From the Chiefs ~ Rising to the Challenge:

AN ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

Covering the 12-month period September 2020 - August 2021 and fiscal year ending December 31, 2021











As we reflect on the past 12 months at CAFC, what stands out to us most is the rising of our collaborative efforts in the face of many challenges. For this reason, this Annual Report is dedicated to all of you, our members, particularly our committee members and National Advisory Council, whose selfless dedication of time on our collective behalf, has made all the difference.

We started the year with a new strategic plan. Standing on the shoulders of its predecessor, the new plan reflects the evolving role of the fire chief as emergency manager and in service of both public health and safety. It keeps our governance structures and focus on policy, research and advocacy. It adds two new pillars. The first is "Messaging in Service of the Sector" which seeks to amplify your voice in the public, media and government. The second is "a CAFC for All", in other words, whether your department is small, medium or large; volunteer, composite or career, rural, urban or metropolitan; and no matter how you identify as an individual, we recognize that our strength is in our number and in our unity. It is also increasingly in our diversity.

Last year, the Prime Minister acknowledged and took action to address the challenge of protecting Volunteer Firefighters through the emergency response benefit during COVID. Recognizing cracks in the foundation of the definition of volunteer firefighter, we ran the Great Canadian Volunteer Firefighter Census engaging over 1,200 departments this year. We now have a new consensus definition and new data on the structure of the fire service.

Recently, the Federal Government enacted our resolution to make fire departments eligible for the Gas Tax Fund. We offered new and freely available training programs including the popular "Ask the Lawyers Sessions" and "Rapid Response in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion" program. We did the "Celebration Series", featuring the advice and celebration of women leaders. We are making progress in understanding our role in Truth and Reconciliation with our friends and partners at the National

Indigenous Fire Safety Council. We have a new Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Award. To those who pushed, made space, joined, stood up, stood out, or offered, we thank you.

We have also made tremendous progress on technical issues. Our Building Codes Committee has prepared a new approach to advancing sprinklers in our country and created technical updates. Our Dangerous Goods Committee has launched a library of resources and worked with Transport Canada. Our Best Practices Committee has launched an updated version of the Red Book on general administration, select operations, and ceremonial traditions. Our Resolutions Committee has launched a policy roadmap. Our RPAS/SAR committee has earned a significant grant. Our mental health committee is shaping federal funding policy.

There isn't room here to talk about every committee, but I hope each of you will take the time to come to the Open Houses, meet the members, and get to know each other. Maybe, in 2022, you'll join a new committee too.

As I sign off on this annual report, an election is in full swing and climate emergencies are everywhere. Campaign promises already propose training and equipment for firefighters in wildland urban interface. Our challenge will be to make sure that this is accessible to all departments. As a new government or a newly configured government takes the stage, we will be ready, together, to keep improving our sector for those who come after us. Thank you for your dedication and support of our association. We wish you all the very best in the year ahead.

Fire Chief John McKearney
Whistler Fire Rescue Service, CAFC President
& Chair of the Board





Some Highlights from the Year



CAFC's new strategic plan introduces a renewed mission and vision reflecting the evolving role of fire departments in service of public health and safety.



The CAFC Library is a collection of resources identified by CAFC committees for members.



The Best Practices Committee releases the updated Red Book 2.0 containing select general administration, operational and ceremonial quidelines.



Resolutions submitted over the past two decades are summarized in the Resolutions Road Map, providing a comprehensive set of CAFC policies.



CAFC partners with Firefighting in Canada on a Celebration Series interviews with women leaders, learning their experiences and recommendations.



Close to 100 fire chiefs participated in the "Rapid Response in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion" course, funded by the Motorola Solutions Foundation.



The Building Codes Committee has begun a series called "Comments on Codes". It has also completed a new report on Sprinkler Incentives.



CAFC partnered with Transport Canada on the sandbox pilot project on e-shipping. Find out which companies are in the pilot and what it means.





The CAFC's Fire Prevention Committee launches the Fire Chiefs Ask, a social media campaign providing common monthly messages from the Fire Chiefs.



Have a question? Ask the Lawyers. This year, premier Human Resources and Labour Relations Lawyers Ross Dunsmore and James LeNoury hosted free sessions.



The ECFO program continues to grow in Canada with over 121 graduates and our first woman ECFO holder.



Over 1200 departments participated in the Great Canadian Volunteer Firefighter Census.



CAFC Financial Status and Treasurer's Report

Chief Daniel Perron

Marguerite d'Youville, CAFC Treasurer & Member of the Board

On behalf of the Finance and Audit Committee of the CAFC it is my pleasure to present the Treasurer's Report reflecting on the audited financial statements of the CAFC for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2020. You will find these statements on the AGM 2021 page of CAFC's website. Our thanks to Numetrica and to Nephin Winter and Bingley who provide bookkeeping and accounting, and auditing services to us, respectively.

The COVID-19 pandemic would affect many organizations financially. The CAFC was no exception. CAFC's statement of income shows a significantly leaner operation. Anticipating a cut in revenues, we proactively cut our expenses. We did more with less. However, our net assets remain a healthy \$1.3M and we have again run a small surplus. We were fortunate to have been released from

contractual obligations associated with the in person version of Fire Rescue Canada and to have received new grants, awards and contracts. We eliminated all non essential expenditures and recast our budget. We renegotiated contracts, deferred hiring a vacant position, and operated within our means.

At the same time we were grateful that membership numbers continued to grow. We closed 2020 with 890 members in good standing. We are so grateful for your support. We also thank our partners who have entrusted us with contracts and our sponsors for standing by us at such a difficult time.

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, and with the ability to strengthen our impact in the fire sector.

I close this statement with my personal thanks to the Board, to members, and to staff. I hand the role of Treasurer to my successor with pride as I step down from the CAFC board. I will look fondly upon my time with you. It has been a tremendous honour and pleasure. Stay strong, safe and together.





CAFC Committee Members

Answer the Call Committee: Directeur Alain Pharand, Service incendie Terrebonne, QC; Chief Brad Yochim, Wallace District FD, MB; Chief Chris Harrow, Minto Fire, ON; Deputy Chief Dan Heney, Bonnyville Regional Fire Authority, AB; Chief Dan Verdun, County of Grand Prairie Regional Fire Service, AB; Chief Dave Murphy, Bonnechere Valley, ON; Chief Dustin Curry, Tumbler Ridge FD, AB; Graham Pawlett, Canadian Vol. FS Assoc. BC; Chief Greg Jones, Amherst FD, NS; Chief Ivana Irwin, Leduc County, AB; Chief Jeannine Caldbeck, Thetis Island Fire Dept., BC; Deputy Chief Keri Martens, Canmore Fire Rescue, AB; Chief Michael Seth, Cape Breton Regional Fire & ES, NS; Captain Neil Donovan, Gibsons & District Volunteer FD, BC; Chief Peter Krich, City of Camrose FD, AB; Chief Rob Collins, Huntsville — Lake of Bays Fire Dept., ON; Chief Rob Evans, Redwood Meadows Emerg. Services, AB; Chief Robert Krause, Burns Lake Fire Rescue, BC; Reg. Fire Chief Steve Debienne, Clearwater Reg. Fire Rescue Services, AB; Deputy Reg. Chief Thomas Jukes, Wheatland County Fire Services, AB; Deputy Chief Todd Binkley, Brantford FD, ON; Chief Vince MacKenzie (Chair), Grand Falls Windsor FD, NL.

Best Practices Committee: Deputy Chief Amber Coleman, Parkland County FS, AB; Assistant Chief Anthony Tataryn, Saskatoon FD, SK; Chief Brad Yochim, Wallace District FD, MB; Chief Brian Cornforth, Parkland County Fire Service, AB; Deputy Chief Broderick Moore, City of Leduc Fire Services, AB; Chef de Division Daniel Perron, MRC de Marguerite d'Youville, QC; Deputy Chief David Meldrum, Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency, NS; Fire Service Manager Dean Colthorp, First Nations' Emerg. Serv. Society, BC; Chief Harold Lowe, Gander Fire Rescue, NL; Assit. Chief Ihor Holowczynsky (Chair), Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, MB; Deputy Chief Ivana Irwin, Leduc County, AB; James Rychard, Burlington Fire Department, ON; Captain Jeff Cragg, Rocky View County Fire Service, AB; Captain Lionel Charron, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, MB; Chief Michael Seth, Cape Breton Regional Fire & ES, NS; Shayne Mintz, NFPA, ON; Deputy Chief Stephen Melanson, Mill Bay, BC.

Building Codes Committee: Brian McBain, ULC, NS; Retired Deputy Chief Brian Smith, NS; Chef de Div. Chantal Bibeau (Co-Chair), SSI de Laval, QC; Chief Colin Lahey, Burlington Fire Department, ON; RET Chief FP Gaetan Morinville (Co-Chair), Dept. Of National Defense, ON; Chief lan Josephson, Chilliwack Fire Department, BC; Chief John Fredericks, Yellowknife Fire Division, NWT; Retired Chief John Siggers, Halifax Regional Fire & Emerg., AB; Deputy Chief Ken Hubbard, Airdrie Fire Department, AB; Kevan D. Jess, SouthFire Resources, AB; Chief Keven Lefebvre, Leduc County Fire Services, AB; Rick Cheung, City of Vancouver, BC; Deputy Chief Russel Croome, Edmonton Fire Rescue Services, AB; Fire Marshal Sean Cunningham, Parkland County Fire Services, AB; RET Dept. Chief Sean Tracey (Co- Chair), Ottawa Fire Services, ON; Shayne Mintz, NFPA, ON; Assistant Chief Steve Robinson, Kamloops Fire Rescue, BC; Chief Thomas Doherty, Campbell River Fire Department, BC; Deputy Chief Todd Binkley, Brantford Fire Department, ON; Chief Trevor Dackow, RM of Morris Fire Department, MB; Assistant Chief Yvonne Raymer, Saskatoon Fire Department, SK.

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

Data Committee: Assistant Chief Andre Berard, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, MB; Chief Bill Boyes, Brampton Fire & Emergency Services, ON; Chief Brian Cornforth, Parkland County, AB; Deputy Chief Chad Moore, Parkland County Fire Services, AB; Chief Chris Case, Chatham-Kent Fire, ON; Chief Dana Terry, Lethbridge Fire & Emerg. Services, AB; Chef de Division Daniel Perron (Co-Chair), MRC de Marguerite d'Youville, QC; Chef de Div. Dave Waterhouse, Service sécurité incendie — Montréal, QC; Chief Harold Lowe, Gander Fire Rescue, NFL; Captain Jeff Cragg, Rocky View County Fire Service, AB; Deputy Chief Keri Martens, Canmore Fire Department, AB; Chief Keven Lefebvre (Chair), Leduc County Fire Services, AB; Chief Larry Thomas, Surrey Fire Service, BC; Chief Michael Seth, Cape Breton Regional Fire & ES, NS; Dir. adj. Richard Amnotte, Sécurité Incendie - Ville de Levis, QC; Division Chief Scott Ramey, Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency, NS; Regional Chief Shayne Milliken, Lamont County Emergency Services, AB; Shayne Mintz, NFPA, ON; Deputy Chief Stephen Barkwell, Oshawa Fire Services, ON; Deputy Chief Stephen Melanson, Mill Bay Fire Department, BC; Division Chief Stephen Nearing, Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency, NS; Deputy Chief Wayne Kennedy, Dist. of N. Vancouver Fire & Rescue, BC.

Drones, Robotics, and SAR Committee: Amanda Kistindey, ERT-SAR, ON; Assistant Chief Anastasia Turner, Vancouver Fire & Rescue, BC; Assistant Chief Andre Berard, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, MB; Chief Brad Yochim, Wallace District Fire Department, MB; Ret. Chief Dale McLean, Kamloops/ Edmonton, AB; Chief Dave Murphy, Bonnechere Valley, ON; Chief Dave Robertson South Glengarry Fire Service, ON; Chief John Fredericks, Yellowknife Fire Division, NWT; Chief John Lane, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, MB; Chief Mike Owens, Port Alberni Fire Department, BC; Chief Rob Evans, Redwood Meadows Emerg. Services, AB; Scott Wilkinson (Co-Chair), Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, MB; Fire Marshal Sean Cunningham, Parkland County Fire Services, AB; Shayne Mintz, NFPA, ON; Division Chief Shawn White, Kennebecasis Valley Fire Depart., NB; Sheldon Barker, PSC-CSC, BC; Chief Steve Debienne (Co-Chair), Clearwater Reg. Fire Rescue Services, AB; Steve Larose, Sécurité Incendie - Ville de Levis, QC; Assistant Chief Steve Robinson, Kamloops Fire Rescue, BC; Chief Steve Welton, Hamilton Fire Department, ON; Assistant Chief Walt Warner, Dist. of N Vancouver Fire & Rescue, BC.

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee: Deputy Chief Amber Coleman, Parkland County FS, AB; Assistant Chief Anthony Tataryn, Saskatoon FD, SK; Deputy Chief Broderick Moore, City of Leduc FS, AB; Carol-Lynn Chambers, Western University, ON; Deputy Chief Danny Freeman, Okotoks FD, AB; Deputy Chief Danny Freeman, Okotoks Fire Department, AB; Chief Deryn Rizzi, Vaughan Fire & Rescue Service, ON; Deputy Chief Jeremy Parkin, Rama Fire Rescue Service, ON; Chief Ken Stuebing; Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency, NS; Deputy Chief Ken Uzeloc, Calgary FD, AB; Deputy Chief Keri Martens (Co-Chair) Canmore Fire Rescue, AB; Laurie VandeSchoot (Co-Chair), Ret. Calgary, AB; Lieutenant Marianne Boychuck, Regina Fire & Protection Services, SK; Deputy Chief Mcgregor Saunders, City of North Bay, ON; Division Chief Michael Boyle, Kennebecasis Valley Fire Depart., NB; Chief Michael Seth, Cape Breton Regionla FS, ON; Assistant Chief Nadya-Lise Paré, Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency, NS; Directeur Adjoint Richard Amnotte, Sécurité Incendie - Ville de Levis, QC; Captain Scott Cowan, Calgary FD, AB; Deputy Chief Todd Binkley, Brantford Fire Department, ON.

Fire Prevention and Emergency Preparedness Committee: Chef de Div. Chantal Bibeau (Co-Chair), SSI de Laval, QC; Chief Dustin Curry, Tumbler Ridge Fire Department, BC; Director Erick Peterson, Williams Lake Fire Department, BC; Chief Jason G Woodbury, Miscouche, PEI; Assistant Deputy Chief Jon Evans, Red Deer Emergency Services, AB; Deputy Chief Ken Hubbard, Airdrie Fire Department, AB; Deputy Chief Ken Uzeloc, Calgary Fire Department, AB; Kevan D. Jess, SouthFire Resources, AB; Lieutenant Marianne Boychuck, Regina Fire and Protective Services, SK; Division Chief Mike Boyle (Co-Chair), Kennebecasis Valley Fire Department, NB; Fire Marshal Sean Cunningham, Parkland County Fire Services, AB; Sheldon



Barker, Public safety Canada-CSC, BC; Steve Larose, Sécurité Incendie — Ville de Levis, QC; Assistant Chief Steve Robinson, Kamloops Fire Rescue, BC.

Interoperability Committee: DC Bryan Singleton (Chair), Edmonton Fire Rescue Services, AB; Deputy Chief Dan McCoy, Kennebecasis Valley FD, NB; Deputy Chief Dave Elloway, Guelph FD, ON; Denis Pilon, Ret. Chief, Regina, SK; Chief Greg Jones, Amherst FD, NS; Chief Larry Thomas, Surrey Fire Service, BC; Chief Michael Seth, Cape Breton Regional Fire & ES, NS; Monty Armstrong, Township of Langley FD, BC; Stephanie Bremer, Campbell River Fire Rescue, BC; Assistant Chief Steve Robinson, Kamloops Fire Rescue, BC; DC Wayne Kennedy, Dist. Of N. Vancouver Fire & Rescue, BC.

Mental Health and Wellness Committee: Bernie Van Tighem, Lakeland Coll., Emerg. Training Ctr., AB; Chief Brent Thomas, Orillia Fire Department, ON; Carol-Lynn Chambers, Western University, ON; Deputy Chief Danny Freeman, Okotoks Fire Department, AB; Reg. Deputy Chief Dan Heney, Bonnyville Regional Fire Authority, AB; Deputy Chief Dan McCoy, Kennebecasis Valley Fire Dept., NB; Assistant Chief Dawn Nash, Strathcona Fire Department, AB; Georgette Reed, Edmonton Fire Rescue Services, AB; Deputy Chief Ivana Irwin, Leduc County Fire Service, AB; James Rychard, Burlington Fire Department, ON; Chief John Heffernan, Conception Bay South Fire Dept., NFL; Deputy Chief Judy Unsworth, Town of Strathmore Fire Dept., AB; Chief Karen Fry, Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services, BC; Chief Ken McMullen (Chair), Red Deer Emergency Services, AB; Lieutenant Mary Fischer, Calgary Fire Department, Calgary, AB; Deputy Chief Monique Belair, Oakville Fire Department, ON; Captain Pike Krpan, Hamilton Fire Department, ON; Chief Rick Arnel, Essex Fire & Rescue, ON; Chief Rob Collins, Huntsville – Lake of Bays Fire Dept., ON; Deputy Chief Russ Drohomereski, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, MB; Captain Scott Cowan, Calgary Fire Department, AB; Division Chief Shawn White, Kennebecasis Valley Fire Depart., NB; Scott Wilkinson, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, MB; Sheldon Barker, Public Safety Canada CSC, BC; Chief Sherry Colford, St. John's Regional Fire Department, NFL; Assistant Chief Steve Robinson, Kamloops Fire Rescue, BC; Deputy Chief Todd Binkley, Brantford Fire Services, ON.

Resolutions, Bylaws and Nominations Committee: Chief Andy Thiessen, City of Morden, BC; Dean Clark, AB Office of the Fire Commissioner, AB; Fire Serv. Mgr. Dean Colthorp (Co-Chair), First Nations' Emergency Serv. Society, BC; Chief Jason Whiteley (Co-Chair), North Bay Fire & Emergency Services, ON; Chief Jim Sawkins, Town of Erin Fire & Emergency Services, ON; Chief Rob Evans, Redwood Meadows Emergency Services, AB; Deputy Chief Tyler Pelke, Red Deer Emergency Services, AB. Executive Chief Fire Officer Council Deputy Chief Adam Eckhart, Welland Fire & Emergency Services, ON; Chief Bill Stoner, Squamish Fire Rescue, BC; Chief Brian Hutchinson, Dist. of North Vancouver Fire & Rescue, BC; Fire Service Mgr. Dean Colthorp, First Nations' Emerg. Serv. Society, BC; Chief Greg Jones, Amherst Fire Department, NS; Chief Jim Sawkins, Town of Erin Fire & Emergency Services, ON; Chief John McKearney, Whistler Fire Rescue Service, BC; Chief John Paradis, Stratford Fire Department, ON; Division Chief Mike Boyle, Kennebecasis Valley Fire Department, NB; Deputy Chief Monty Armstrong, Guelph Fire Department, ON; Chief Phil Lemire (Chair), White Rock Fire Rescue, BC; Chief Rod Nielson, Brookfield Fire & Emergency Services, NS; Chief Trevor Brice, Okotoks Fire Department, AB.

Social Media and Membership Committee: Chief Cam Abrey, Dauphin Fire Department, MB; Fire Service Mgr. Dean Colthorp, First Nations' Emerg. Serv. Society, BC; County Chief Drayton Bussiere, Lacombe County Fire Service, AB; Chief Jim Sawkins, Town of Erin Fire & Emerg. Services, ON; Chief Michael Seth, Cape Breton Regional Fire & ES, NS; Chef Mike Owens, Port Alberni Fire Department, BC; Deputy Chief Pete Steenaerts, Calgary Fire Department, AB; Dir. adj. Richard Amnotte (Co-Chair), Sécurité Incendie - Ville de Levis, QC; AD Chief Steve Welton, Hamilton Fire Department, ON; Chief Tim Tomczynski, Tulita Fire Rescue, NWT; Chief Vince MacKenzie (Co-Chair), Grand Falls Windsor Fire Dept., NL.

National Advisory Council Members: Ret. Chief Phil Lemire (White Rock, BC); Director Graham Pawlett (CVFSA); Chief Greg Jones (Amherst, NS); Chair, Chief Peter Krich (Camrose,

AB); Fire Marshall Patrice Bouffard (DND); Co-Chair, Directeur 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 Darren Fedorchuk (Swan River, MB); Chief Mike Kwasnica (Humboldt, SK); Chief Joe Power (Labrador City, NL); Chief Paul Hutt (Ottawa, ON); Chief Blaine Wiggins (AFAC); Chief Mike McKenna (CFFF); Chief John Lane (CMC); Chief Mark Wyatt (Rankin Inlet, NT); Fire Chief David McKinley (Fredericton, NB); Chief Chris Reynolds (Whitehorse, YT); Fire Commissioner Dereck Simmons (CCFMFC).

CAFC Board of Directors: President Chief John McKearney (Whistler, BC); Chief Ken McMullen, Vice President (Red Deer, AB); Chief Vince Mackenzie (Grand Falls Windsor, NL); Chief Daniel Perron, Treasurer, (Marguerite d'Youville, QB); Deputy Chief Keri Martens, Secretary (Canmore, AB); Deputy Chief Dan McCoy (Kennebecasis Valley, NB); Chief Keven Lefebvre (Leduc County, AB).

Staff: Rhea Laverdure (Coordinator Admin and Comms), Anabel Therrien (Manager Membership Services and Special Projects), Tina Saryeddine (Executive Director).



CAFC with partners CASARA, SARVAC and CERRA are proud to have received a grant from Public Safety Canada for this project.



Chief Ken McMullen and Chief Randy Schroeder received the Fire Chief of the Year Awards for 2020.



As part of our Motorola Solutions funding, CAFC has introduced a new award celebrating ED&I.