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Message from the Honorable Minister David Joanasie

As the Minister responsible for the Department of Community and Government Services, I am pleased to present the Nunavut Fire Marshal's 2023 Annual Report.

The Nunavut Fire Marshal's Office is committed to advancing fire safety and bolstering community resilience. The Nunavut Fire Marshal's Office plays a critical role in achieving this goal by equipping firefighters with the necessary training, tools, and resources to effectively respond to fire emergencies. In addition to this, as the Regulatory body for fire and life safety, the Nunavut Fire Marshal's Office serves a critical function by actively ensuring Nunavummiut have a safe place to live, work and play through fire code inspections, fire origin, cause, and circumstance investigations, and public education on fire safety.



Continual efforts to upgrade equipment and replace outdated gear, alongside the provision of fire trucks, underscore the Nunavut Fire Marshal's Office ongoing dedication to ensuring firefighters have the means to carry out their life-saving work. The effort of the Nunavut Fire Marshal's Office to prepare Nunavummiut extends to the promotion of public awareness campaigns and educational initiatives aimed at equipping Nunavummiut with vital information to make fire-safe choices and mitigate risks.

I extend my gratitude to all our firefighters and first responders for their unwavering dedication to keeping our communities safe. Your commitment is truly commendable, and we are immensely grateful for your service.

Hon. David Joanasie
Minister, Community and Government Services



Overview of the Nunavut Fire Marshal's Office

The Nunavut Fire Marshal's Office (NFMO) operates under the authority of the *Fire Safety Act*. The NFMO mission is to provide advice and guidance through leadership and expertise in the preservation of life and property, and the reduction and elimination of hazards contributing to fire loss damage in addition to providing a safe environment for Nunavummiut.

The NFMO plays a vital role in ensuring the safety of Nunavummiut by offering various services including conducting Fire Code inspections based on request, complaint or on a regular schedule, fire origin and cause investigations, fire prevention public education as well as access to firefighter training. The NFMO also provides access to funding to municipal Fire Departments so they can acquire, maintain, or replace essential protective gear, tools or equipment needed to protect their communities throughout the year.

The NFMO works closely with multiple groups, continuously building partnerships among stakeholders at the community, territorial, national, and international level. These relationships foster an environment for the NFMO to give advice and guidance to organizations regarding the facilitation of fire and life safety within the territory of Nunavut.

Throughout 2023, the NFMO performed Fire Code inspections, conducted firefighter training, distributed fire prevention public education resources, and provided advice and guidance to stakeholders. The Office also provided resources to support fire services, supported and conducted fire investigations, maintained fire data collection.

Fire Prevention and Public Education

The NFMO provides support throughout Nunavut by providing various programs available to communities each year. Public Education Seminars were held by fire prevention and public education teams throughout the territory. Participants learned a variety of fire safety skills, which they consequently implemented in their homes, schools, and communities. The NFMO supported these efforts and provided fire prevention materials, resources, and funding to Fire Departments.

Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week was held from October 8-14, 2023, with the campaign "Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention.".

Fire Departments across the territory educated the public about the different sounds smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms make and what to do when an alarm sounds. During Fire Prevention Week, children, adults, and teachers learned how to stay safe in case of a fire. Firefighters provided lifesaving public education focused on decreasing the casualties caused by fire. Fire Departments provided fire prevention activities in their communities such as: fire hall tours, fire prevention sessions in schools, and fire department recruitment open houses. Fire prevention educational kits were supplied to Fire Departments with the support of NFMO for Fire Prevention Week.

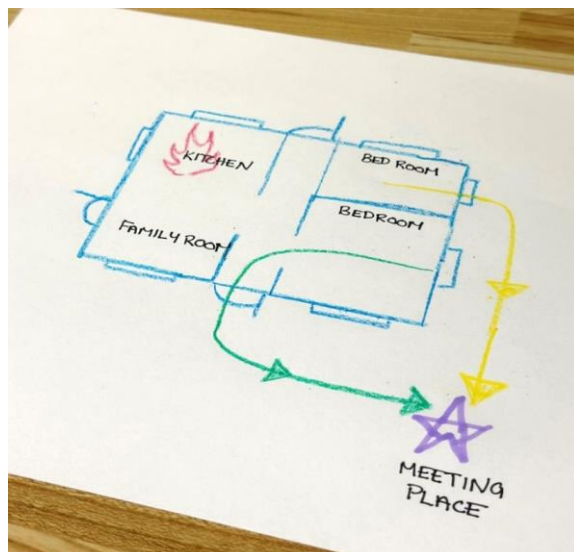


Figure 2 – Home escape plan.



Figure 3: The 2023 Fire Prevention Week banner which reads “Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention.”

Nunavut Youth Fire-setter and Arson Prevention Program

The NFMO continues to identify, interview, assess, and intervene with youth referred into its Nunavut Youth Fire-setter and Arson Prevention (NYFSAP) program. The NYFSAP program is aimed towards the prevention of fire-setting behaviour in children and youth. This program includes Identification of youth involved in fire-setting, interviewing fire-setting youth and family members and using assessment tools to aid in determining the level of risk for future fire-setting in order to establish effective intervention measures.

‘Remembering When’ Program

Community Elders are important and as such, the NFMO ‘Remembering When’ program works to deliver fire safety messaging to these important members of our communities. This fire safety and prevention program is focused on providing training to local Fire Departments, caregivers, and other stakeholders with a vested interest in the safety of our Elders. The ‘Remembering When’ program is delivered to elderly community members through our community partners and the training provided to them by the NFMO.

Table 3: Fire Statistics

Reports	2022	2023
Reported Fires	88	140
Fire Deaths	0	2
Fire Injuries	0	6
Fire Code Inspections	246	630
Prosecutions under the <i>Fire Safety Act</i>	0	0
Training Reports *	2021-2022	2022-2023
Fire Fighter Training Courses	30	30
Fire Fighter Training Participants	181	141

*Training is delivered on a fiscal year cycle.



Fire Truck Replacement Program

The NFMO supported the Territory’s Fire Truck Replacement Program. The 2022-2023 fiscal year capital budget for the truck replacement was \$637,189 per apparatus. Fire trucks in Nunavut are certified to Underwriter Laboratories of Canada Standard S-515 with an expected life span of 20 years. In 2023 fire trucks were delivered for the communities of Clyde River, Igloolik, Resolute Bay, and Sanikiluaq. Training on the new fire trucks was provided to ensure responder’s were ready to begin using the new equipment. (See Table 4 - Community Fire Truck Replacement Program schedule.)

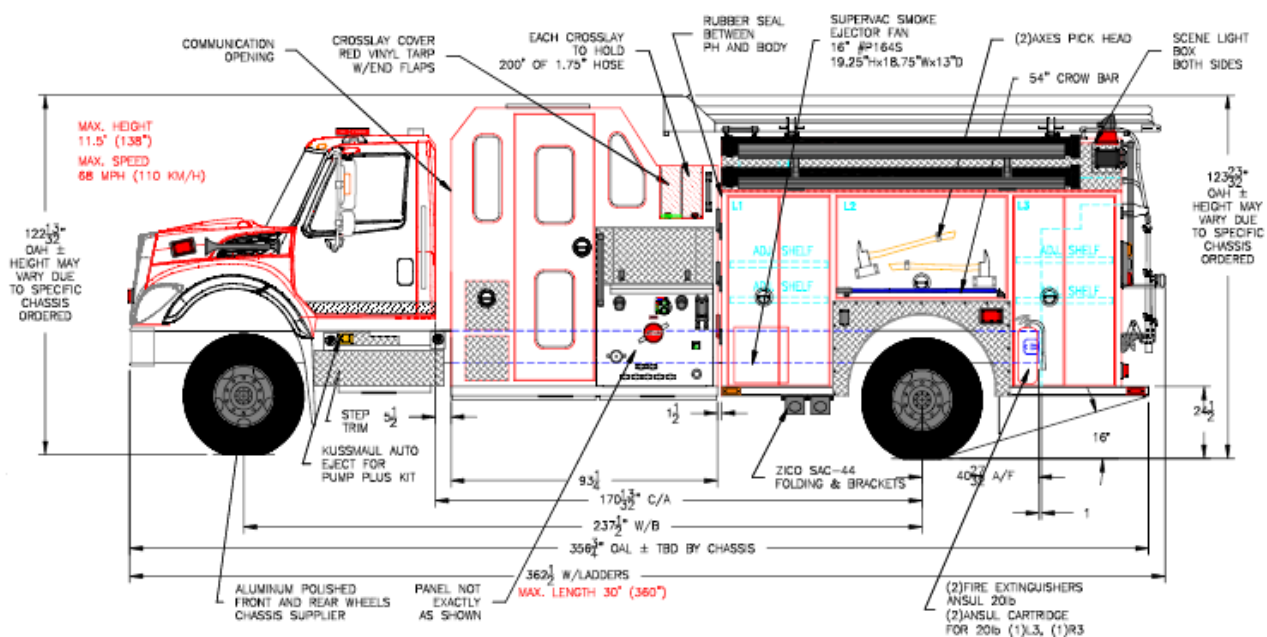


Figure 4: Fire Truck Schematic



Figure 5: Fire trucks designed to be placed in communities.



Table 4: Fire Truck Replacement Schedule

Community	Year	Status
Kugaaruk	2021	Delivery & Training Complete
Coral Harbour	2021	Delivery & Training Complete
Sanikiluaq	2023	Delivery & Training Complete
Igloolik	2023	Delivery & Training Complete
Resolute Bay	2023	Delivery & Training Complete
Clyde River	2023	Delivery & Training Complete
Qikiqtarjuaq	2024	
Arctic Bay	2024	
Sanirajak	2025	
Taloyoak	2025	
Chesterfield Inlet	2026	
Whale Cove	2027	
Grise Fiord	2027	
Iqaluit	2028	
Kimmirut	2028	

Firefighter Training

A total of 30 Fire Fighting Trainings were delivered across the territory in 2022-2023.

These training opportunities were delivered in two separate styles: centralized and community based. The combination of these course styles allowed for firefighters to train with fellow firefighters from across Nunavut and develop skills within their own fire department using their own equipment.

Throughout the territory, municipal Firefighters received training to increase their skills, knowledge, and abilities in various firefighting tactics. Firefighter training courses were offered by the NFMO in partnership with the Nunavut Municipal Training Organization (NMTO). In total, 141 Nunavut Firefighters successfully attended these courses.

Figure 6 - Iqaluit Training center - Vehicle fire scenario 2023



Figure 7 – Fire Fighter Level 1 trainees – building interior training

Courses offered across the Territory in 2023 included:

- Community-Specific Training,
- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Training,
- Fire & Life,
- Safety Educator,
- Fire Officer Level 1,
- Fire Service Instructor,
- Firefighter Level 1 & 2,
- Pump Operations
- The Annual Fire Officer Workshop

*Note – Fire Service Training is delivered in conjunction with the Municipal Training Organization. As a result of this partnership annual training programs are delivered and reported in the fiscal year cycle.

Closing

The NFMO promotes and develops building and life safety initiatives throughout Nunavut. Our dedicated staff will continue to work to provide a high degree of professionalism and collaboration in driving forward the responsibility of our office. As we move into the next reporting year, the NFMO team remains steadfast in our mission to enhance safety measures, streamline processes, and improve outcomes for Nunavummiut. We recognize that our work directly impacts the well-being of our fellow citizens, and we take this responsibility seriously.



Glossary

Accidental Fire

Accidental fires involve all those for which the proven cause does not involve an intentional human act to ignite or spread fire into an area where a fire should not be. When the intent of a person's action cannot be determined or proven to an acceptable level of certainty, the correct classification is undetermined.

Assembly Occupancy

A building, or part thereof, used for the gathering of persons for civic, political, travel, religious, social, educational, recreational or like purposes, or for the consumption of food or drink. Some examples are theatres, churches, community halls, libraries, licensed beverage establishments, restaurants, cafes, schools, arenas, and gyms.

Business / Personal Services Occupancy

A building, or part thereof, used for the transaction of business or the rendering or receiving of professional or personal services. Some examples are banks, hairdressing shops, dental offices, medical offices, offices, and police stations.

Fire Protection

Fire protection means the protection of the life and safety of persons and property from fire, including its engineering, prevention, public education, suppression, and investigation.

Incendiary Fire

A fire that is intentionally ignited in an area or under circumstances where and when there should not be a fire.

Industrial Occupancy (*High Hazard*)

A building used for the assembling, fabricating, manufacturing, processing, repairing, or storing of goods and materials and which contains sufficient quantities of highly combustible and flammable or explosive materials that, because of their inherent characteristics, constitute a special fire hazard. Some examples are bulk plants for flammable liquids, bulk storage warehouses for hazardous substances, distilleries, flour mills, grain elevators, spray painting operations, and wastepaper processing plants.

Industrial Occupancy (*Medium hazard*)

A building, or part thereof, used for the assembling, fabricating, manufacturing, processing, repairing, or storing of goods and materials in which the combustible content is more than 50 kg/m² or 1200 MJ/m² of floor area and not classified as

high hazard industrial occupancy. Some examples are cold storage plants, factories, laboratories, repair garages, service stations, warehouses, and woodworking factories.

Industrial Occupancy (Low hazard)

A building used for the assembling, fabricating, manufacturing, processing, repairing, or storing of goods and materials in which the combustible content is less than 50 kg/m² or 1200 mJ/m² of floor area. Some examples are factories, laboratories, storage garages, warehouses, and workshops.

Institutional Occupancy

A building, or part thereof, used by persons who require special care or treatment because of cognitive or physical limitations or by persons who are restrained from, or are incapable of self-preservation because of security measures not under their control. Some examples are nursing homes, penitentiaries, prisons, hospitals, and care homes with sleeping accommodations for more than ten persons.

Local Assistant to the Fire Marshal

A person appointed as a Local Assistant to the Fire Marshal subject to the direction of the Fire Marshal, shall perform the duties imposed and may exercise the powers conferred on a Local Assistant defined in the *Fire Safety Act and Regulations*.

Mercantile Occupancy

A building, or part thereof, used for the displaying or selling of retail goods, wares, or merchandise. Some examples are departments stores, exhibition malls, markets, shops, stores, and supermarkets.

Natural Fire

Natural fires are fires caused without direct human intervention or action, such as fires resulting from lighting, earthquake, wind, and flood.

Residential Occupancy

A building, or part thereof, used by persons for whom sleeping accommodation is provided but who are not harboured for the purpose of receiving care or treatment or are not involuntarily detained. Some examples are apartments, dormitories, hotels, houses, and motels.

Undetermined Fire

Undetermined fires are fires that have not yet been investigated or those that have been investigated, or are under investigation, and have insufficient information to classify further. The fire may still be under investigation where the cause may be determined later with the introduction or discovery of new information or evidence.