



From the Chiefs ~ Uninterrupted:

AN ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

Covering CAFC Activities Between September 2019 and August 2020
and CAFC's Financial Performance for the 2019 Fiscal (Calendar) Year

From the Board of Directors & National Advisory Council

This annual report, entitled "*Uninterrupted*" reflects the 12-month period none of us expected. Facing COVID-19, our departments, our members, committees, National Advisory Council member organizations, partners in industry, friends and colleagues in partner organizations, in government, on Parliament Hill, and staff, have had to make the best we could in the situation before us.

Despite this, we did what fire departments do – we managed through emergency. We stayed together. We got stronger and clearer in our purpose. We learned that our infrastructure is robust. We reached out to fire departments who were not previously able to be part of the CAFC and we'll continue to do so.

It's hard to imagine that just 12 months ago, we met in person in Calgary for Fire Rescue Canada. The country was gearing up for an election. By January of last year, CAFC's past President was stepping down to take on a new position in Australia, then in the midst of severe wildfires. In February, Board Member Daniel Perron and Executive Director Tina Saryeddine appeared before the Standing committee on Finance to present our recommendations pre-Budget 2020. We have recently made a new submission pre-Budget 2021 seeking assistance for municipalities; protection of our supply of volunteer, paid on call and part-time firefighters; and seeking further mental health supports for first responders on the front line.

By March, COVID-19 began. The CAFC placed a moratorium on all committee meetings, and began attending weekly meetings with Public Safety Canada's Critical Infrastructure Network. ECIN allowed us to provide key messages to government including a reminder that CAFC members are in fact part of a tiered health system, a fact that the Redefining Fire Group's report helped to solidify. We invited all chiefs to join the CAFC bypassing the traditional financial constraints by providing a free account to chiefs who have never held a CAFC membership. To this effect, I remind all members that CAFC is for all fire chiefs whether your department is small, rural or volunteer or large metropolitan. Our strength is in our number and in our unity.

Despite COVID-19, there have been other important developments in our work as an association. We are pleased this year to release *A Fire Service for All*, the action plan and report resulting from the women chiefs meeting in Calgary and a statement on diversity and inclusion following race-related incidences. We have worked with partners to help advance R2MR training and access to e-CBT in Saskatchewan and shortly in Quebec. We will also be releasing *Changing Minds*, a report of the Mental Health Committee focussing on the current policy landscape and our recommendations for next steps.

Finally, we are looking forward to being together virtually at Fire Rescue Canada 2020. This will be a new experience for all of us, but we will continue as a community to learn and grow, continuously and uninterrupted.

- ~ ***Fire Chief John McKearney***, Whistler Fire Rescue Service
CAFC President & Chair of the Board
- ~ ***Fire Chief Peter Krich***, City of Camrose Fire Department
National Advisory Council Chair



Names and Affiliation of the National Advisory Council Members

From left to right: Ret. Chief Phil Lemire (White Rock, BC), Director Graham Pawlett (CVFSA), Chief Rod Nielsen (Brookfield, NS), Chair, Chief Peter Krich (Camrose, AB), Fire Marshall Patrice Bouffard (DND), Co-Chair, Chief Richard Amnotte (Lévis, QC), Deputy Chief Gerard McMahon (Charlottetown, PEI), Chief John Fredericks (Yellowknife, NWT), Chief Rick Arnel (Essex, ON), Chief Arnold Lazare (AFAC), Chief Brad Yochim (Virden, MB), and Chief Kevin Eskra (Churchbridge, SK). Missing from photo: Chief Joe Power (Labrador); Chief Paul Hutt (Ottawa); Blaine Wiggins (AFAC); Mike McKenna (North Hatley); Chief John Lane (Winnipeg); Marshal Ted Clouter (Nunavut); Fire Chief David McKinley (Fredericton); Fire and Chief Greg Jones (Amherst).



Names and Affiliations of the Board Members

From right to left, back row: CAFC President Chief John McKearney (Whistler); Chief Ken McMullen (Red Deer); Chief Vince Mackenzie (Grand Falls Windsor); Chief Daniel Perron (Marguerite d'Youville); Deputy Chief Keri Martens (Canmore); Deputy Chief Dan McCoy (Kennebecasis Valley); front row: CAFC Past President Chief Ken Block (Australia).



From the Committees and Councils

Answer the Call

Members: Deputy Chief Todd Binkley, Brantford FD, ON; Chief Dustin Curry, Tumbler Ridge FD, AB; Chief Rob Evans, Redwood Meadows Emerg. Services, AB; Chief Chris Harrow, Minto Fire, ON; Deputy Chief Dan Heney, Bonnyville Regional Fire Authority, AB; Chief Greg Jones, Amherst FD, NS; Chief Peter Krich, City of Camrose FD, AB; Chief Robert Krause, Burns Lake Fire Rescue, BC; Chief Vince MacKenzie (Chair), Grand Falls Windsor FD, NL; Deputy Chief Keri Martens, Canmore Fire Rescue, AB; Graham Pawlett, Canadian Vol. FS Assoc. BC; Directeur Alain Pharand, Service incendie Varennes, QC; Chief Brad Yochim, Wallace District FD, MB

- The Answer the Call Committee will be taking the lead on policy issues affecting volunteer fire departments and firefighters, working closely with the Canadian Volunteer Fire Service Association.
- We will continue to advance the "Answer the Call Campaign".



Building Codes Committee

Members: Deputy Chief Todd Binkley, Brantford FD, ON; Deputy Chief Russel Croome, Edmonton Fire Rescue Services, AB; Fire Marshal Sean Cunningham, Parkland County FS, AB; Chief Trevor Dackow, RM of Morris FD, MB; Chief John Fredericks, Yellowknife Fire Division, NWT; Deputy Chief Ken Hubbard, Airdrie FD, AB; Chief Ian Josephson, Chilliwack FD, BC; Chief Keven Lefebvre, Leduc County FS, AB; Brian McBain, ULC, NS; Shayne Mintz, NFPA, ON; Ret. Chief FP Gaetan Morinville (CoChair), Dept. of National Defense; Assistant Chief Steve Robinson; Kamloops Fire Rescue, BC; Ret. Chief John Siggers, AB; Peter Simpson, Dayspring & District FD, NS; Ret. Deputy Chief Brian Smith, NS; Ret. Dept. Chief Sean Tracey (Co-Chair), Ottawa, ON; Assistant Chief Pat Walker, Township of Langley FD, BC

- The Codes Commission is entering into a new five-year codes cycle. We have participated in providing names for representation and feedback on the process.
- The Committee is pursuing a paper on the incentives that help to enable sprinklering. Watch for a survey and engagement process coming soon.

- CAFC is participating on the CCBFC floor joists committee which we expect to see addressed in the codes.

Interoperability

Members: Monty Armstrong, Township of Langley FD, BC; Stephanie Bremer, Campbell River Fire Rescue, BC; Deputy Chief Dave Elloway, Guelph FD, ON; AD Chief Jonathan Evans, Red Deer Emergency Services, AB; Chief Greg Jones, Amherst FD, NS; Deputy Chief Dan McCoy, Kennebecasis Valley FD, NB; Denis Pilon, Ret. Chief, Regina, SK; Assistant Chief Steve Robinson, Kamloops Fire Rescue, BC; DC Bryan Singleton (Chair), Edmonton Fire Rescue Services, AB

- This committee has supported CAFC's representation on Public Safety Canada's Temporary ational Coordinating Office which is in charge with building out the Public Safety Broadband Network.
- A decision has been made to wind down CITIG as a formal entity and a new advocacy mechanism will be sought to advance the PSBN.

Dangerous Goods, Industry & Infrastructure

Members: Chief Craig Anderson, Imperial Oil FD, ON; Sheldon Barker, Public Safety Canada - CSC BC; Deputy Chief Todd Binkley, Brantford FS, ON; Chief Steve Byford, Taylor Fire Rescue, BC; Chief Chris Case, Chatham-Kent Fire & Emerg. Services, ON; Chief Kevin Clifford, Saint John FD, NB; Brian Ladds, Calgary FD, AB; Captain Bruce Lake, Halifax Regional Fire & Emerg., NS; Chief Ed Melanson, Fort Erie FD, ON; Chef de Div. Daniel Perron (Chair), MRC de Marguerite d'Youville, QC; Directeur Alain Pharand, Service incendie Varennes, QC; Chief Corey Schram, St. Albert FS, AB; Deputy Chief Ken Uzeloc, Calgary FD, AB; Chief Jason Whiteley, North Bay Fire & Emerg. Services, ON

- We worked with Fertilizer Canada and the Canadian Gas Association on their updated education packages.
- We provided representation of the fire sector in the issue of e-shipping and helped to select research projects for Transport Canada.
- We continue to participate at the Federal General Policy Advisory Council which provides advice on dangerous goods.

Redefining Fire Committee

Members: Chair Deputy Chief Broderick Moore, City of Leduc FS; Chief Rob Evans, Redwood Meadows ES; Deputy Chief Chad Cooper, City of Prince Rupert; Division Chief Michael Boyle, Kennebecasis Valley FD; Assistant Chief Ihor Holowczynsky, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service; Chief Daniel Perron, MRC de Marguerite d'Youville; Ret. Deputy Chief Allan Ball; Deputy Chief Jeremy Inglis, Fort Erie FD; Chief Dustin Curry, Tumbler Ridge FD

- Release of report Redefining Fire. Check it out on the CAFC website!
- This committee has completed its mandate with thanks from the CAFC Board and membership.

Diversity & Inclusion & Women's Network

Members: Directeur Adjoint Richard Amnotte, Sécurité Incendie - Ville de Lévis, QC; Deputy Chief Todd Binkley, Brantford FD, AB; Division Chief Michael Boyle, Kennebecasis Valley Fire Depart., NB; Deputy Chief Amber Coleman, Parkland County FS, AB; Captain Scott Cowan, Calgary FD, AB; Deputy Chief Danny Freeman, Okotoks FD, AB; Deputy Chief Keri Martens (co-Chair) Canmore Fire Rescue, AB; Deputy Chief Broderick Moore, City of Leduc FS, AB; Deputy Chief Jeremy Parkin, Rama Fire Rescue Service, ON; Assistant Chief Nadya-Lise Paré, Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency, NS; Chief Deryn Rizzi, Vaughan Fire & Rescue Service, ON; Deputy Chief McGregor Saunders, City of North Bay, ON; Chief Michael Seth, Cape Breton Regionla FS, ON; Chief Ken Stuebing; Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency, NS; Assistant Chief Anthony Tataryn, Saskatoon FD, SK; Deputy Chief Ken Uzeloc, Calgary FD, AB; Laurie VandeSchoot (co-Chair), Ret. Calgary, AB

- Release of report "A Fire Service for All" coming on the CAFC website.
- Release of CAFC's Diversity and Inclusion Statement.

Mental Health – Firefighter Wellness Committee

Members: Chief Rick Arnel Essex Fire & Rescue, ON; Sheldon Barker, Public Safety Canada CSC, BC; Deputy Chief Todd Binkley, Brantford FS, ON; Chief Rob Collins, Town of The Blue Mountains, ON; Captain Scott Cowan, Calgary FD, AB; Deputy Chief Russ Drohomereski, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, MB; Deputy Chief Danny Freeman, Okotoks FD, AB; Chief John Heffernan, Conception Bay South FD, NFL; Reg. Deputy Chief Dan Heney, Bonnyville AB; Deputy Chief Dan McCoy, Kennebecasis Valley FD, NB; Chief Ken McMullen (Chair), Red Deer Emergency Services, AB; Assistant Chief Steve Robinson, Kamloops Fire Rescue, BC; James Rychard, Burlington FD, ON; Chief Brent Thomas, Orillia FD, ON; Bernie Van Tighem, Lakeland Coll., Emerg. Training Ctr., AB; Division Chief Shawn White, Kennebecasis Valley Fire Depart., NB; Scott Wilkinson, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, MN

- Release of report "Changing Minds".
- Capacity building sessions expected through CIPSRT/Motorola Foundation for R2MR across the country restarting in November.
- Through CIPSRT e-CBT for depression anxiety and other disorders has been launched in Saskatchewan and Quebec.

Executive Chief Fire Officer Council

Members: Ret. Chief Phil Lemire, FCABC; Division Chief Mike Boyle, Kennebecasis Valley FD, NB; Trevor Brice, Meota, SK; FS Mgr. Dean Colthorp, First Nations' Emerg. Serv. Society, BC; Deputy Chief Adam Eckhart, Welland Fire & Emergency Services, ON; Chief Brian Hutchinson, Dist. of North Vancouver Fire & Rescue, BC; Chief Greg Jones, Amherst FD, NS; Chief Len MacCharles, Nelson Fire & Rescue Services, BC; Deputy Chief Linda Masson, Airdrie FD, AB; Chief John McKearney, Whistler Fire Rescue Service, BC; Chief Rod Nielson, Brookfield Fire & Emergency Services, NS; Chief Jim Sawkins, Town of Erin Fire & Emergency Services, ON; Monty Armstrong, Township of Langley FD

- Congratulations to the 2020 cohort of Chief Executive Officers and our bursary winners who will be recognized at the Celebration of Excellence.

- This year we have renamed the program formerly called the ECFO *Candidate* program which was intended for individuals not in a chief fire officer position and thus not eligible for the ECFO *per se* to ECFO Aspire program.

Best Practices Committee

Members: Deputy Chief Amber Coleman, Parkland County FS, AB; Fire Service Manager Dean Colthorp, First Nations' Emerg. Serv. Society, BC; Assit. Chief Ihor Holowczynsky (Chair), Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, MB; Shayne Mintz, NFPA; Deputy Chief Broderick Moore, City of Leduc FS, AB; Chef de Division Daniel Perron, MRC de Marguerite d'Youville, QC; James Rychard, Burlington FD, ON; Deputy Chief David Meldrum, Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency, NS; Assistant Chief Anthony Tataryn, Saskatoon FD, SK; Chief Brad Yochim, Wallace District FD, MB

- Chiefs Chat Room has been launched and is growing in use. We encourage all members to use it.
- Review of Red Book for release in 2021.
- Continuing to grow the fire researcher database.



Resolutions, Bylaws and Nominations Committee

Members: Dean Clark, AB Office of the Fire Commissioner, AB; Fire Serv. Mgr. Dean Colthorp (co-Chair) First Nations' Emerg. Serv. Society, BC; Chief Rob Evans, Redwood Meadows Emerg. Service, AB; Deputy Chief Tyler Pelke, Red Deer Emergency Services, AB; Chief Jim Sawkins Town of Erin Fire & Emerg. Serv, ON; Chief Andy Thiessen, City of Morden, MB; Chief Jason Whiteley (Co-Chair) North Bay Fire & Emerg. Services, ON

- Update of the 2010 CAFC Manual focussing on all resolutions is underway with all committees.
- Supplementing e-voting for election is e-voting for resolutions and management of virtual AGM.



From the Committees and Councils

Membership Committee

Members: Dir. adj. Richard Amnotte (Chair), Levis, QC; Chief Vince MacKenzie, Grand Falls Windsor FD, Nfld; Deputy Chief Dan McCoy Kennebecasis Valley FD, NB; Chief Cam Abrey, Dauphin FD, MB; Major David Jane, Department of National Defense; Fire Service Mgr. Dean Colthorp, First Nations' Emerg. Serv. Society, BC; Chief Tim Tomczynski, Tulita Fire Rescue, NWT; Chief Jim Sawkins, Town of Erin FD, ON

- Has prepared a membership action plan for 2019 and 2020 which is successfully increasing membership.
- Welcome to ASIQC and CAFC members in Quebec who have joined for the first time.
- Welcome to research affiliate members of the CAFC.

Heavy Urban Search and Rescue Committee

Members: Chair Chief Matthew Pegg, Toronto FS; Regional Fire Safety Officer Sheldon Barker, Public Safety Canada - CSC; Chief John Fredericks, Yellowknife Fire Division; Chief Brian Hutchinson, District of North Vancouver Fire & Rescue; Deputy Chief Susan Henry, Calgary Emergency Management Agency; Amanda Kistindey, ERT-SAR; Chief John Lane, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service; Chief Mike Owens, Port Alberni FD; Tobin Praznik, Office of the Fire Commissioner; Chief Darrell Reid, Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services; Chief Tom Sampson, Calgary Emergency Management Agency

- CAFC and several of the Chiefs heading HUSAR teams sit at Public Safety Canada's Search and Rescue Advisory Council.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Committee

Members: Sheldon Barker, Public Safety Canada - CSC, BC; Chief Dave Robertson, South Glengarry FS, ON; Chief Rob Evans, Redwood Meadows Emerg. Services, AB; Fire Marshal Sean Cunningham, Parkland County FS, AB; Shayne Mintz, NFPA, ON; Assistant Chief Steve Robinson, Kamloops Fire Rescue, BC; Regional Chief Steven Debiegne, Clearwater Reg. Fire Resc.; Service Assistant Chief Walt Warner, Dist. of N Vancouver Fire & Rescue; Chief Marty Wellwood, Grey Highlands Fire & Emerg. Services, ON; Scott Wilkinson (Chair), Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service; Division Chief Shawn White, Kennebecasis Valley Fire Depart., NB; Chief Brad YochimWallace District FD, MB

- Is monitoring and providing feedback on regulatory issues related to drones/UAVs to Transport Canada.

Fire Prevention Committee

Members: Chef de Division Chantal Bibeau, SSI de Laval, QC; Fire Marshal Sean Cunningham, AB; Parkland County FS, AB; Chief Dustin Curry, Tumbler Ridge FD, BC; Assistant Deputy Chief Jon Evans, Red Deer Emergency Services, AB; Chef de Division Daniel Perron (Chair), MRC de Marguerite d'Youville, QC; Deputy Chief Ken Hubbard, Airdrie FD, AB; Deputy Chief Ken Uzeloc, Calgary FD, AB; Division Chief Mike Boyle, Kennebecasis Valley FD, NB; Assistant Chief Steve Robinson, Kamloops Fire Rescue, BC

- Preparing for Fire Prevention Week.
- Reviewing past resolutions of the CAFC as they pertain to Fire Prevention (2010-2020).
- Exploring adaptation of provincial best practice guidelines.

Any errors or omissions are unintended. Please do advise the CAFC office if corrections are needed.



CAFC Financial Status and Treasurer's Report



Chief Daniel Perron
CAFC Treasurer

On behalf of the Finance and Audit Committee of the CAFC it is my pleasure to present the audited financial statements of the CAFC for 2019. Let me begin by thanking all of the members, sponsors and partners for their support of the CAFC. Each membership and contribution matters to us.

You can see in our audited statements that the CAFC has a healthy and balanced statement with a small surplus which we reinvest in the association in the form of capacity building or free memberships for those who have never been with the CAFC.

With thanks to our investment advisor we have successfully so far weathered the storm in the markets moving our investments to less aggressive but more secure holdings.

FRC 2019 did not do quite as well financially as FRC 2018, however, we were fortunate to have the support of new partners and contracted projects which more than made up the difference.

Given the surplus we were fortunate to have in 2019, the Board made the decision to write off several accounts receivable from 2017 and 2018's Fire Rescue Canada conferences as bad debt.

This clears the books and allows our bookkeeping and new conference planning team to pursue a more systematic and centralized method for collecting outstanding payments in the future.

Overall, we have had a good year financially and a clean audit. We are in a healthy position, poised to continue our growth, withstand the changing fortunes of time if need be, and strengthen our impact in the fire sector.

Thank you all for your support.