



PORT MOODY FIRE RESCUE

# 2021 Community Report



**PORT MOODY**  
CITY OF THE ARTS



## MESSAGE FROM MAYOR ROB VAGRAMOV

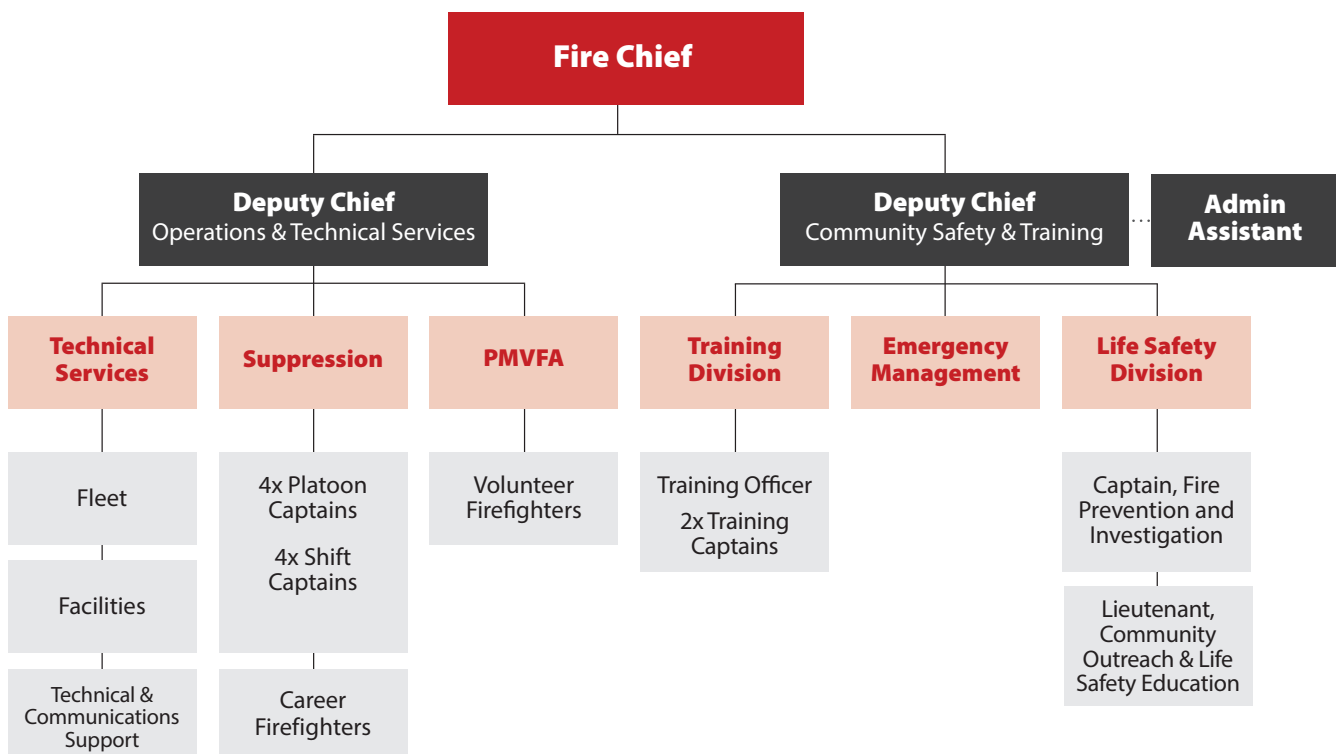


2021 was another challenging year. In addition to the continued impacts of the global COVID-19 pandemic, B.C. experienced a series of devastating emergencies including wildfires and floods. Over the summer, Port Moody Fire Rescue (PMFR) personnel were deployed to B.C.'s interior region multiple times to assist with significant wildfires. And in the fall, PMFR personnel responded to major flooding in Abbotsford, where they rescued several people and one very happy dog.

Through it all, PMFR continued to provide an extremely high level of service right here in Port Moody. The department's professional and highly-skilled staff provide a wide variety of critically important services, including fire suppression, fire prevention outreach, first responder medical calls, disaster response planning, and emergency management. Over the course of the year, PMFR personnel responded to 1,330 incidents, participated in 5,361 hours of training, and donated 2,250 hours to charitable events. Every year, I am impressed by the work done by the firefighters' charitable society. Their commitment to the community is steadfast; whether challenges come in the form of a global pandemic or extreme weather, they continue to support local agencies, non-profits, and Port Moody residents in any way they can.

Please take some time to read this Community Report, which provides a detailed look at the services PMFR provided in 2021. I'm extremely proud of their efforts and I hope you take great comfort in knowing that the professional and compassionate members of our fire department are ready to respond when needed and help us year-round to prevent fires, prepare for emergencies, and keep our community safe.

## DEPARTMENT STRUCTURE



## MESSAGE FROM FIRE CHIEF DARCEY O'RIORDAN



I am pleased to present the Port Moody Fire Rescue Community Report for 2021. The retirement of Chief Coulson in June and transfer of command ceremony initiated my tenure as Fire Chief for the City of Port Moody. I'd like to extend sincere appreciation for the confidence the City and community has entrusted in me as your new Fire Chief.

During 2021, Port Moody Fire Rescue remained resilient working through the challenges of the COVID-19 global pandemic. Our incident volume increased in 2021 to 1,300 emergency community responses, along with several provincial mutual aid events. In the summer months, we assisted the provincial wildfire state of emergency with deployments to the Cache Creek area and responded to our community during a significant heat dome. In the fall, we assisted our neighbours in the Fraser Valley with the historic atmospheric river flood event, providing marine rescue response with the newly operational zodiac fire boat. It seems climate change is affecting natural disasters and our level of response in an unprecedented way. PMFR also provided structure and oversight for our City's Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), which was activated with two emergency exercises in 2021, enabling EOC skill development for staff from all City departments.

The charitable society was able to host several socially distanced events. They engaged Port Moody's community by hosting the 44th annual pancake breakfast, the Dave Shefley charitable golf tournament, a pumpkin smash event, and two boot drives in support of Muscular Dystrophy Canada and the Fraser Valley floods. As the year closed, they hosted a toy drive and a Christmas tree chip event in support of the B.C. Professional Fire Fighters' Association Burn Fund.

Port Moody Fire Rescue prides itself on its dedication to community, and we will continue to be there for our city through the most difficult of times. In 2022 and beyond, we will continue to provide Port Moody with first-class emergency response.

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**MISSION STATEMENT:** Port Moody Fire Rescue is dedicated to minimizing injury, property loss, and environmental damage in our community in the event of fire, disaster, or other life-threatening incident. Through effective and timely response, prevention initiatives, progressive practices, education, and training, Port Moody aspires to be one of the safest communities in Canada.

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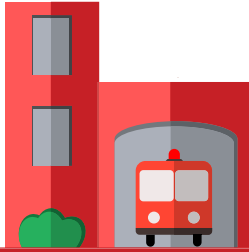
### FIRE RESCUE SERVICES DURING A PANDEMIC

Port Moody Fire Rescue responded to the pandemic by adjusting response plans to ensure the highest level of safety for staff and the public. New protocols included heightened pre-incident planning, reduced community programming, and altered inspections to target high-risk premises. Enhanced safety planning included limiting access to our two Fire Halls to ensure staff safety and capacity.



## PORT MOODY FIRE RESCUE

# 2021 BY THE NUMBERS



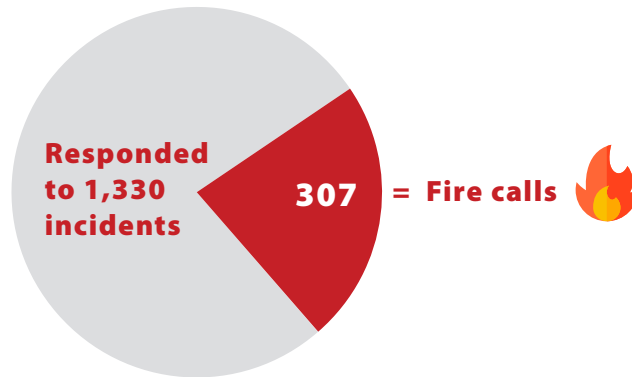
**2 Staffed Firehalls**

**45 career staff**  
**20 volunteers**  
**3 chief officers**  
**1 admin assistant**  
**- provide -**

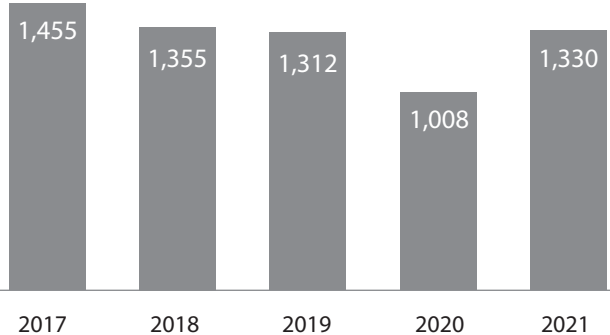
**24/7/365**

**emergency services to residents and visitors**

## 2021 Number of Incident Responses



**2017  
-2021  
Incident  
Trends**



Top

**5**

**Call Types**



**First Medical Responder**  
**663**



**Fire and Alarms**  
**307**



**General Assistance Calls**  
**173**



**Motor Vehicle Incident**  
**100**



**Hazardous Materials**  
**36**



**3pm**

is the most common time to get a call



**Friday**

is the most common day of the week to get a call



**August**

is the month with the most calls

Staff engaged in over **5,361 hours of training**  
to ensure readiness to respond to a variety of emergencies



## In the Community



**2,250**

hours of  
charity work



**\$100,000+**

raised  
in total

The PMFF's Charitable Society continuously gives back to the community through a number of events. They support the Eagle Ridge Hospital Foundation, Crossroads Hospice, the BC Professional Firefighters' Burn Fund, Muscular Dystrophy, the Cancer Drivers network, and the Tri-City Soroptomists.



**503**

number of regular fire  
inspections conducted



**17**

number of critical lifesaving  
medical interventions

## Budget Bites

- In 2021, Port Moody Fire Rescue had an operating budget of **\$9,238,463**
- **20%** of property taxes that go towards funding city services are used to fund Fire-Rescue.
- An average household paid **\$503** towards the department in 2021.

OTHER CITY SERVICES  
**80%**

PMFR  
**20%**



Staff conducted 86 public education events, including Inlet Fire Hall visits, educational events and school tours.

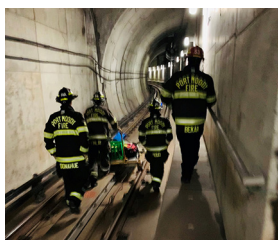


# WHAT WE DO



## OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Operations Division is responsible for fire suppression services, emergency medical responder services, life-safety/rescue response services, and specialized rescue services. Operations also assists in the delivery of community safety initiatives including premise inspections and public education programming. This Division also oversees the management of the Port Moody Fire Rescue apparatus fleet and Department facilities.



## TRAINING DIVISION

The Training Division is responsible for the planning, development, delivery, and evaluation of all training of Department staff. Industry best practices, regulatory requirements, and operational needs all drive the scope of the training programs. In 2021, the PMFR Training Division facilitated the delivery of 5,361 hours of training.



## COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

The Community Safety Division is responsible for all fire prevention services, life-safety educational programming, and community outreach initiatives. Members of this Division support Operations by providing fire investigative services. Fire prevention services include regular fire safety inspections, problem premise inspections, institutional inspections, fire and building code interpretation and enforcement, and liaising with the City's Building and Bylaw divisions on new construction code compliance.



## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Community Safety Division is responsible for emergency management and disaster response planning. The Division's scope includes planning for, and managing, a major emergency response, managing the City's Emergency Operations Centre, managing a complete post-disaster recovery, training staff and community volunteers, and providing emergency planning information to the public.



## PORT MOODY VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION

The Port Moody Volunteer Firefighter's Association is composed of 20 community-oriented individuals who supplement career staff at major incidents, and are heavily involved in community events. They meet for weekly training, are led by an executive, and fall under the stewardship of the Operations Division of PMFR.

# WHAT THE COMMUNITY CAN DO



## To prepare your household for an emergency:

- Make an emergency phone list with at least one out-of-area contact.
- Pick a meeting spot if you're separated from family members.
- Know where your electrical panel, water and gas valves are located, and learn how to turn them off.
- Store enough emergency water for your family. You will need at least four litres (one gallon) of water per person, per day.
- Store enough emergency food for three days to one week.
- Visit [getprepared.gc.ca](https://getprepared.gc.ca) for more preparedness tips.



## To secure your space in the event of an earthquake:

- Secure tall, free-standing furniture, such as bookcases, china cabinets, and shelving units to wall studs using "L" brackets, corner brackets, or anodized aluminum moulding.
- Move all framed pictures and mirrors away from beds, couches, and chairs.
- To prevent cabinet doors from flying open, secure them with either a push latch or a pull latch.
- Appliances such as refrigerators, freezers, washers, and dryers can move significantly during an earthquake. Use strong strapping and ratchets or other connectors to secure them.
- Search for "Prepared BC" at [gov.bc.ca](https://gov.bc.ca) for more tips.



## To stay fire safe at home:

- Always make sure your BBQ lid is open before lighting it.
- Change the batteries in your smoke detector when you set clocks for Daylight Savings.
- Make sure your hydrants are clear of debris or snow. Hidden hydrants can cost first responders valuable time in an emergency.
- Keep your doors closed when sleeping.
- Visit [firepreventionweek.org](https://firepreventionweek.org) for more safety tips.



## To prevent carbon monoxide poisoning:

- Have fuel-burning appliances (e.g. furnaces, hot water heaters, fireplaces) in your home inspected annually.
- Install carbon monoxide alarms adjacent to each sleeping area and on every storey of your home, according to manufacturer's instructions, if you have at least one fuel-burning appliance, a fireplace, or an attached garage.
- Visit [technicalafetybc.ca/carbon-monoxide](https://technicalafetybc.ca/carbon-monoxide) for more.



### **Inlet Centre Fire Hall**

150 Newport Drive  
Port Moody, BC V3H 5C3

### **Glenayre Fire Hall**

955 Glenayre Drive  
Port Moody, BC V3H 1J5



[portmoody.ca/firerescue](http://portmoody.ca/firerescue)



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