



# Stratford Fire Department

## 2015-2017

# Report to the Community



# Table of Contents

<b>Stratford City Council .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Message from the Mayor .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Message from Chief Administrative Officer .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Message from Chief .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Message from Deputy Chief.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>City of Stratford Map .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Organization &amp; Mission Statement .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Communications and Statistics.....</b>	<b>10-11</b>
<b>Suppression A, B, C &amp; D Platoons .....</b>	<b>12-15</b>
<b>2015-2017 Staff Retirements .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Remembering Kerry Diane White .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Promotions &amp; Transfers .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Recruitment.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Incident Statistics &amp; Incidents .....</b>	<b>20-21</b>
<b>Training .....</b>	<b>22-23</b>
<b>Fire Prevention .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Open Air Burning By-law .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Public Education .....</b>	<b>26-27</b>
<b>Upgrades to Stations &amp; Equipment .....</b>	<b>28-29</b>
<b>New Vehicles .....</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Emergency Management .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Stratford Municipal Airport.....</b>	<b>32-33</b>
<b>165 Years of Firefighting 1852-2017 .....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Employee of the Year.....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Community Involvement .....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Photos.....</b>	<b>37-38</b>
<b>Acknowledgements .....</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Contact Us .....</b>	<b>40</b>





## 2014-2018

**Back Row [Standing] L to R: Councillor Kathy Vassilakos, Councillor Graham Bunting, Councillor Tom Clifford, Councillor Brad Beatty**

**Front Row [Seated] L to R: Councillor Bonnie Henderson, Councillor George Brown, Councillor Kerry McManus, Mayor Dan Mathieson, Councillor Frank Mark, Councillor Danielle Ingram, Councillor Martin Ritsma**



**Dan  
Mathieson**

# Message from the Mayor

**2015-2017  
Community Report**

On behalf of the residents of Stratford, City Council and Staff, I would like to congratulate the Stratford Fire Department for another successful year protecting our lives and property. This group of dedicated and talented men and women do an outstanding job maintaining a high standard in both safety and protection.

We are proud of our Firefighters who respond to every emergency, often risking their own lives to protect us on a daily basis. They are outstanding public servants and represent the best of what commitment and dedication to public service truly means.

On behalf of the community of Stratford, thank you for your service and for making the Stratford Fire Department one we can depend on and be proud of.

Dan Mathieson, Mayor

A handwritten signature of Dan Mathieson in black ink, written in a cursive style. The signature is placed on a light yellow rectangular background.



**Rob Horne**

# Message from the CAO

## 2015-2017 Community Report

Dear Residents,

The Stratford Fire department has a rich history spanning more than a century. First organized in 1852, that history has created a legacy of protecting the lives and property of Stratford citizens, engaging the community in fire prevention initiatives, providing other emergency service roles, and supporting many charitable causes.

Relying on our legacy is not enough. We continuously seek new ways to improve our service, especially as we continue to grow, and recognizing the need to provide emergency response a widening variety of situations.

Success in the Stratford Fire Department is a reflection of the commitment of our professional fire fighters, both as individuals, and a part of a larger team at many levels. In fact, beyond the Department, the group plays important roles in advancing a number of forward-looking strategic initiatives. As the community welcomes a new municipal Council later this year, the Stratford Fire Department will have a direct hand in helping our elected officials to develop a new Strategic Plan. The Plan will be founded on our core principles, which include value for service, integrity and respect.

I hope you will spend a few minutes to review the many accomplishments achieved over the past three years, and described in this document.

Collectively, we have much to be proud of , as we continue to support a progressive and dynamic City of Stratford.

Rob Horne, Chief Administrative Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Horne". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



**John  
Paradis**

# Message from the Chief

**2015-2017  
Community Report**

Dear Councillors and Residents,

It is with great honour I present this Community Report covering the past 3 years of success.

I have had the privilege of managing the Stratford Fire Department since March 09, 2015. During this time, I have developed a strong sense of pride for my staff and the City we serve. The men and women who comprise the Stratford Fire Department are amongst the most professional and highly trained fire service professionals in the Province today. They pride themselves on providing the best customer service, emergency response, prevention and risk mitigation possible to the citizens of Stratford. Our fire service professionals strive to respond to all emergency response needs of the community, quickly and efficiently, treating the customers with the highest level of professionalism, compassion and respect, while holding ourselves accountable to earn your trust.

The Stratford Fire Department has undertaken many positive changes, including internal policy revisions, Occupational Health and Safety initiatives, new Personal Protective Equipment and uniforms, vehicles and equipment, fire inspection and prevention, fire training revisions and strategic planning.

I would also like to thank the Mayor, City Council, and our CAO (past and present) for their unwavering support. Without their belief in our role within the community and corporation we would not be able to provide the services we have and enjoy today.

On behalf of the members of the Stratford Fire Department, we look forward to maintaining our stellar reputation for the years to come.

John Paradis, Fire Chief

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Paradis', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.



# Message from the Deputy Chief

**2015-2017  
Community Report**

**Neil  
Anderson**

Dear Councillors and Residents,

I recently began my tenure as Deputy Chief in March 2017, and have rapidly become familiar with the City and the hazards presented within, which keeps the Stratford Fire Department always ready to respond to fight fires, perform rescue and preserve life, alongside our fellow Emergency Services organizations.

As Deputy Chief, my responsibility is the Operational and Tactical level response capabilities of the Stratford Fire Department, while supporting the Strategic requirements of the Fire Chief and City Council. Along with this comes, part in parcel, the Fire Department's commitment to community and customer service, through our Fire Prevention personnel and Dispatching staff, whom are second to none!

Our Firefighters are multi-faceted in their training and education, which includes medical responses, the response to a multitude of emergencies in our City, and the provision of Mutual Aid assistance, externally. We strive to provide the highest level of service delivery on a 24/7 basis.

This position also affords me the opportunity to act as the Community Emergency Management Coordinator for the City, with all three Alternate Coordinators also stemming from this Fire Department. This entails the implementation and maintenance of a Municipal Emergency Management Program, as required by the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act and Ontario Regulation 380/04, which is exercised at least annually.

The Stratford Fire Department strives to be visible within the community, not just for emergency responses. We believe in engaging with the public and providing education on fire safety, which includes charity work and community events. If you see us, don't be shy to say "Hello" and ask us any fire safety questions you have, as we are your Fire Department.

Neil Anderson, Deputy Fire Chief

A handwritten signature in blue ink, enclosed in a yellow oval.



# City of Stratford

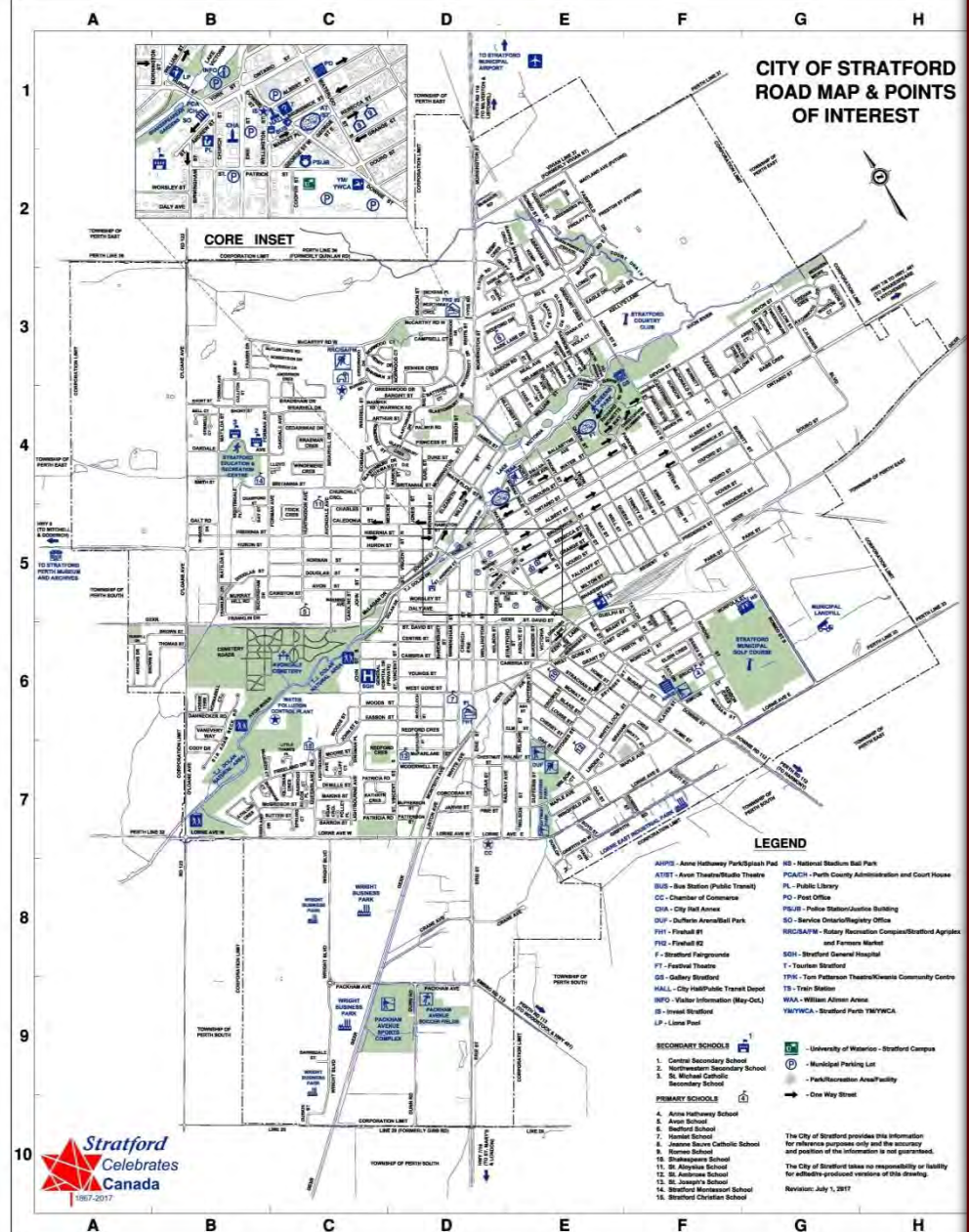
**Population:**  
31,465

**Streets:**  
187.76 km  
116.67 miles

**Fire Area:**  
7,041 acres  
2,849 hectares  
11 square miles

**Hydrants:**  
896 Public  
109 Private

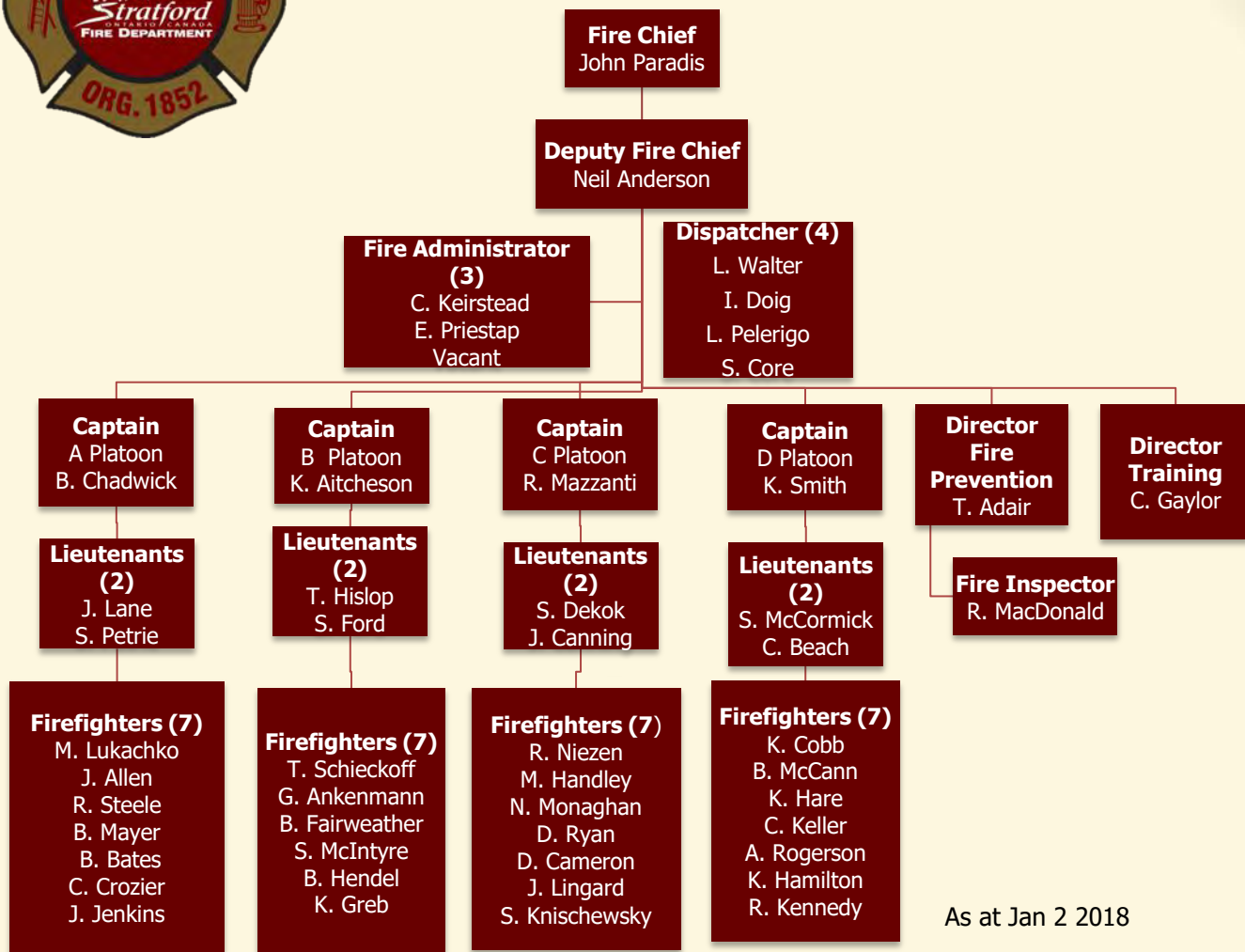
2016 Services  
Statistics







# Organization



As at Jan 2 2018

## Mission Statement

To provide a range of programs to protect the lives and property of the inhabitants of the City of Stratford from the adverse effects of fires, sudden medical emergencies or exposure to dangerous conditions, created by man or nature.

# Communications



**Stratford Dispatch**  
**Station 1 - 388 Erie Street**

## **PERTH COUNTY**

### **North Perth:**

- Atwood
- Monkton
- Listowel

### **Perth South:**

- St. Marys

### **Perth East:**

- Milverton
- Sebringville
- Shakespeare

### **West Perth:**

- Mitchell

## **HURON COUNTY**

### **Bluewater:**

- Bayfield
- Brucefield
- Hensall
- Zurich

### **Central Huron:**

- Clinton

### **Huron East:**

- Brussels
- Grey
- Seaforth

### **South Huron:**

- Dashwood
- Exeter
- Huron Park

### **Howick Township**

### **Goderich:**

- Emergency Backup

## **Did You Know ?**

**Stratford Dispatch is staffed 24/7 and provides dispatch services not only to the City of Stratford, but also to the 21 other Volunteer Fire Departments noted on the left.**

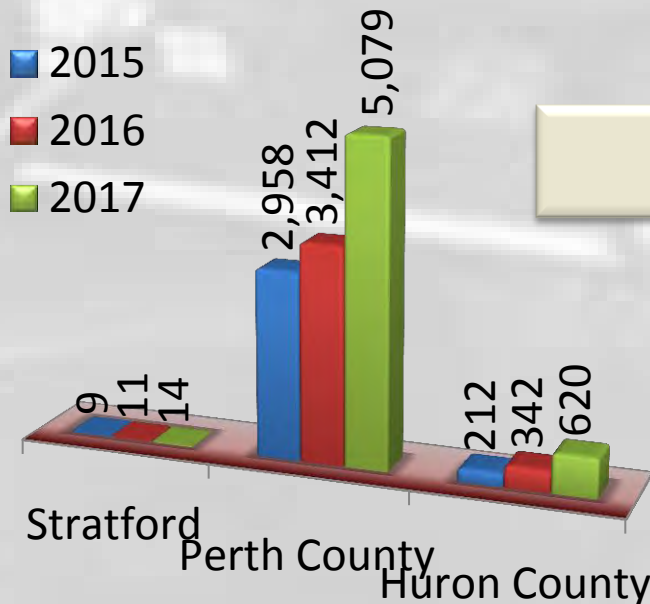
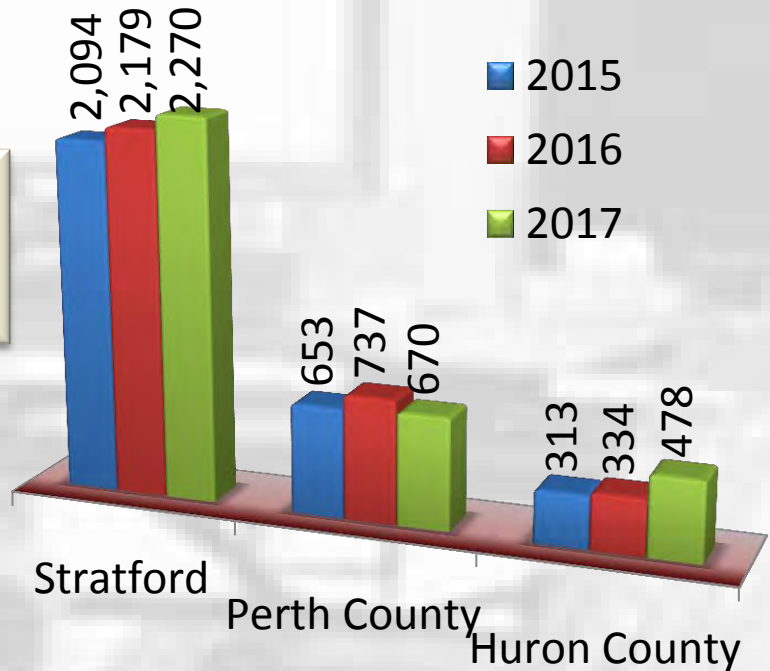
## **Stratford Fire Dispatchers & Fire Administrators**



**L-R: Lisa Walter, Emily Priestap, Shanna Core, Lillian Pelerigo, Ingrid Doig, Cathy Keirstead**

# Communications Statistics

## Emergency Incidents processed by Stratford Dispatch



## Controlled Burn Monitoring

**Did You Know?**  
Stratford Dispatchers  
monitor thousands of  
controlled burns in  
Perth & Huron County  
throughout the year.



# Suppression

## A Platoon



**L to R: Jake Jenkins, Lt. Scott Petrie, Rob Steele, Capt. Brent Chadwick,  
Brad Mayer, Jeff Allen, Brian Bates, Chris Crozier  
Absent: Lt. Jeff Lane, Mike Lukachko**

# Suppression

## B Platoon



**Back Row L to R: Scott McIntyre, Greg Ankenmann, Capt. Kevin Aitcheson,  
Brent Hendel, Lt. Tom Hislop**  
**Front Row L to R: Troy Schieckoff, Kurtis Greb, Lt. Steve Ford,  
Brett Fairweather**

# Suppression

## C Platoon



**Back Row L to R: Rick Niezen, Capt. Rick Mazzanti, Lt. Steve Dekok,  
Niall Monaghan, Mike Handley  
Front Row L to R: Steve Knischewsky, Derek Ryan,  
Lt. Jason Canning, Dave Cameron  
Absent: Justin Lingard**



# Suppression

## D Platoon



**L to R: Brad McCann, Lt. Shawn McCormick, Kevin Hare, Lt. Chris Beach, Capt. Kevin Smith, Kevin Cobb, Corey Keller, Kyle Hamilton, Andrew Rogerson, Rick Kennedy**

# 2015-2017 Staff Retirements



**Capt. W. Adair**  
Jan 31, 2015



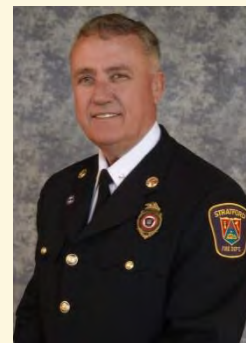
**Capt. B. Wakelin**  
Jan 31, 2015



**Capt. L. Landreth**  
Mar 31, 2015



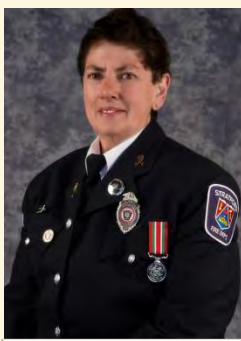
**Capt. P. Butson**  
Apr 30, 2015



**Capt. E. Schuett**  
Dec 31, 2015



**Capt. T. Cottenie**  
Apr 30, 2016



**Disp. K.D. White**  
May 31, 2016



**Chaplain  
T. Hastings**  
Jul 6, 2016



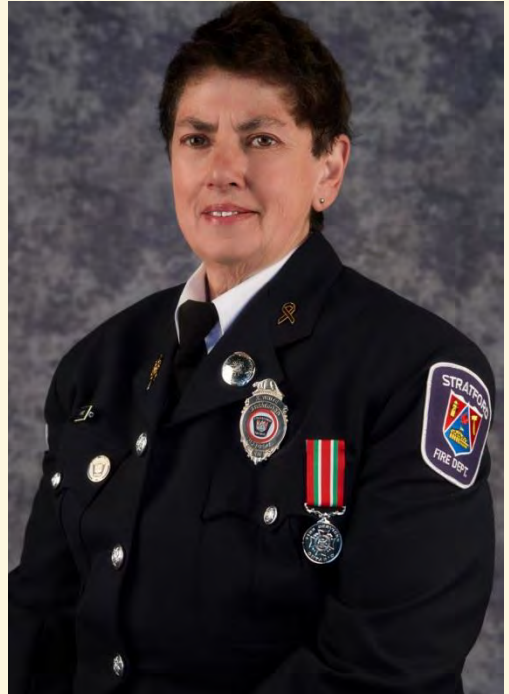
**Deputy Chief  
M. Gornyczki**  
Oct 12, 2016



**Disp. M. Hansford**  
Feb 28, 2017

# Remembering Kerry

Kerry Diane White started her career as a Dispatcher at the Fire Department in 1983. During her career, Kerry worked with firefighters, seeing many of them promoted from junior firefighters through to senior officers. The Department was a huge part of Kerry's life and she referred to everyone here as her extended family. She was very proud of her work and of the men and women she worked with. Kerry received the Ontario Fire Service medal in recognition of her years of fire service. She retired from the Department on May 31, 2016, after 33 years of dedicated service. Following a courageous fight with cancer, Kerry lost her battle on February 10, 2017.



**Disp. K.D. White  
1944-2017**





# Promotions & Transfers

Following the retirements in 2015, 2016 and 2017 the following promotions and transfers took place.

## 2015

- Lieutenant P. Butson promoted to Captain Feb 01, 2015
- Lieutenant B. Chadwick promoted to Captain Feb 04, 2015
- Lieutenant T. Cottenie promoted to Captain Apr 02, 2015
- Lieutenant R. Mazzanti promoted to Captain May 06, 2015
- Firefighter C. Gaylor promoted to Lieutenant Feb 04, 2015
- Firefighter J. Lane promoted to Lieutenant Feb 18, 2015
- Firefighter C. Beach promoted to Lieutenant Apr 02, 2015
- Firefighter J. Canning promoted to Lieutenant May 06, 2015

## 2016

- Director of Training K. Aitcheson transferred to Captain Feb 07, 2016
- Lieutenant C. Gaylor promoted to Director of Training Feb 08, 2016
- Lieutenant K. Smith promoted to Captain May 01, 2016
- Firefighter S. Petrie promoted to Lieutenant Jan 06, 2016
- Firefighter S. Ford promoted to Lieutenant May 01, 2016
- Fire Administrator L. Pelerigo transferred to Dispatcher Jun 01, 2016

## 2017

- Fire Administrator S. Core transferred to Dispatcher Mar 01, 2017

# Recruitment

**In the fall of 2015 and spring of 2016, Stratford Fire Department Management welcomed 6 new probationary firefighters.**



**Probationary Firefighters (Hire date Nov 02, 2015)**  
**L-R: Chief Paradis, J. Lingard, K. Greb, C. Crozier, R. Kennedy, DoT K. Aitcheson**



**Probationary Firefighter J. Jenkins**  
**(Hire date Jan 11, 2016) is welcomed by retiring**  
**Captain E. Schuett**

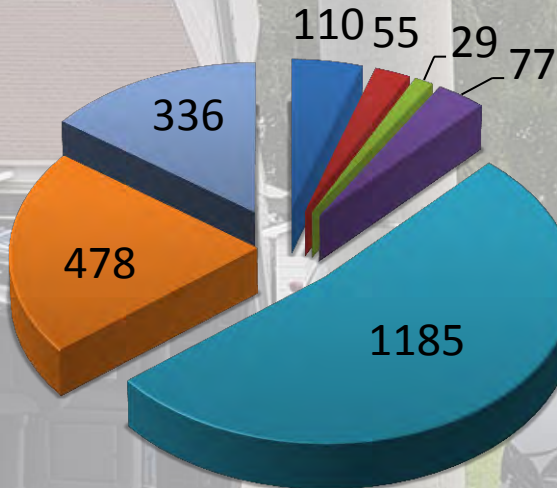


**Probationary Firefighter S. Knischewsky**  
**(Hire date May 02, 2016) with**  
**Deputy Gornyczki and Chief Paradis**



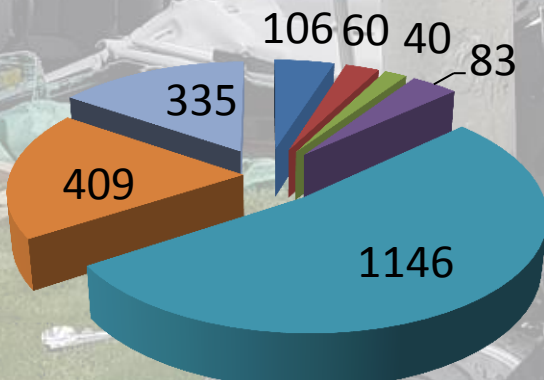
# Incident Statistics

**2017 – 2,270 Incidents**

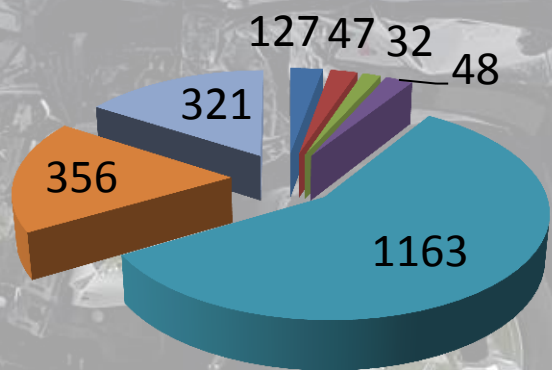


- Fire/Pre-Fire
- Open Burns
- Public Hazards
- Rescue
- Medicals
- Other Responses
- False CO/Fire

**2016 – 2,179 Incidents**



**2015 – 2,094 Incidents**



Medicals	Fire/ Pre-Fire	Open Burns	Public Hazards	Rescue	False Alarms	Other Response
Seizures, respiratory conditions, chest pains, excessive bleeding, drug or alcohol related, etc.	Residential, commercial and vehicle fires or explosions, pot on stove, overheat, lightning, fireworks.	Authorized and unauthorized burns.	Chemical spills, gas leaks, carbon monoxide, power lines.	Vehicle accidents, water rescues, extrication.	System malfunction, prank calls, accidental activation, perceived emergency, false CO.	Assist other agency, incident not found, call cancelled en route.
						20



# Incidents



## Average Response Times En route to on scene (Minutes)

2017 – 2.44

2016 – 3.05

2015 – 2.43

## Stratford Dollar Loss

2017 - \$1,959,825

2016 - \$1,684,400

2015 - \$704,350







# Training







**C. Gaylor**  
**Director of Training**

# Training

The Training Division is responsible for planning and implementing training. Hundreds of hours are spent each year training in-house and through attending specialized courses. We have successfully aligned our Department to meet the National and Provincial standards in qualifications. Part of this position includes succession planning to prepare staff for future advancement, providing them with some of the tools needed to make life and death decisions. The Department is proud of the staff and the commitment demonstrated to successfully complete Provincial and National accredited programs.

**By investing in courses to produce in-house trainers, the Department has saved \$114,000 in course fees. In addition, we have also generated approximately \$10,000, in the last 18 months, through instructing outside agencies.**

**Our in-house trainers are certified in the following courses:**

## **Instructor Level Trainers:**

- **Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)**
- **Ice Water Rescue**
- **Swift Water Rescue**
- **General Core Rescuer**
- **Pump Operator**

## **Qualified Staff**

- **8 staff qualified to act as Captain**
- **18 firefighters qualified to act as Lieutenant**







**T. Adair**  
**DFP**



**R. MacDonald**  
**FI**

# Fire Prevention

The Fire Prevention Division is comprised of the Director of Fire Prevention (DFP) and a Fire Inspector (FI). In many respects, they are the face of the Fire Department and the first point of contact with business owners, external and internal partners, agencies and members of the public. They handle many requests throughout the year and their dedication to prevention and fire safety is evident. Our Prevention and Public Education programs support and enhance safety for the community and residents of Stratford. The annual inspections completed by our firefighters are a key component in enhancing our community's fire safety and knowledge.

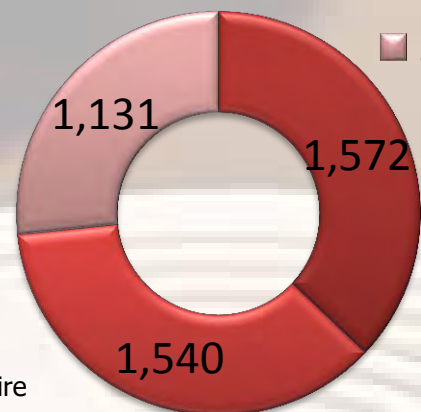
## Inspections or reports completed by Fire Prevention staff include the following:

- Public Requests
- Complaints
- Fire Investigations
- Licensing
- Fire Safety Plan Reviews
- Safety Concerns
- Retrofits
- Bed and Breakfasts
- Record Searches
- Attend Fire Safety Drills
- Site Plan Review/ Meetings
- Alcohol Gaming Agency Letter of Approval
- Public Education
- Municipal Freedom of Information Requests
- Emergency Management Planning
- Part 1 Tickets
- Business License Review

## Annual Inspections

Completed by Suppression Firefighters

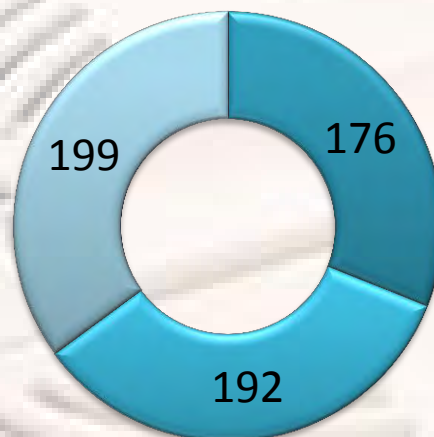
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017



## Inspections

Completed by the Fire Prevention Division

- 2015
- 2016
- 2017



# Open Air Burning By-law

The Open Air Burning By-Law regulates the setting of open fires, including establishing the times during which open fires may be set. Here are some things YOU need to know about the Open Air Burning Bylaw 5-2006 (also known as Recreational Burning).

## When is a Recreational Burn Authorized?

- Between the hours of 4pm-11pm
  - No wind, rain, fog or smog
  - Approved materials being burned
  - Proper size and enclosure
  - 5m clearance from buildings, structures, wires & combustible material
  - Extinguishing agent readily available
  - Supervised
- \*See Bylaw 5-2006 for full details before burning.



## Did You Know?

If you are having an open air burn (brush, stumps, etc.) in the City of Stratford, a Burn Permit is required and can be purchased at Station 1 – 388 Erie St. during regular business hours.



Stratford Fire Dept @StratfordFire2 · Mar 20

Awesome Grade 1 class visit @AHPS\_Hawks talking about #firesafety #fireprevention. Kids should know their address know their smoke/CO alarms work know their #2waysout



# Public Education





# Public Education

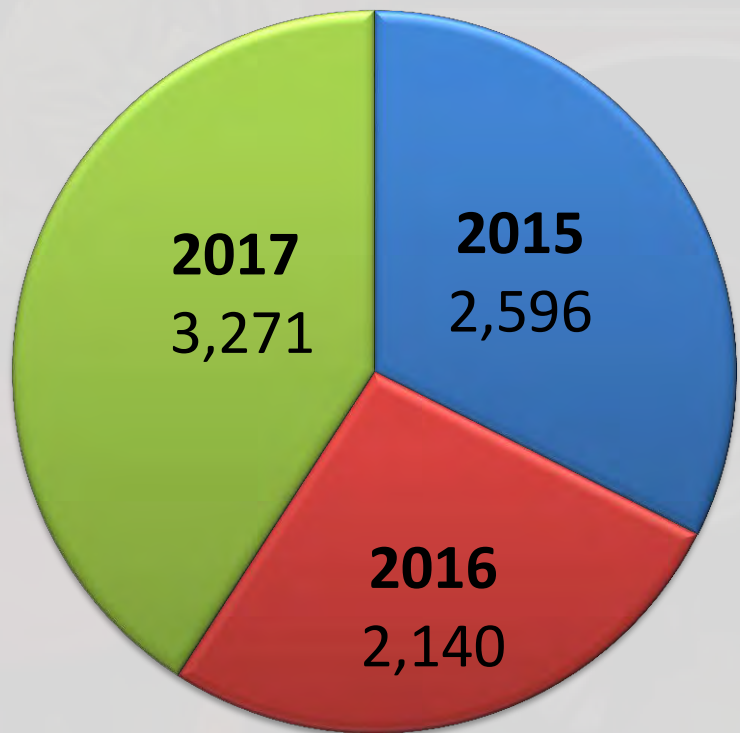
Public Education is a key component of fire prevention. Fire Prevention and Suppression staff take part in educating residents of all ages, from school-aged children to senior citizens.

Whenever firefighters are on scene, it is our policy not to leave a house without a working smoke alarm and/or carbon monoxide alarm.

## Public Education Initiatives:

- Station Tours
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Fire Safety Talks
- Fire Safety House
- Community Events
- Public Relations
- Adopt-a-School
- Summer Reading Club
- Ride-to-School
- Older and Wiser
- Chief for the Day
- Workplace Health & Safety Blitz Day
- Home Fire Safety Program
- Meet the Mayor Luncheon
- Swing into Summer Safety
- TAPP-C (The Arson Prevention Program for Children)

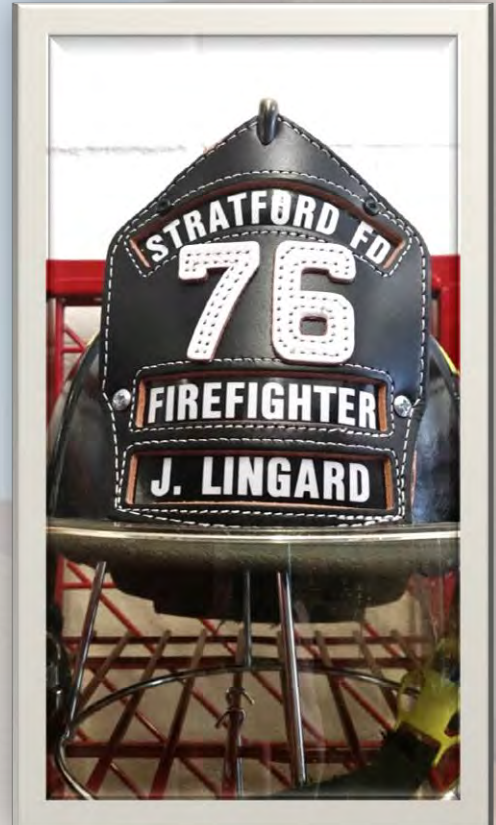
## Education Program Attendees



# Upgrades to Stations & Equipment

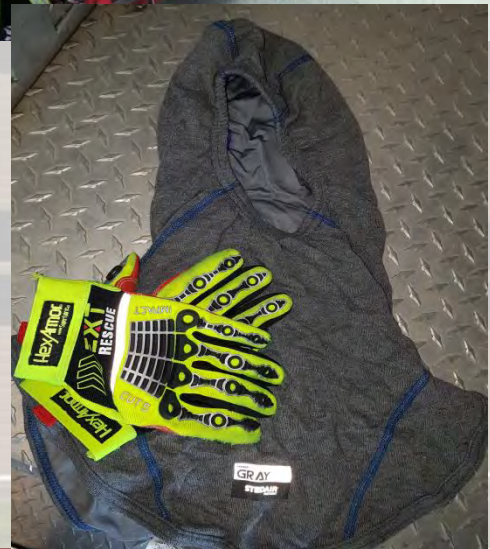
The past three years have seen many upgrades to the Department. Some of those upgrades include:

- Active 911 smart phone application
- New firefighting helmets
- New MSA breathing apparatus
- New bunker gear racks
- New portable radios
- Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC)
- Generator upgrades
- Flashhoods/Extrication gloves
- Bunker gear dryer
- Extrication struts
- Flammable liquid lockers (2)
- Washer and dryer for both Stations
- New snow blowers





# Upgrades to Stations & Equipment





# New Vehicles



Engine 1



Rescue 1



Engine 3

Chief 1



Unit 1

# Emergency Management

The following information is available on the City Website at: <http://www.stratfordcanada.ca/en/livehere/emergencypreparedness.asp>

In the event the Mayor declares a City emergency, the Stratford Emergency Response Plan ensures a coordinated response for the Stratford community. The plan provides key officials, agencies and departments within the City of Stratford with a general guideline to the initial response to an emergency and an overview of their responsibilities.

Emergency Management Ontario (EMO) provides resources to support planning efforts, information about current emergency-related events, training opportunities, resources for educators, and more.

## **Emergency Preparedness Information:**

- **3 Steps to Emergency Preparedness**
- **Earthquakes**
- **Emergency Guide for People with Disabilities or Special Needs**
- **Emergency Preparedness Guide**
- **Farm Animals**
- **Floods**
- **Lightning Safety for Outdoor Venues**
- **Pocket Guide to Emergencies**
- **Power Outages**
- **Severe Storms**







# Stratford Municipal Airport





# Stratford Municipal Airport (CYSA)

3022 Perth Line 40 | Stratford ON | N5A 6S2

Tel 519-272-0933

## Did You Know ?

- Stratford Municipal Airport has operated since 1964.
- The Stratford Fire Chief is the City Director responsible for the Airport.
- Mr. Andy Woodham has been the Operations Manager for the past 31 years.

## Airport Facts

- 480 Acres
- 2 Asphalt Runways
- 8,000-10,000 annual aircraft movements
- 44 commercial and private aircraft on-site in leased space



L to R: Andy Woodham, Airport Manager;  
Elaine B., Office Manager;  
David Tepker & David Lyons, Flight Instructors

**The Airport is managed by  
Stratford Air Services Ltd.  
(519-271-4881) offering:**

- **Introductory Flights**
- **Ground School Classes**
- **Recreational Pilot Permits**
- **Private Pilot Licences**
- **Commercial Pilot Licences**



# 165 Years of Firefighting 1852-2017

The Stratford Fire Department has an impressive collection of historical artifacts permanently on display at the Stratford Perth Museum. Retired Lieutenant Rick Micks has spent countless committed hours carefully maintaining and logging artifacts and setting up displays. His contribution and dedication to the collection of our history is invaluable. We encourage you to take a trip to the museum to see the history of our City's Fire Service, through Rick's labour of love, and take a walk back in time.

## **Fire Department's Historical Collection:**

### **Where:**

Stratford Perth Museum  
4275 Huron Road, RR#5  
Stratford, ON N5A 6S6  
(Highway #8, just west of Stratford)

### **Hours:**

Summer (May 12th to Thanksgiving)  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. every day

Winter (October to May)

Mon. through Sat. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sundays and holidays: Noon - 4 p.m.

### **Admission:**

Adults: \$7

Seniors & Students: \$6

Children 12 & under: \$5

Children 5 and under: free

Family \$20 (2 adults & 2 children)

Museum Members FREE

\*HST not included\*





# Employee of the Year

**Employee of the Year award is presented to a member of the Fire Department who exemplifies community service.**



**2015**

Awarded to Firefighter Mike Lukachko in 2015 for his research, contribution and dedication to see through the implementation of the Lightweight Truss By-law, by Stratford City Council, in 2015.



**2016**

Awarded to Firefighter Rick Kennedy in 2016, who moved to Stratford and in a very short amount of time became involved in many community groups, assisting youth and adults.



**2017**

Awarded to Firefighter Brett Fairweather in 2017, for his fundraising commitment throughout the year to many organizations such as Easter Seals, Movember (Prostate Cancer), Cystic Fibrosis and, the successful Stratford Firefighter Calendar. Proceeds from calendar sales have been donated to the Stratford Perth Rotary Hospice.

# Community Involvement



**Supporting Muscular Dystrophy**



**In Support of the Stratford Perth Hospice Foundation**



**Supporting the Red Cross**

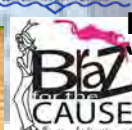


**Supporting United Way**

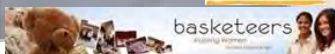


**Movember Campaign in support of Prostate Cancer**

Stratford Perth  
Rotary  
Hospice



**Local Food Banks  
"Stuff the Truck"**













# Acknowledgements

The Stratford Fire Department wishes to acknowledge the contribution and permission of use of photos from the following:

Stratford Beacon Herald

Brilliant Images

The City of Stratford website

We hope you enjoyed reading our  
Community Report

**Remembering our past...**



**...planning our future.**

## **We invite you to contact us:**

Emergencies: 911  
Fire Chief: 519-271-3212  
Deputy Chief: 519-271-3212  
Administration: 519-271-3212  
Fire Prevention: 519-271-3212 x230  
Training: 519-271-3212 x231  
TTY: 519-271-5421



**If you require this document in an alternate format, please contact the Clerk's Office at 519-271-0250 extension 5237 or [clerks@stratford.ca](mailto:clerks@stratford.ca)**