



Oshawa
Fire
Services

2020

Table of Contents

1	Letter from the Chief	9	Our People
2	Tree of Command	10	Major Fires of 2020
3	O.F.S. Management Team	11	Fire Services By The Numbers
5	Fire Stations	13	Fire Prevention Programs and COVID-19 Initiatives
7	Oshawa Continues to Grow & Oshawa Fire Services Divisons	15	Photos from 2020

Your Worship Mayor Dan Carter and Members of Council,

On behalf of Oshawa Fire Services (O.F.S.) and the corporation of the City of Oshawa, I am pleased to present the 2020 Annual Report.

Under difficult conditions throughout the year due to COVID19, Oshawa Fire Services continued to execute and maintain its core values of commitment, dedication and excellence in carrying out its mission to provide fire protection and emergency services to the City of Oshawa at an affordable and sustainable level.

This report will highlight 2020 statistics, achievements and daily operations that are performed within the Region’s largest Fire Department. Many of our yearly statistical data is under reported due to the COVID19 Pandemic. Throughout the year, our senior leadership team and staff have continued to focus on fire safety across the City of Oshawa.

In 2020, O.F.S. achieved many initiatives linked to the Oshawa Strategic Plan. Examples include:

- New Fire Master Plan & Community Risk Assessment
- New Assistant Deputy added to the Senior Leadership Team.
- New Communications Officer
- 7 Additional Firefighters
- Administration reorganization

Our continued focus remains the 3 lines of defense, Public Fire Safety Education, Fire Safety Standards and Enforcement and Emergency Response. Smoke alarm education and awareness will be a continued focus effort in 2021 for O.F.S.

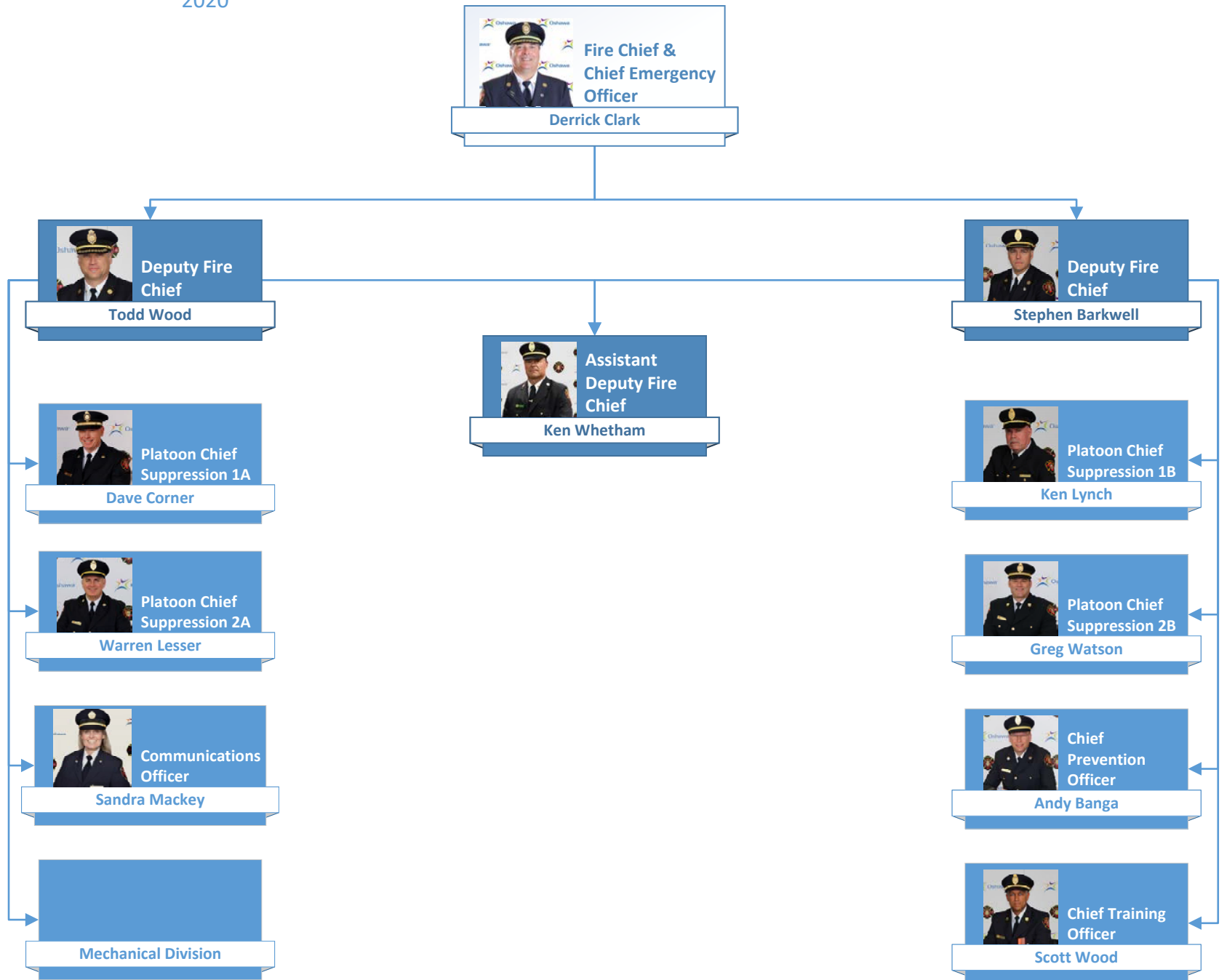
I would like to thank members of Oshawa Fire Service for their daily commitment to serving our community and protecting the residents of Oshawa.



Chief Clark

- Derrick Clark, Fire Chief
Oshawa Fire Services

Oshawa Fire Services
Management & Senior Command Team
2020



Oshawa Fire Services Management Team

Chief Derrick Clark

Chief Derrick Clark began his career with Oshawa Fire Services in 1986 as an Alarm Room Operator. During his career with O.F.S., he has held the following positions: Alarm Room Operator, 1st class Firefighter, Acting Captain, Training Officer, Chief Training Officer, Deputy Chief. He became Fire Chief in 2017 and in addition to his duties as Fire Chief, he's also the Chief Emergency Management Coordinator of the City.

In his role as Fire Chief he has expanded O.F.S. medical services to include the use of Naloxone; entered into a partnership with Wounded Warriors and the Association to assist with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Mental Health. In 2019 on direction of Council, he began working on an updated Fire Master Plan for the City of Oshawa.

Deputy Chief Todd Wood

Deputy Chief Todd Wood was promoted from the Training Division in May 2017. Reporting directly to the Fire Chief, Deputy Wood has a blended role between operations and support, overseeing Suppression (2 platoons), Mechanical and Communications divisions of Oshawa Fire Services. He has over 20 years of fire service experience and brings a wealth of knowledge in the areas of fire suppression, training and specialized rescue. Deputy Wood began his career as a firefighter with Oshawa Fire Services in 1999 and was promoted through the ranks, previously holding Firefighter and Training Officer positions.

Deputy Wood is responsible for streamlining the Operations and Communications Centre and working collaboratively to participate through budget preparation, capital projects and planning. The overall management, service delivery, goal setting, image and financial management of the divisions are reflected in the daily operations. We continue to progress as a municipality through the implementation of Fire Services/Emergency and Protective Service strategies and the operations of the work unit, including organization structure and job design, as well as management of financial and human resources.



Derrick Clark



Todd Wood



Stephen Barkwell



Ken Whetham

Deputy Chief Stephen Barkwell

Deputy Chief Stephen Barkwell began his career with Oshawa Fire Services in 1999. His current responsibilities include a blended role between operations and support, which encompasses Suppression (2 platoons), Fire Prevention, and Training divisions, Facilities, Alternate Community Emergency Management Coordinator, and Health and Safety. Deputy Chief Barkwell's past roles have included: Firefighter, Relief Dispatcher, Shift Training Instructor, qualified Training Officer, and Acting Captain.

Through his many experiences and training, Deputy Barkwell has a wealth of knowledge in health and safety, financial stewardship, training, human rights, labour relations and legislation. Emergency responders face many challenges during their regular duties, which include not only physical but also mental challenges. Deputy Barkwell works with frontline staff to help develop improved health and safety programs.

Assistant Deputy Chief Ken Whetham

Assistant Deputy Chief Ken Whetham started his career within the Emergency Services as a Police Officer serving eleven years with the Woodstock City Police. He began his profession with the Oshawa Fire Services in 2009 in the suppression division. Ken was a member of the Technical Rescue team and was an instructor for medical and technical rescue disciplines. Upon promotion into the Training Division in 2018 as a Training Officer, Ken implemented and developed various training programs for OFS such as elevator rescue, video training, fitness for new recruits and implementing a regional health and wellness bulletin for our Durham fire service partners.

Additionally, Ken was a sponsored athlete and has an extensive background in fitness providing workshops for professionals in numerous disciplines, writing articles for fitness magazines and websites. Ken entered his role as Assistant Deputy Chief in 2020 with several years of leadership and management experience in both public and private sectors. Ken's responsibilities include facility maintenance and repairs, attendance support, health and safety, fire administration staff and supporting senior management and leadership support for the department.



Fire Stations

Station 1 | 199 Adelaide Ave. W.

Apparatus:

Pumper 21

Car 25

Infrastructure & Staff:

Two-storey building constructed in 1981, occupying 24,000 square feet. This Station houses Administration, Communications, Fire Prevention, Platoon Chief Office and one firefighting crew. It has three truck bays and a large structural training space.



Station 2 | 1111 Simcoe St. S.

Apparatus:

Pumper 22

Aerial 22

Infrastructure & Staff:

Two-storey building with basement constructed in 1982, occupying 9,750 square feet. This Station houses two firefighting crews.



Station 3 | 50 Beatrice St. E.

Apparatus:

Pumper 23

Aerial 23

Tanker

Infrastructure & Staff:

Single-storey building constructed in 1975 occupying 9,000 square feet with two truck bays. This Station houses two firefighting crews.



Station 4 | 50 Harmony Rd. N.

Apparatus:

Pumper 24

Hazmat Trailer

Infrastructure & Staff:

Two-storey building constructed in 1982 occupying 6,500 square feet. This Station houses one firefighting crew.



Station 5 | 1550 Harmony Rd. N.

Apparatus:

Pumper 25

Rescue 25

Infrastructure & Staff:

Single-storey building constructed in 2006 with 17,900 square feet. This Station houses one firefighting crew, Training Division, Fire Prevention staff and the Mechanical Division in two mechanics bays.



Station 6 | 2339 Simcoe St. N.

Apparatus:

Pumper 26

Infrastructure & Staff:

Single-storey building constructed in 2016 with 10,675 square feet. This Station houses one firefighting crew and Fire Prevention staff.

The design of this Station and its building materials complements the historical legacy of Windfields Farm.

Oshawa Continues to Grow

Oshawa Fire Services (O.F.S.) is the largest fire department in the Region of Durham and continues to serve a growing population that numbered approximately 175,000 at the end of 2020.

O.F.S. not only provides fire services to Oshawa residents but our Communication division also receives emergency calls and provides dispatch services for neighbouring municipalities Whitby, Clarington, Brock, Uxbridge and Scugog.

Our 2020 new builds totaled 1,561 new residential units comprised of 960 Apartment units, 300 Townhouses, 150 Accessory Dwellings, 133 single detached and 18 semi-detached units.

Continued growth in building statistics over the years necessitated the building of Fire Station 6 and the trend of growth particularly in the City's north end is expected to drive the location decision for Fire Station 7.



Former Genosha Hotel re-built as a mixed-use building in 2019 now known as 70 King.

Oshawa Fire Services Divisions

Oshawa Fire Services (O.F.S.) is an integrated department that is made up of six divisions that work together to deliver outstanding service to Oshawa residents and our neighbouring municipalities Whitby, Clarington, Brock, Uxbridge and Scugog.



Administration

The Administration Division is responsible for leading all aspects of the Oshawa Fire Services including finance and budget management, providing input to Provincial and Federal legislation, by-laws, codes and standards, as well as advising Council on related information. The division leads Emergency Operations in the City, working in conjunction with regional partners, the team leads the preparation and response to any incident that threatens the health and safety of the City.

The City's Strategic and Business Services branch provides support to O.F.S. and is responsible for managing human resource functions, administration and payroll for the department as well as financial analysis, budget development and maintenance of records to support informed decision-making and create efficiencies through continuous improvement.



Communications

The Communications Division staff consisted of one Communications Officer, four Dispatch Supervisors and twelve Dispatchers and one temporary dispatcher that dispatch for Oshawa, Whitby and Clarington Fire Services, with alerting coverage for Brock, Port Perry/Caesarea and Uxbridge Fire Services through a shared dispatch model. *Continued on page 8.*

As often the first point of contact, Communications staff provide life-saving advice to callers and are a critical component of fire services, providing a vital link between citizens and on-scene responders. The division assessed current incident call types and over the last year developed new call response types for all Services designed to aid in expediting response times and increased incident detail.



Fire Prevention and Public Education

The Fire Prevention and Public Education Division comprised of a Chief Fire Prevention Officer, two Fire Prevention Captains, one Fire Prevention Officer and seven Fire Prevention Inspectors.

The division conducts building inspections in compliance with the Ontario Fire Code; delivers public education through fire safety programs and messaging; engages with the community at public events; responds to complaints and requests; and plans, reviews and provides fire safety awareness to the community.



Mechanical

The Mechanical Division operating out of Fire Station 5 on Harmony Road is staffed by two mechanics. They are responsible for maintaining all fleet vehicles including: eight pumper trucks, three aerial trucks, one tanker, one rescue truck, one hazardous materials trailer and twenty light duty vehicles.

Additionally, they perform maintenance and testing of all self-contained breathing apparatus (S.C.B.A.), generators, portable pumps, power saws, fans and ladders.



Operations

The Operations Division was comprised of four Platoon Chiefs and 164 Firefighters deployed across six fire stations on a 24-hour shift, who provide front line support and response, effective and efficient fire suppression activities.

Crews are continuously training and learning new techniques to be on the leading-edge of fighting fires and responding to a variety of calls including auto-extrication, building and residential fires, medical calls, hazardous material responses, motor vehicle accidents, and technical rescue.

Oshawa assists both Whitby Fire and Emergency Services and Clarington Emergency and Fire Services with technical rescue calls.



Training

The Training Division was led by a Chief Training Officer and two Training Officers responsible for training new recruits and delivering ongoing training for all operations staff including special operations, emergency medical services, officer development and training on all new trucks and equipment. The division is also responsible for evaluating training progress, coordinating compliance and certifications.

Our People

Oshawa Fire Services is staffed by a highly trained, dedicated and competent team. In 2020, the six divisions were made up as follows:

Division	Positions	
Administration	1	Fire Chief
	2	Deputy Fire Chiefs
	1	Assistant Deputy Chief
Communications	1	Communications Officer
	4	Dispatch Supervisors
	12	Dispatchers
	1	Temporary Dispatcher
Fire Prevention	1	Chief Fire Prevention Officer
	2	Fire Prevention Captains
	1	Fire Prevention Officer
	7	Fire Protection Inspectors
Mechanical	1	Senior Mechanic
	1	Mechanic
Suppression	4	Platoon Chiefs
	32	Captains
	132	Firefighters
Training	1	Chief Training Officer
	2	Training Officers



New Recruits

- Chris Brabin (Suppression)
- Zachary Carrie (Suppression)
- Liam Donnelly (Suppression)
- Connor Hale (Suppression)
- Joshua Kiatipis (Suppression)
- Adam Maccarone (Suppression)
- Rylee McKinnon (Suppression)
- Nicholas Zotti (Suppression)
- Joshua Payne (Suppression)
- Zachary Newman (Suppression)
- Jessica Crombie (Suppression)
- Chris Farrugia (Suppression)
- Dakota Kettrick (Suppression)
- Sandra Mackey (Communications Officer)
- Julia Johnston (Dispatcher)

Promotions

- Debbie Hajdukovic (Communications Supervisor)
- Michael Kedzierski (Suppression Captain)
- Mike Kozak (Suppression Captain)
- Jason Kay (Suppression Captain)
- Ken Whethem (Assistant Deputy Chief)
- Steve McWilliam (Suppression Captain)

Retirements

- Steve Balas (Suppression)
- Janet Van Kemp (Communications Supervisor)
- Dave Rockburn (Suppression)
- Randy Henry (Suppression Captain)
- Rob Torres (Suppression Captain)
- Harvey Gallant (Suppression)
- Stephen Powers (Suppression Captain)

Major Fires of 2020

Location	Fire Station	Date	Property Type	Number of firefighters on scene
Hillcroft St.	4	Mar. 7	Multi-Unit Dwelling - 2 to 6 Units	23
Park Rd S.	1	Apr.26	Detached Dwelling and garage	17
Muriel Ave.	1	May 31	Detached Dwelling	27
Viewmount Dr.	4	June 18	Detached Dwelling	17
Ormond Dr.	3	June 20	Semi-Detached Dwelling	16
Richmond St W.	1	June 28	Multi-Unit Dwelling over 12 units	21
Blythwood Sq.	5	July 1	Detached Dwelling and Automobile	21
Ellesmere Ave.	4	July 5	Detached Dwelling	17
Albert St.	2	July 5	Detached Dwelling	21
Glenbourne Crt.	5	July 9	Detached Dwelling	19
Columbus Road E.	5	July 11	Detached Dwelling	21
Sharbot St.	2	July 29	Multi-Unit Dwelling - 2 to 6 Units	21
Oshawa Blvd. S.	4	July 31	Multi-Unit Dwelling over 12 units	21
Tall Pine Ave.	5	Aug 21	Detached Dwelling	17
Harmony Road N.	5	Sept 15	Attached Dwelling (rowhouse,townhouse)	21
Burk St.	1	Sept 24	Detached Dwelling	20
Athol St E.	4	Sept 27	Multi-Unit Dwelling - 2 to 6 Units	17
Bloor St E.	2	Nov 11	Multi-Unit Dwelling over 12 units	19
Madison St.	1	Dec 20	Detached Dwelling	21
Nearco Cres.	6	Dec 24	Attached Dwelling (rowhouse,townhouse)	25
Olive Ave	4	Dec 30	Multi-Unit Dwelling - 2 to 6 Units	21



Richmond St W Fire



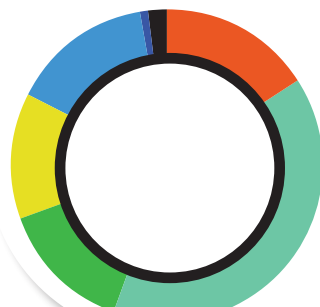
Fire Services 2020 | By the Numbers

Training Hours



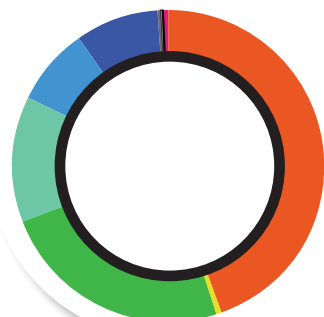
Suppression - 21,667 Hours
Prevention - 496 Hours
Tech Rescue-Hazmat - 1,678 Hours
Communication - 1,269 Hours

Calls by Type



Fire Related - 809
Medical - 2,029
Motor Vehicle Collision - 715
Alarm - 657
Public Hazard - 759
Rescue - 48
Other - 86

Oshawa Alarms



Telephone from Ambulance - 2,478
Radio - 31
911 - 1,335
Telephone from Civilian - 729
Alarms/Alarm Monitoring Agency - 442
Telephone from Police Services - 481
Verbal/Walk In - 19
Direct Connection - 17
Other - 19

Call Volume by Station



Station 1 - 2,779
Station 2 - 1,559
Station 3 - 1,273
Station 4 - 1,261
Station 5 - 742
Station 6 - 592

Additional Training Hours



Driver Weekly Maintenance Inspections - 1,518 Hours
Driver Training and Vehicle Operations - 1,499
Vehicle Familiarization and Inspections - 2,038
Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus - 1,705
Ladder Training - 663

Call Dispatched from Oshawa Communications Division



Brock - 298
Caesarea/Port Perry - 467
Clarington - 2,665
Oshawa - 5,558
Uxbridge - 334
Whitby - 3,448

Fire Suppression Incidents by Property Class (no. of occurrences)

Assembly	2
Care and Detention	-
Residential	73
Business and Personal Services	1
Mercantile	2
Industrial	1
Other	14
Vehicles	40

Dollar Value of Fire Suppression Incidents by Property Class

Assembly	\$10,500
Care and Detention	-
Residential	\$8,260,381
Business and Personal Services	\$8,000
Mercantile	\$465,000
Industrial	\$2,500
Vehicles	\$592,592
Other	\$714,700

Dollar Value of Fire Incidents/Ignition Source

Miscellaneous/Undetermined/Under Investigated	\$5,652,574
Electrical Distribution Equipment	\$670,000
Open Flame Tools, Smokers Articles	\$856,700
Exposures	\$840,500
Cooking Equipment	\$744,350
Vehicle/Other Electrical or Fire/ Other Mechanical	\$293,050
Appliances/Home Entertainment Items	\$220,000
Heating Equipment	\$61,000

Fire Incidents/Ignition Source (no. of occurrences)

Miscellaneous/Undetermined/Under Investigated	63
Electrical Distribution Equipment	4
Open Flame Tools, Smoker Articles	11
Exposures	7
Cooking Equipment	15
Vehicle/Other Electrical or Fire/ Other Mechanical	15
Appliances/Home Entertainment Items	4
Heating Equipment	5

Public Education Statistics

Residential Inspections	1,565
Residential Rental By-law Inspections	415
Assembly Inspections	315
Complaint Inspections	436
Industrial Inspections	85
New Construction Inspections	148
Occupancy/ L.C.B.O	8
Business Licenses	161
Plans Review/Approval	47
Burn Permits	8
Immediate Threat to Life Orders	-

Fire Investigations (Occurrences)

Unintentional	112
Unintentional Cause Undetermined	19
Intentionally Set	16
Undetermined	66

Activity

Court Chargers	1
Total Fine Amounts (not including Victim Fine Surcharge)	3,130
Freedom of Information Requests	13

Fire Prevention Programs and COVID-19 Initiatives

Fire Prevention is a major focus of the Oshawa Fire Services' (O.F.S.) work. The department continues to develop and maintain a targeted education campaign to ensure the community is well equipped with fire prevention tools.

Here are some of the programs employed in 2020 to ensure residents are well informed of safety practices.

What3Words

Three words could save your life. Chief Derrick Clark brought this revolutionary location technology to Oshawa Fire and became the first Fire Service in Canada setting the path for other Fire and Emergency Services across Canada to join in.

What3words is a location technology that divides the world into a grid of 3 metre x 3 metre squares and assigns each square with a unique three-word identifier. The encoding is permanently fixed. Residents that need assistance will be sent a link to their cell phones which, when clicked, will show 3 words that they then provide. Fire Communications using those 3 words, will be able to accurately and quickly dispatch emergency services to the precise location of an incident.



In June, Oshawa Fire Dispatch was able to quickly assist in pinpointing the exact location of a resident in distress lost in one of the large dog parks and get EMS services there to treat her.

To date, in Canada over 40 Emergency Services (Police, Fire, EMS groups) have since partnered with What3Words. Oshawa Fire was in the top five to go live in Canada for all Services combined and continues to bring awareness to other services aiding them in bringing on this life saving location technology.

Virtual Fire Inspections

COVID-19 posed many challenges in the way we completed inspections. A large obstacle was finding a way to complete inspections while keeping staff and the public safe. One way in which we overcame this obstacle was completing virtual inspections by using a platform that would work with the public (Skype, FaceTime, Google Duo, etc.) to perform inspections. Although meeting the public in person is the preferred method, this was one way that we could keep safe during the pandemic.

Virtual fire safety presentations were also completed during the pandemic. Fire safety material was presented on a variety of platforms. It has been a very effective way to perform public education while having the constraints that COVID-19 brought.







Fire Response Boundaries

