



Newfoundland & Labrador Association of Fire Services

Enhancing Fire Services in Newfoundland & Labrador Since 1964

Executive Board Update March 2019

Public Relations

Over the past couple of months you have been seeing Fire Fighter Wayne Drake's name attached to our Facebook and Twitter accounts and for very good reason, Wayne is now filling the role of Public relations officer and brings with him a strong background in Information Technology as well as more than ten years in the fire service.

Wayne started his firefighting career as a junior fire fighter with the Grand Falls-Windsor fire department and since 2008 has been a member of the Bishops Falls FD where he also performs the role of Secretary.

With his new position, Wayne has made steady strides in bridging the gap between our social media outlets and you, our membership. You may notice that on the *Community* page of our website, is our Facebook feed that can now be viewed by everyone, further bridging the media gap for those who do not have a Facebook account. You can now keep up to-date on all our media accounts on our website. As well, our Learn Not to Burn program schedule has seen a make-over. As you will notice on the website, there is a new LNTB google calendar, which is updated on a regular basis by our coordinator. You can find this calendar under the *Learn Not to Burn* tab, under *Schedule*.

Wayne can be reached by Email at: publicrelations@nlfireservices.com.

It is our pleasure to officially welcome Wayne to the team and thank him for taking on this vital role.

Executive Director and Office Administrator

The HR Committee has completed the interview process to fill the available positions and they plan to have this work finished up by month's end and we look forward to having the chosen candidates working on our team to provide you with even better service. Announcements will be made as the process is completed.

Safety on our roadways

The calls we receive from departments telling us of close calls with vehicle traffic continue to rise despite all the work that has been completed. We advised you last month that we are looking at a combined effort to raise awareness and we are working on that goal. In the meantime, let's be as diligent as possible out there and keep ourselves as safe as possible.

Face to Face Board Meeting

During the weekend of February 21st to 23rd our board met in Gander to hold face to face meetings. During the weekend we met with Parliamentary Secretary for Municipal Affairs MHA Derek Bragg to discuss our Brief Issues, Regionalization and Critical Incident stress Management. Bringing MHA Bragg to the table gives us another avenue to lobby and advocate on behalf of our membership and helps us continue high level talks when the Minister may not be available. MHA Bragg was also a Fire Chief with his hometown of Greenspond and a former President of PMA so he certainly brings with him a wealth of knowledge pertaining to our challenges and our discussions with him were very productive.

Over the weekend we dedicated a lot of time to convention planning and we are working on several topics of concern to our membership as well as addressing some of the issues you brought to us at the last convention. As planning moves forward, we will certainly be keeping you updated, and we look forward to your suggestions. Director Addison Quilty Region 3 is our convention chairperson and he certainly welcome's your input and suggestions.

Cancer Prevention Committee

At Convention 2018 Commissioner Simmons asked our association to provide two representatives to sit on a committee that will look at best practices for cancer prevention that recognizes the unique challenges of our fire service. While the committee's work is still in preliminary stages, we look forward to the valuable information and guidance the committee will be providing.

Constitution Update

Our constitution committee chaired by Director Evan Cox has been hard at work reviewing and updating our constitution as promised. The committee made up of a representative from each region meets every second week and they are making excellent progress in developing a document for you to consider.

Fire School 2019

While it seems like just last week, we finished the 2018 fire school the 2019 school is quickly approaching, and we encourage each of your departments to take advantage of the offerings. We also want to be sure that your required books are ordered on time so please take a moment from your busy schedules to contact our office and get your required books ordered.

As in the past few years your Association will also be co-hosting a roundtable with the Fire Commissioner and staff to hear your thoughts on topics important to us all. As the date is confirmed we will certainly let you know.

Training Opportunities:

Don't forget to keep checking our Social Media (Facebook and Twitter) and the Events page on our website for new and updated training opportunities. Also send along your training stories so we can share them on our social media and Fire News. Folks like seeing what others are doing and it who knows, you may inspire others with your great work.

Website Links:

As you may have seen, we have been linking websites to the Fire Department names on our Member Benefits page of our website under the "Our Proud Membership" listing. Departments with websites currently linked to them are shown in red font. If your Fire Department has a website, and is not currently linked to your Department name, please email the direct link to our office.

As always, thank you for all you do and for making your association the great organization that it is. If you have any concerns or would like to express your opinion on any of the work we have been doing or tell us about what you feel we should be doing, please do not hesitate to call us.

Sincerely you're Board of Directors