



Annual Report 2024

It was a reasonably quiet year with no significant incidents. Wildfire season was also quiet, with only one deployment opportunity.

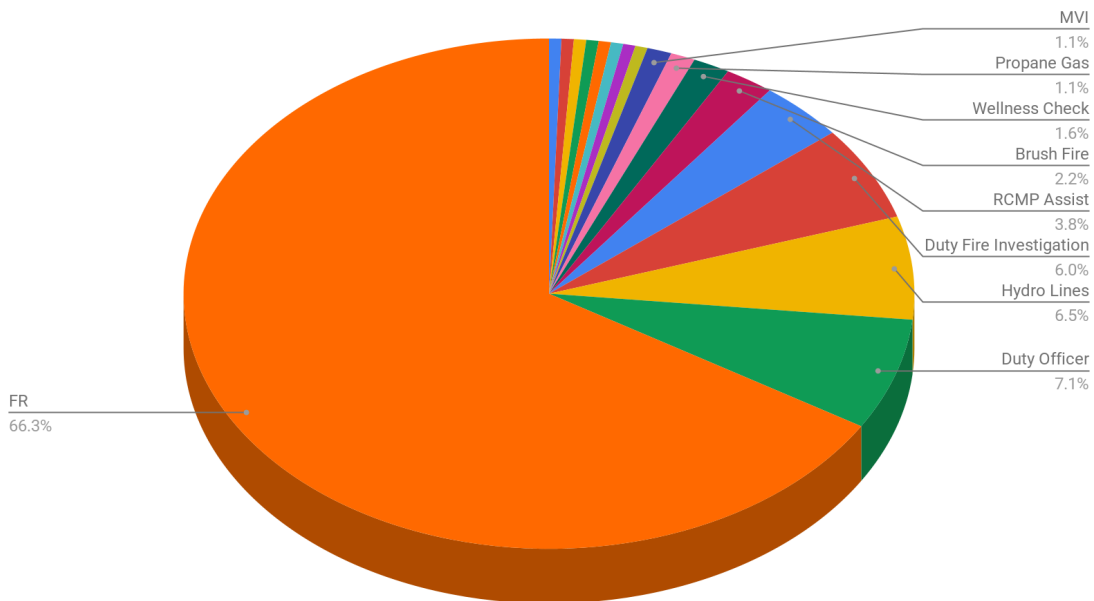
Callouts and activities

The average staff hours spent per call continue to decrease. Possible reasons:

- quicker packaging and transport,
- Getting EHS to respond to the clinic
- concerted effort to clear our crew more quickly
- Fewer serious calls (no trail rescues or structure fires this year)

	Practices(hrs)	Incidents(hrs)	Courses(hrs)	Total(hrs)	Incident #
2024	2314	977	159	3,450	184
2023	2206	1087	148	3,441	186
2022	2209	987	196	3,442	167
2021	2129	960	465	3,554	201
2020	2037	972	286	3,295	171
2019	2465	1132	130	3,802	193
2018	2943	1069	293	4,305	163

Our incident breakdown for 2023 with a total of 186 calls:



HORNBY ISLAND FIRE RESCUE

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FR	122	False Alarm	1	Electrical	1
Duty Officer	13	Wellness Check	3	Burn/Rubbish Pile	1
Duty Fire Investigation	11	Walk-in First Aid	1	Other/Misc	1
Hydro Lines	12	Brush Fire	4	Telephone Wires Down	1
MVI	2	Beach Fire	1	Propane Gas	2
RCMP Assist	7			Chimney Fire	1

Call breakdown has remained mostly consistent over the last few years.

Significant Events:

- Spinal call at the ballpark

Recruitment and Retention

We started the fall with a large class of recruits and retained five of the seven as of the new year (Savannah, Scott, Eli, Moragh, Aum). We lost two people: Carlie moved off the island, and Duncan retired from active service but remains an SCBA technician, giving us a net three-member gain.

Our personnel breakdown is:

- 17 Firefighters
- 12 Rookies

Jac was promoted to Lieutenant, and Judith was promoted to firefighter.

Training

It is essential to share the teaching load across a larger membership pool, and we improved on that this year. Everyone who has been here for over a year should expect to get asked at some point to do a rookie training session.

Training our FRs to the expanded FR scope is still a work in progress after stalling this spring. Restarting that will be a priority.

The extra training courses that our members took part in this past year are:

Emergency Scene Management 1 - 1 member
Emergency Scene Management 2 - 1 member
Air Brake Endorsement – 1 member
Emergency Vehicle Driving – 1 member

Engine Boss - 4 members
First Responder Licence - 2 members
EOC operations training - 1 member
Hazmat Response - 1 member

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Fire Prevention and Community Engagement

- Between Innes and Kevin Wallace, the CVRD FireSmart Coordinator, they did 17 FireSmart Home Ignition Zone Assessments in 2024.
- Cadet Camp continues to be an important part of our community outreach
- The work on the wildfire risk reduction project for the community leased lands between the firehall and Solans Road progressed nicely. The groundwork is slated to begin in early 2025.
- Four members attended an Engine Boss course in Parksville this spring and may be available for deployment in the 2025 fire season.
- Several local organizations have expressed interest in a fire extinguisher workshop. I hope to be able to do three or four of them before summer.

Finance

The operations grant for 2024 was \$243,840. HIFR closed out 2024 with a projected surplus of \$8000. Additional capital requisitions were:

- \$20,000 power cot
- \$5,300 breathing apparatus cylinders
- \$35,000 for water tank replacement

The capital requests for the cot and the water tank have been carried over to 2025.

We benefited from a Provincial grant (\$15,000) to continue the work on our structure protection trailer and purchased some significant equipment for our fire operations.

Significant Accomplishments

Here are some of our accomplishments in 2024:

- Sent one member on deployment
- Got BCAS to commit to fixing 66
- 4 members on Engine Boss training
- Battery tools on 64 and SPU

In Conclusion

Thank you to everyone on HIFR for your hard work and long hours of community service. Every one of us is making a positive difference in our community.



Doug Chinnery,
Fire Chief