSTANCE**

Unusual fire/smoke
spread or involves
circumstances that
may result in
widespread public
concern, e.g.,
environmental
hazard, 0830 hours–
1700 hours

**MULTI-UNIT
RESIDENTIAL
OCCUPANCIES**

Where fire spread is
beyond unit of origin,
0830 hours–1700
hours

BELOW: Fire
Investigator Skye
Lorimer conducts

a systematic fire scene examination. With the use of small hand tools, she methodically searches fire debris layer by



layer.

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FIRE SAFETY STANDARDS

The broad mandate of the Fire Safety Standards section is to ensure that appropriate fire safety standards are in place and to provide advice and assistance for effective enforcement of fire safety regulations and legislation by the municipal fire service. This involves the overall administration of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 (FPPA), the Ontario Fire Code, the Fire Safety Commission—an adjudicative agency that renders decisions for appeals and applications related to specific matters identified under the authority of the FPPA, and a number of related programs.

Legislative Administration

Under the authority of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 (FPPA), staff provide advice and assistance to government, the fire protection community and the public on Ontario Fire Code compliance and enforcement. Section staff provide opinions on the application of the legislation, develop inspection standards and guidelines related to interpretation and enforcement, and assist the Fire Marshal in fulfilling other duties under the FPPA. This section also processes appeals filed under the authority of the FPPA, renders decisions in the dispute, and provides assistance to the Fire safety Commission in processing appeals and applications under the legislation.

ADVICE AND OPINIONS

4,712 Telephone inquiries

93 Written inquiries processed

669 Web site inquiries processed

APPEALS

17 Appeals processed

Legislative Development

Section staff provide expert advice to government agencies on amendments respecting fire safety legislation and regulations, develop proposals for technical amendments to the Ontario Fire Code based on input from the public and code users, and participate in the coordinated national process for development of the model National Fire Code of Canada. Activities during this year included:

- Implementation of Ontario Fire Code amendments for developmental services facilities
- Continuing development of Ontario Fire Code amendments for hotel establishments in consultation with stakeholder associations
- Development of the next edition of the Ontario Fire Code in an objective-based format in coordination with Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing activities on parallel changes to the Ontario Building Code.

Expert Advice on Fire Safety Matters to Ministries and Agencies

As part of the role in providing expert advice to government on fire safety matters, staff carry out plan reviews and approvals for schools, health care facilities, and select government buildings (on request).

PLAN REVIEW AND APPROVAL

138 School projects
158 Health care projects

Training and Seminars

Section staff delivered 36 training programs, seminars, and information sessions related to the section mandate to fire department personnel and various stakeholder associations including:

- Occupancy-specific fire safety materials for industrial facilities and care occupancies
- Fire prevention officer certification courses
- Sessions related to FPPA and Ontario Fire Code administration

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Midhurst ON L0L 1X0

SOUTHWEST REGION

2284 Nursery Road
Midhurst ON L0L 1X0

northeast region

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Suite 6
Sudbury ON P3E 4N1

northwest region

640 Mountdale
Avenue
Thunder Bay ON
P7E 6G8

ontario fire college

1495 Muskoka
Road N
Gravenhurst ON
P1P 1W5

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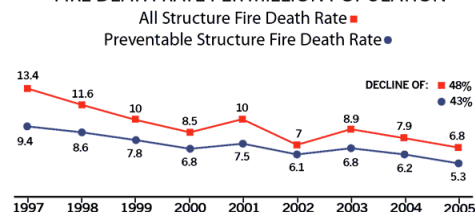
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ONTARIO FIRE LOSS STATISTICS: STRUCTURE FIRES

The statistics presented relate to fires for which an injury, fatality or dollar loss was reported. "Preventable" means fires that were not deliberately set. All data is for the province of Ontario excluding First Nations properties and is subject to change.

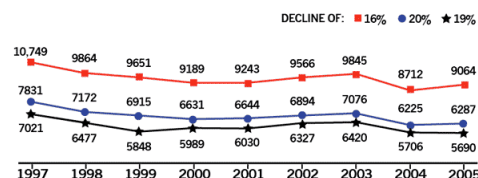
The fire death rate for preventable structure fires in Ontario hit a historic low in 2005, declining approximately 43% since the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 came into force. This decline is a milestone in Ontario's fire history. It highlights municipal dedication and commitment to public education and fire prevention in our common goal of making Ontario safer from fire.

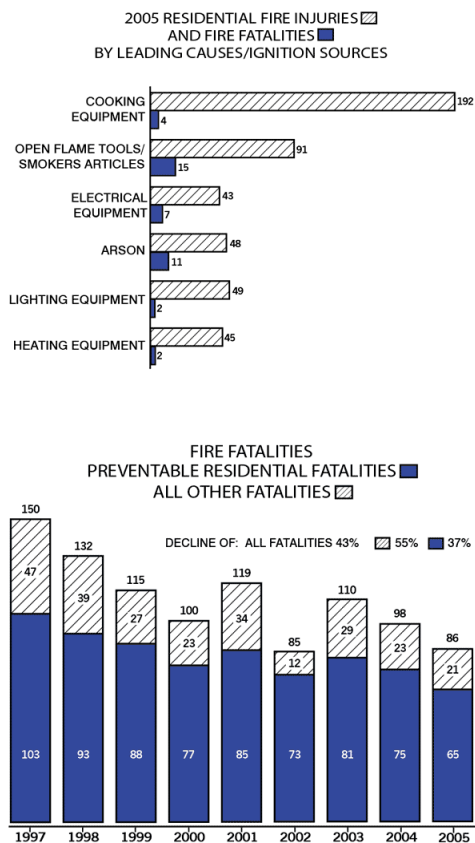
FIRE DEATH RATE PER MILLION POPULATION



STRUCTURE FIRES

ALL ■ ALL RESIDENTIAL ● PREVENTABLE RESIDENTIAL ★





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