



# 2018

## HAMILTON FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT



Fire Chief David Cunliffe  
Hamilton Fire Department  
March 2019





## **HAMILTON FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT  
CITY OF HAMILTON**

# 2018 HIGHLIGHTS



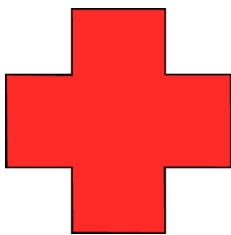
Communications Division dispatched firefighters to 32,502 incidents

Hamilton firefighters responded to approximately 89 incidents per day



85 new personnel joined the Hamilton Fire Department in 2018

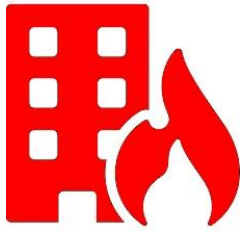
Fire Prevention personnel completed inspections and evacuation drills of 119 vulnerable occupancies to protect some of the most vulnerable residents in the City



In 2018, the Hamilton Fire Department enhanced public service by supplying Naloxone and by training all firefighters to recognize, assess, and provide care for opioid overdose patients.

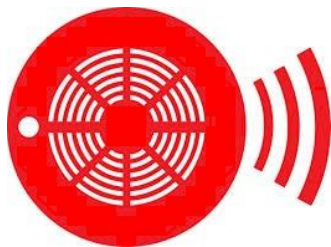
Emergency Management staff conducted 3 emergency exercises in 2018 and provided 10 training sessions with 128 participants. Public education initiatives were provided to over 1400 participants.





Hamilton firefighters responded to 282 structure fires in 2018

78.4% of all structure fires in 2018 occurred in residential properties



The Home Fire Safety Education Program has seen firefighters visit 20,028 homes, install 2,060 smoke alarms and replace 425 batteries since its inception in May 2017. In addition, the Alarmed and Ready program saw firefighters install an additional 311 smoke alarms and replace 452 batteries in 2018.

The Training Division successfully trained 82 new firefighters in two career firefighter recruit classes and two volunteer firefighter recruit classes.



Firefighters met with 55,679 citizens at community events across the City to discuss fire safety.

Work continued on finalizing the 10 Year Fire Service Delivery plan for presentation to Committee and Council in 2019.



# HAMILTON FIRE DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

**FIRE CHIEF**

**DAVID CUNLIFFE**

**DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF**

**RANDY MOSS  
JOHN VERBEEK**

**ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHIEF**

**SHAWN DEJAGER  
STEVE MILLER  
DAN MILOVANOVIC  
CARLA MACDONALD**

**DIVISIONAL CHIEF OF ADMINISTRATION**

**YVETTE MCCORMICK**

**AREA COMMANDER**

**RON JEFFRIES**

**EMERGENCY PLANNING COORDINATORS**

**CONNIE VERHAEGE  
KIRSTEN MARPLES**

**RF SYSTEMS SPECIALIST  
(CORPORATE RADIO)**

**ROGER KNAPMAN**

# HAMILTON FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE OPERATIONS

**PLATOON CHIEF**

**MARK HODGE  
MARK HOMMERSON  
MARK MIDDLETON  
WAYNE PRYDE**

**DISTRICT CHIEF**

**PAUL BLOOMFIELD  
ENIO DINARDO  
LAWRENCE MICHOR  
JOHN PAWLIK  
TIM RANKIN  
CRAIG SQUIRES  
ART THOMAS**

# HAMILTON FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

**CHIEF FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER**

**PETER DEBOER**

**ASSISTANT CHIEF FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER**

**CLAUDIO MOSTACCI**

**CHIEF OF TRAINING**

**DARRELL HICKS**

**CHIEF MECHANICAL OFFICER**

**BRIAN KEENAN**

**CHIEF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER**

**TRISH SCHWEITZER**

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



It is my pleasure to present to you the Hamilton Fire Department 2018 Annual Report.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the members of the Hamilton Fire Department for their service. As Chief, I am very proud of all staff who are committed to serving the citizens of Hamilton. Whether it's responding to calls for help, maintaining/repairing apparatus or equipment, providing valuable training to our staff, providing critical radio communications and answering 911 calls, ensuring that our communications systems are working seamlessly or conducting fire inspections and public education, we collectively work together to deliver valued services and to increase the level of trust and confidence with our citizens each and every day.

Our Department faced several tragic and significant events in 2018. In May, the Department responded to a significant windstorm event that saw 190 incidents in a 24 hour period. There were a number of significant fires including the Grant Avenue fire and a tragic fire in Dundas that resulted in the deaths of two residents. As I reflect back on these and other incidents, it is the care, compassion and professionalism shown by staff that leaves me with a deep sense of pride.

In 2018, we continued in our efforts to continually improve with a focus on staff engagement, diversity and inclusion in recruitment, an updated Community Fire Risk Assessment and our continued focus on home fire safety with our Home Fire Safety Education program which has seen Hamilton firefighters attend at 20,028 homes, install 2,060 smoke alarms and replace 425 batteries.

In June, we were honoured to donate two Rural Tankers to two First Nations Communities in Northern Ontario who were in need.

In September, we were saddened by the loss of Firefighter Brad Phillips, a 28 year active member of the Hamilton Fire Department who passed away suddenly. Brad was known as an outstanding and extremely hardworking firefighter who will be missed but never forgotten.

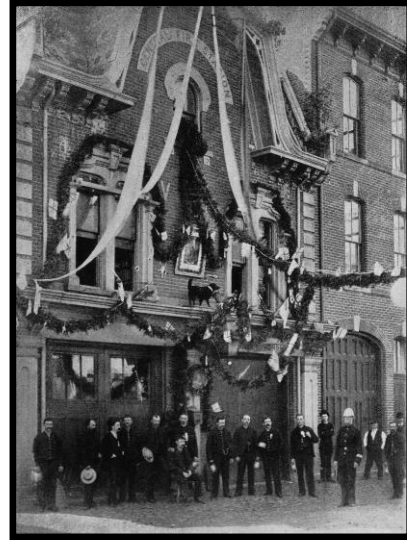
In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thank you to Mayor Eisenberger and the members of Council for all of the support that they have shown the Hamilton Fire Department during 2018. Additionally, I would like to personally thank our General Manager Paul Johnson for his unwavering support to both myself and this Department.

Fire Chief David Cunliffe

# A HISTORICAL LOOK BACK

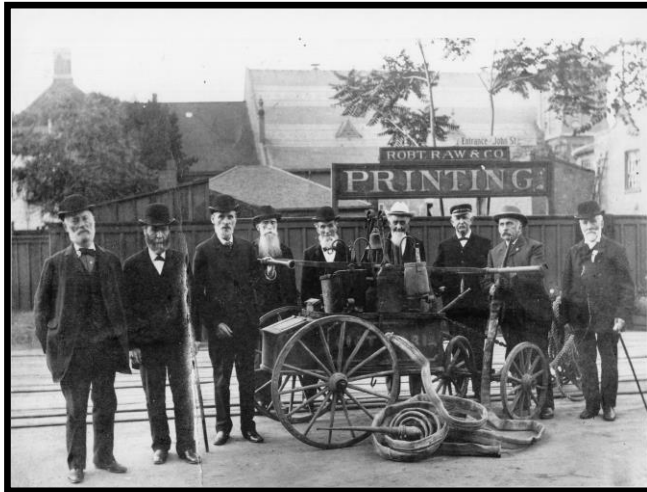
Rising from the ashes of a major fire in the downtown core of Hamilton on November 16, 1832, the Hamilton Fire Department has evolved from a citizen's bucket brigade into a fire service of over 790 personnel, including career and volunteer firefighters protecting our urban and rural communities.

Hamilton's first fire station was built in 1832 at 44 Hughson Street North followed by a second fire station built in 1836 at 55 King William Street. One hundred and eighty one year's later this location remains synonymous with the Hamilton Fire Department as it is where our west district Fire Prevention office is located.



Central Fire Station

In 1843, John Fisher; who operated a quarry at the corner of James and Merrick Streets, built a hand operated fire engine and donated it to the bucket brigade. This engine, towed by men with ropes was filled with water by buckets and then a hose was attached to the side. The men would then pump the water by hand. The John Fisher engine remains a prized possession of the Hamilton Fire Department to this day and is proudly displayed on the apparatus floor of Central fire station.



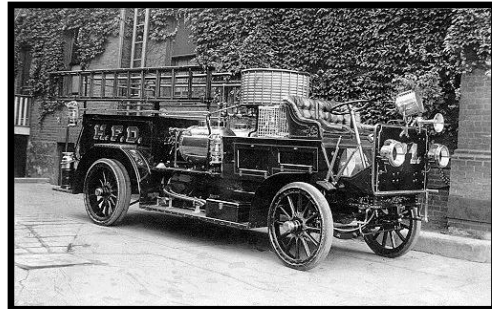
1843 John Fisher Engine

On January 14, 1879, the Hamilton Fire Department became a full time department and Alexander Aitchison was appointed Chief Engineer. Chief Aitchison inherited two old hose carts, a two horse hook and ladder truck, a supply wagon and a few horses. There were two Officers, seven permanent men and a 25 man call force that were paid only for attending alarms.

At that time, the Hamilton Fire Department protected an area of approximately 4,000 acres with a population of almost 60,000 citizens.

By 1881, Chief Aitchison replaced the call men and there were now three Officers and 10 full time firemen. They were on duty 24hours a day with 75 minutes off to go home for a meal if they could make it. Chief Aitchison, whose motto was to get there fast, was killed in 1905 while responding to a fire when his horse drawn buggy collided with another fire engine at the corner of King and John Streets.

By 1919, the Hamilton Fire Department became the first Department in Canada to adopt a two platoon system. Also that year, the Hamilton Fire Department took possession of their first motorized piece of apparatus. Over the next seven years, additional motorized apparatus were purchased and in 1926, the horse drawn era came to an end on the Department.



1911 Seagrave

By 1929, a new fire alarm headquarters was built next to 55 King William Street and a fire alarm system with 45 alarm boxes located across the City was developed.

From 1945 – 1958, the gradual installation of communications equipment in all fire apparatus took place. In 1976, a sophisticated dispatch centre was opened at the King William Street location.

In 1979, the Hamilton Fire Department opened a five acre simulated fire and rescue complex on Stone Church Road East. This facility remained in place for 30 years. This location is now the home of the Multi-Agency Training Academy utilized by the Hamilton Fire Department, Hamilton Police Service and the Hamilton Paramedic Service.

The 1980's brought about a total task concept to service delivery with both firefighters and Fire Prevention personnel involved in enforcement of the Ontario Fire Code. The Hamilton Fire Department assumed responsibility for dispatching of alarms within the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth.

Amalgamation took place in 2001 and fire departments from Ancaster, Dundas, Glanbrook, Flamborough and Stoney Creek merged with Hamilton to become one large Department.

Today, the Hamilton Fire Department provides services to a population of over 536,000 citizens in an area of approximately 1,117 square kilometres. The Service operates from 30 remote sites including 26 fire stations, one Mechanical and Emergency Fleet Services Centre, one Fire Prevention business centre, one stores facility and the Multi-Agency Training Academy.

# ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

In Ontario, the fire service is regulated through Provincial legislation that includes the Fire Protection and Prevention Act (FPPA), 1997, S.O. 1997. Part II of the FPPA states that:

2. (1) every municipality shall,
  - a) Establish a program in the municipality which must include public education with respect to fire safety and certain components of fire prevention; and
  - b) Provide such other fire protection services as it determines may be necessary in accordance with its needs and circumstances.

The FPPA authorizes the Council of a Municipality to establish, maintain and operate a fire department for all or any part of the municipality and to pass by-laws regarding fire prevention.

Municipal Council, obligated by the FPPA to provide fire protection services, must:

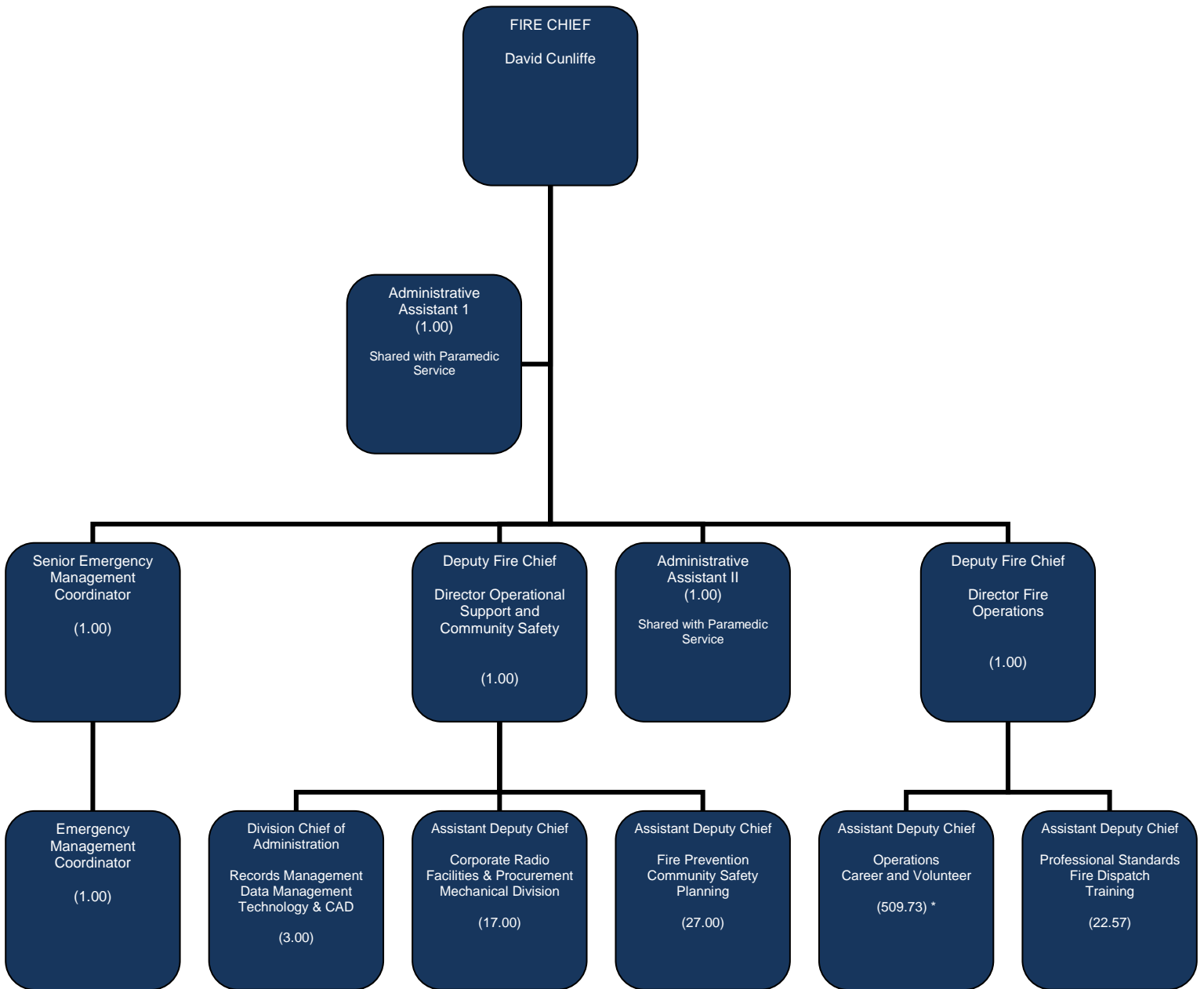


- Establish levels of service commensurate with needs and circumstances; and
- Provide fiscal resources for staffing, apparatus and equipment to support the level of service

Through our various Divisions, the Hamilton Fire Department provides to the citizens of Hamilton:

- Fire Prevention/Public Education and administration of the Ontario Fire Code and the Fire Protection and Prevention Act (FPPA)
- Fire Communications/Dispatch
- Firefighting and Rescue Operations
- Medical response with the Hamilton Paramedic Service
- Co-ordination of City-Wide Trunked Radio Services
- Emergency Planning/Preparedness
- Mutual/Automatic Aid with neighbouring municipalities
- Mechanical and Fleet services for both Fire and Hamilton Paramedic Service
- Training of personnel in all aspects of services provided

## Hamilton Fire Department Organizational Chart - 2018



**Note \*** - Volunteer firefighter head count of 270 not included

# RETIREMENTS

A significant turnover of staff continued in 2018 as we saw 46 of our personnel retire from the Hamilton Fire Department. Each of these women and men served the citizens of Hamilton with distinction and contributed in their own way to the history of our Department. We wish them all a healthy and happy retirement and thank them for their service.

Firefighter Vic Koschanow	January 1, 2018
Captain Kirby Klassen	January 1, 2018
Captain Martyn Wingfield	January 1, 2018
Firefighter Michael Barliak	January 1, 2018
Firefighter David Crone	January 1, 2018
Firefighter Bernard Willemsen	January 1, 2018
Firefighter Howard Carpenter	January 1, 2018
Captain Alan Grant	January 1, 2018
Firefighter William Kreidl	February 1, 2018
Deputy Chief William Pittman	March 1, 2018
Mechanic Frank Firmani	March 3, 2018
Firefighter Dave Wansbrough	April 2, 2018
Fire Inspector Cindy Lahaie	May 1, 2018
Firefighter Larry Noseworthy	May 1, 2018
Captain Mark Stevens	May 1, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Kenneth Tomlinson	May 1, 2018
Firefighter Robert Walker	May 1, 2018
Volunteer Captain Brian Gawrylash	June 1, 2018
Firefighter Kevin Howell	June 1, 2018
Captain Daniel Scott Turnbull	June 30, 2018
Firefighter David Mercer	June 30, 2018
Training Officer Ron Schweitzer	July 1, 2018
Captain Derek Hudson	July 13, 2018
Volunteer Captain Len Gray	July 15, 2018
Chief Fire Prevention Officer Robert Simpson	July 27, 2018
Captain Michael Ranger	July 3, 2018
Firefighter Graeme Osler	August 1, 2018
Firefighter Matthew Jackson	August 1, 2018
Firefighter James Hayward	August 26, 2018



Captain Keith Knoflook	September 1, 2018
Captain Kevin Purcell	September 1, 2018
Firefighter Eric Holden	September 1, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Michael Giovinazzo	October 1, 2018
Captain Robert Smith	October 15, 2018
District Chief Lawrence Michor	October 27, 2018
Captain Vincenzo Oddi	November 1, 2018
Volunteer Captain John Prentice	November 2, 2018
District Chief Arthur Thomas	November 30, 2018
Captain Sheldon Boyd	November 30, 2018
Captain David Ulman	December 1, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Donald Pacheco	December 4, 2018
Captain Don McEneny	December 28, 2018
Captain Michael Ernst	December 29, 2018
Firefighter George Schouwstra	December 29, 2018
Platoon Chief Wayne Pryde	December 30, 2018
Captain John Slade	December 30, 2018



# PROMOTIONS

Following the successful completion of a promotional process, 36 members of the Hamilton Fire Department were promoted in 2018. We congratulate them on their accomplishments and wish them the best as they continue to serve the citizens of Hamilton.

Captain Dave Tarbutt	January 1, 2018
Captain Joe Salfi	January 1, 2018
Captain Jim Whittle	January 1, 2018
Deputy Chief John Verbeek	March 1, 2018
Volunteer Captain Richard Bellsmith	March 15, 2018
Volunteer Captain Patrick Stanley	March 15, 2018
Assistant Deputy Chief Carla MacDonald	April 16, 2018
Captain Dillon Weatherhead	May 1, 2018
Captain Jeff Small	June 5, 2018
Volunteer Captain Chad Wood	June 6, 2018
Volunteer Training Captain Drew Calder	June 6, 2018
Captain Dan Selinger	June 30, 2018
Captain Tracy Burgess	July 13, 2018
Chief Fire Prevention Officer Pete deBoer	July 27, 2018
Assistant Chief Fire Prevention Officer Claudio Mostacci	July 27, 2018
Fire Safety Officer Pamela Thomson	July 27, 2018
Captain Randy MacEachern	July 31, 2018
Captain Keith Philips	September 1, 2018
Volunteer Captain Marty Legein	October 10, 2018
Volunteer Station Captain George Donald	October 10, 2018
Volunteer Station Captain Danny Bell	October 15, 2018
Captain Denis Guite	October 15, 2018
Volunteer Captain Brent Warner	October 19, 2018
Captain Christopher Wiemelink	October 27, 2018
Captain Shawn O'Donnell	October 31, 2018
Captain Ryan Chambers	November 30, 2018
Captain Shawn Elliott	November 30, 2018
Captain Rob White	December 1, 2018
Volunteer Captain Jessica Norris	December 14, 2018

Volunteer Captain Mark Vliestra  
Volunteer Captain Michael Warren  
Captain Adam Shea  
Captain Charlie Madder  
Platoon Chief Enio DiNardo  
Captain Jay Mills  
Captain Jamie Cavanaugh

December 14, 2018  
December 14, 2018  
December 28, 2018  
December 29, 2018  
December 30, 2018  
December 30, 2018  
December 31, 2018



# APPOINTMENTS

In 2018, we welcomed 85 new personnel to the ranks of the Hamilton Fire Department.

Volunteer Firefighter Corey Austin	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Aaron Bell	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Andrew Bowslaugh	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Matthew Brown	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Michael Comeau	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Connor Dockrill	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Kristine Dowling	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Spencer Dunham	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Adam Fielding	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Brendan Graham	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter David Harrison	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Eric Heidbuurt	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Johnnie Heightly	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Dale Hewett	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Alexandra Hughes	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Josh Huisman	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Brandon Hume	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Don Nguyen	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Donny Oliver	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Adam Rees	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Brett Roberts	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Jesse Schultz	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Justin Stosic	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Nolan Walker	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Kyle Weitz	February 15, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Kate Westenberg	February 15, 2018
Firefighter Ben Ambacher	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Taylor Bell	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Shaun Boyer	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Matthew Brown	February 26, 2018
Firefighter David Cianfrini	February 26, 2018

Firefighter Stephen Falconi	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Daniel Feir	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Andrew Fetter	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Kendall Fluttert	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Michael Knott	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Daniel Koudys	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Eric Kovacs	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Jonathan Levy	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Fraser Maclellan	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Nicholas McCready	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Andrew Pow-Blacklock	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Ashley Proctor	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Christian Schultz	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Cameron Shortt	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Andy Simoes	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Ashley Snider	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Jesse Tambeau	February 26, 2018
Firefighter Troy Wagner	February 26, 2018
Communications Operator Christine Custeau - Dickenson	April 16, 2018
Communications Operator Luanne Etherington	April 16, 2018
Breathing Apparatus Technician Dustin Fairhurst	July 23, 2018
Firefighter Payton Dearing	August 13, 2018
Firefighter David Doherty	August 13, 2018
Firefighter Derek Groen	August 13, 2018
Firefighter Reuben Groen	August 13, 2018
Firefighter Adam Harvey	August 13, 2018
Firefighter Brandon Jaekel	August 13, 2018
Firefighter Kevin Judge	August 13, 2018
Firefighter Brian Lilley	August 13, 2018
Firefighter Carla Mantel	August 13, 2018
Firefighter Scott McGuire	August 13, 2018
Firefighter Brett Miller	August 13, 2018
Firefighter Patrick Stanley	August 13, 2018
Firefighter Daniel Stehr	August 13, 2018
Firefighter Joshua Van Velzer	August 13, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Evan Danks	August 16, 2018

Volunteer Firefighter David DeSantis	August 16, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Jason Rosa	August 16, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Wade Broome	August 16, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Elizabeth Caterini	August 16, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Samantha Emery	August 16, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Drew Morris	August 16, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Christopher Settimi	August 16, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Robert Zivanovich	August 16, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Justin Crahill	August 16, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Robert Cramero	August 16, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Alexander Furukawa	August 16, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Graham Tilbury	August 16, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Evan D'Agostino	August 16, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Timothy Giles	August 16, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Jacob Guindon	August 16, 2018
Volunteer Firefighter Connor MacIvor	August 16, 2018
Inspector Jordan Baylis	December 4, 2018
Inspector Brent Woodfine	December 4, 2018



# FIREFIGHTER BRADLEY PHILLIPS



## **HAMILTON FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVICE JUNE 4, 1990 – SEPTEMBER 4, 2018**

Firefighter Bradley Phillips (Station 5 - Platoon "A") passed away suddenly while on vacation on Tuesday September 4, 2018.

Firefighter Phillips joined the Hamilton Fire Department on June 4, 1990. Throughout his over 28 year career with the Hamilton Fire Department he established himself as an outstanding, extremely hard working firefighter.

In December 1997, Firefighter Phillips was awarded the Ontario Medal for Firefighter Bravery by Lieutenant Governor Hilary Weston at Queens Park for his actions at a structure fire that took place on April 7, 1997.

Throughout his career with the Hamilton Fire Department, Firefighter Phillips demonstrated his commitment to his profession, the citizens of the City of Hamilton and to his brothers and sisters on the Department.

Firefighter Brad Phillips will be missed, but never forgotten.

# BUDGET

The Hamilton Fire Department is a composite service made up of 468 career fulltime firefighters and 270 volunteer (paid-on-call) firefighters. There is also 77 staff working in our Operational Support and Department Leadership Divisions. The overall operating budget in 2018 was \$91,167,880

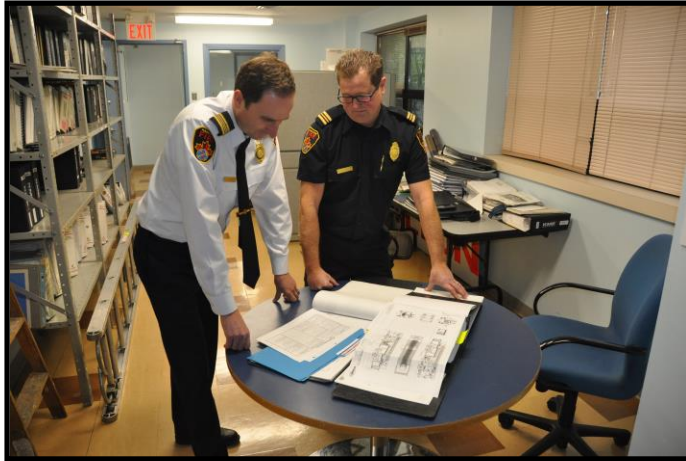
## Operating Budget





## Capital Budget

In 2018, Hamilton City Council approved four Capital projects for the Hamilton Fire Department totaling \$6,222,000.



### 2018 Capital Projects

#### Fire Balaclava Replacement

**\$220,000**

(Fire Balaclavas are part of the personal protective equipment (PPE) ensemble for all firefighters that reduce the potential for heat injuries and particulate absorption)

#### Fire Equipment Replacement

**\$617,000**

(Firefighting helmets, bunker gear, SCBA face pieces, cylinders, firefighting hose, end of life replacement of equipment, thermal imaging cameras and high angle rescue equipment)

#### Fire Apparatus Replacement

**\$5,025,000**

(Replacement apparatus in 2018 included 1 (one) Aerial Ladder, 4 (four) Engines (Pumpers), and 1 (one) support vehicle)

#### Automatic Vehicle Location Devices

**\$360,000**

(This technology provides a hosted solution for vehicle tracking, vehicle reporting and equipment tracking. The integration of this technology with the Hamilton Fire Department's (HFD) Intergraph Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system will provide the ability to implement closest unit dispatch capabilities ensuring a timely response)

# FIRE OPERATIONS - SERVICE DELIVERY

**32,509**

**Incident  
Responses**

Through a tiered response agreement with the Hamilton Paramedic Service, the Hamilton Fire Department is dispatched to all Code 4 medical calls. Examples of Code 4 calls are as follows:

1. Absence of breathing / Cardiac or Respiratory Arrest
2. Unconscious / Unresponsive / Seizure
3. Choking / Sudden Shortness of Breath (onset within last 48 hours)
4. Other trauma:
  - Penetrating Trauma (i.e. gunshot or stabbing)
  - Pedestrian / Cyclist Struck (motorcycle, bicycle, etc)
  - Motor vehicle collisions (MVC) on all rural roads and highways
  - Multiple Victim Incidents (including MVC's with suspected or confirmed multiple victims)
  - Falls Greater than 10 feet
5. Chest pain
6. Burns / Electrocution
7. Calls where the CACC Ambulance Communications Officer estimates the interval from the time the EMS unit is dispatched until the time it will arrive on-scene will exceed 15 minutes.

In addition to the above noted, the Hamilton Fire Department will be tiered on any medical response whenever there is any indication that there may be Hazardous Materials involved (including chemicals, spills of gasoline, diesel fuel, propane,

The Hamilton Fire Department responded to 32,509 incidents in 2018, an increase of approximately 2.8% over the total responses in 2017 (31,615).

While statistics show that the percentage of medical calls has increased over the past three years; it is important to clarify that the Hamilton Fire Department does not respond to all medical calls along with the Hamilton Paramedic Service.



etc.), a victim trapped, reports of fire, structural hazards, any rescue, and as requested by Paramedics on scene of an incident.



The Hamilton Fire Department responds to many varied types of incidents. Incident types have been grouped together into nine different response groups for reporting purposes. They are as follows:

1. Life Threatening Medical Call – Includes all life threatening medical emergencies
2. Alarm Investigation (nothing found) – Includes 911 calls for perceived emergencies, alarm calls from other agencies including Police and Paramedic Service, alarm calls received from outside monitoring agencies and alarm calls reported by citizens, carbon monoxide calls with no readings found
3. Other Responses – Includes responses to assist neighbouring Fire Departments, assistance to Police, responses cancelled while on route, incidents not found and assistance not required once on scene
4. Rescue – Includes vehicle collisions and extrication, building collapses, commercial, industrial, residential accidents, open water rescue, confined space rescue and low angle/high angle rope rescues
5. Property Fires/Explosions – includes structure fires, vehicle fires and no loss outdoor fires such as rubbish fires and grass fires

**89**

**Average  
Incidents Per  
Day**

6. Pre-Fire Conditions/Smoke/No Fire – Includes responses for overheating of engines and/or mechanical devices, pot on the stove (no fire), other cooking related calls such as smoke, steam, toasting (no fire), fireworks calls and other pre-fire conditions

**2.8% Increase from 2017**

7. Open Air Burning – Includes both authorized and unauthorized open air burning complaints
8. Reports Pending Classification – Reports which require some additional information to be properly classified
9. Ruptures/Explosions – Overpressure rupture with no fire of gas pipes, steam boilers and hot water tanks

### 2017 Responses by Response Group

RESPONSE GROUP	TOTAL RESPONSES	% OF RESPONSES
Life Threatening Medical Call	20744	65.61%
Alarm Investigation (Nothing Found)	4309	13.63%
Other Responses	2760	8.73%
Rescue	1112	3.52%
Property Fires / Explosion	793	2.51%
Pre Fire Conditions / Smoke, No Fire	671	2.12%
Gas Leak, CO, Hydro	623	1.97%
Open Air Burning	567	1.79%
Reports Pending Classification	30	0.09%
Ruptures/Explosions (No Fire)	6	0.02%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31615</b>	

### 2018 Responses by Response Group

RESPONSE GROUP	TOTAL RESPONSES	% OF RESPONSES	% INCREASE/DECREASE FROM 2017
Life Threatening Medical Call	21306	65.55%	0.06% decrease
Alarm Investigation (Nothing Found)	4535	13.95%	0.32% decrease
Other Responses	2582	7.94%	0.79% decrease
Rescue	1200	3.69%	0.17% increase
Property Fires / Explosion	865	2.63%	0.12% increase
Pre Fire Conditions / Smoke, No Fire	752	2.31%	0.19% increase
Gas Leak, CO, Hydro	703	2.16%	0.19% increase
Open Air Burning	543	1.67%	0.12% decrease
Reports Pending Classification	15	0.06%	0.03% decrease
Ruptures/Explosions (No Fire)	8	0.02%	No change
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32509</b>		

There has been a steady increase in the total number of incidents the Hamilton Fire Department responded to in the past five years from 26,352 in 2014 to 32,509 in 2018.

YEAR	TOTAL INCIDENTS
2014	26352
2015	28282
2016	30157
2017	31615
2018	32509

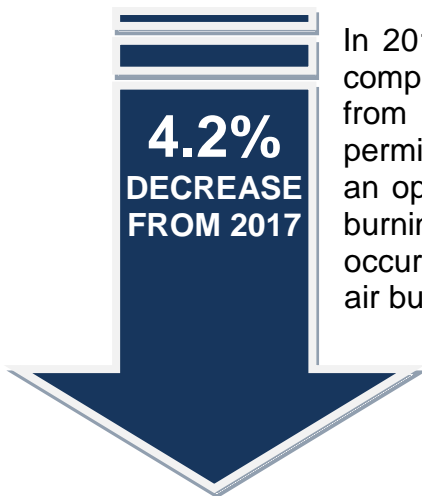
23.4% Increase Over 5 Years

In 2018, there were 42,234 responses by Hamilton Fire Department apparatus. The following chart provides an overview of apparatus responses over the past five years.

YEAR	TOTAL APPARATUS RESPONSES
2014	33504
2015	35361
2016	37823
2017	39757
2018	42234

26.1% Increase Over 5 Years

### Open Air Burning Responses



In 2018, the Hamilton Fire Department responded to 543 burning complaints across the City of Hamilton which is a 4.2% decrease from 2017. Open air burning in the City of Hamilton is only permitted in the rural areas of the City and only with the issuance of an open air burning permit. In reviewing the statistics for open air burning responses, it is noted that the highest number of responses occur in Ward 3, which is an urban area of the City and where open air burning is not permitted.

A review of statistics revealed that 64% of the responses for burning complaints occur in Wards 1 – 8, Wards that are entirely within the urban areas of the City.

While the majority of Wards saw a decrease in open air burning responses, Wards 1, 3, 10, 11, 14 and 15 all saw an increase in responses. The following chart provides a breakdown of burning complaints responded to in each of the 15 Wards.

OPEN AIR BURNING RESPONSES	2017 RESPONSES	2018 RESPONSES
WARD 1	26	32
WARD 2	36	35
WARD 3	94	109
WARD 4	71	45
WARD 5	32	27
WARD 6	35	28
WARD 7	62	39
WARD 8	37	32
WARD 9	21	20
WARD 10	23	24
WARD 11	55	57
WARD 12	27	26
WARD 13	14	12
WARD 14	13	34
WARD 15	21	23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>543</b>



## Structure Fires

In 2018, Hamilton Fire Department apparatus were dispatched to 445 first alarms (reported structure fires). Of that number, 282 (63.5%) of the calls were confirmed as a structure fire. Of the 282 confirmed fires, 40 were upgraded to a multiple alarm that saw additional resources dispatched from across the City to help mitigate the incident.

There were a number of significant incidents in 2018 including a multiple alarm fire on Grant Avenue that had firefighters working to protect a Hamilton landmark; the Grant Avenue Studio.

**282**  
**Structure Fires**  
**In 2018**



On April 30, 2018, Hamilton firefighters responded to a report of a structure fire at 34 Grant Avenue in Ward 3 of the City. Responding crews reported heavy smoke from a distance and on arrival Pump 6 reported a well involved house fire with exposures on both sides.

The fire was in an aggressive state and had taken a good hold of the home with extension to homes on either side. While firefighting continued on the three homes attention was also focused on the Grant Avenue Studios, an iconic building in the music industry and a well know civic treasure, located at 38 Grant Avenue.

Platoon Chief Pryde ordered additional crews on scene to protect this exposure building and the contents inside. Firefighters entered the studio and protected valuable equipment with tarps while also relocating valuable artifacts to a safer area.



The total number of structure fires in the City of Hamilton has steadily decreased over the past 5 years from a high of 307 in 2014 to 272 in 2017 however there was a slight increase of 3.7% in structure fires in 2018.

YEAR	TOTAL FIRES
2014	307
2015	302
2016	292
2017	272
2018	282

Residential structure fires accounted for 221 or 78.4% of all structure fires in 2018. While the number of residential fires continues to decrease over the past 5 years, citizens continue to be injured or killed in their homes due to fires that are clearly preventable.

YEAR	TOTAL FIRES
2014	215
2015	230
2016	216
2017	200
2018	221

The number of commercial building fires has decreased from a high of 92 in 2014 to 61 in 2018.

YEAR	TOTAL FIRES
2014	92
2015	72
2016	76
2017	72
2018	61



## Structure Fires by Ward and Occupancy Type

WARD	ASSEMBLY	INSTITUTIONAL	RESIDENTIAL	BUSINESS	MERCANTILE	INDUSTRIAL	TOTAL
WARD 1	1	1	11		1		14
WARD 2	1	4	41		3	1	50
WARD 3		1	39	1	1	2	44
WARD 4	2		19		1	8	30
WARD 5			10		2	5	17
WARD 6	4		16		1	2	23
WARD 7	2		25				27
WARD 8	1	1	17				19
WARD 9			9	1			10
WARD 10			3			3	6
WARD 11			11		1		12
WARD 12			5		1	4	10
WARD 13			11				11
WARD 14			2		1	3	6
WARD 15		1	2				3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>282</b>

Of the 221 homes that experienced a fire in 2018, thirteen fires occurred in an out building such as a detached garage or shed where smoke alarms were not required. Smoke alarms were found operational and installed properly in 119 homes or 57.2%.

**78.4%**

**Of All Structure Fires  
Occur in Residential  
Properties**

57.2% compliance with smoke alarm requirements in homes that experienced a fire in 2018

**2.8% INCREASE FROM 2017**

## Smoke Alarm Compliance

Of the 221 homes in the City of Hamilton that experienced a fire in 2018, only 119 homes had smoke alarms installed and operational in accordance with the Ontario Fire Code. Fifty-three homes were found to have no smoke alarms installed or smoke alarms not operational. In some cases, due to extensive damage caused by a fire or due to collapsed areas of a home that makes investigation difficult, it is undetermined if smoke alarms were installed and operational. If a fire occurred in a detached garage or shed on a residential property, the smoke alarm requirement is marked as not applicable.

WARD	IN COMPLIANCE	NOT IN COMPLIANCE	UNDETERMINED	N/A	COMPLIANCE
WARD 1	6	5	0	0	54.5%
WARD 2	27	6	8	0	81.8%
WARD 3	17	14	5	3	54.8%
WARD 4	8	9	0	2	47.0%
WARD 5	5	0	2	3	100.0%
WARD 6	8	3	4	1	72.7%
WARD 7	14	7	3	1	66.6%
WARD 8	9	2	5	1	81.8%
WARD 9	6	2	1	0	75.0%
WARD 10	1	2	0	0	33.3%
WARD 11	6	0	4	1	100.0%
WARD 12	3	0	2	0	100.0%
WARD 13	6	2	2	1	75.0%
WARD 14	1	1	0	0	50.0%
WARD 15	2	0	0	0	100.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>221</b>



## Top 2 Causes of Structure Fires by Ward

The top two causes of residential building fires in the City of Hamilton in 2018 were careless smoking and electrical/mechanical problems. The top two causes of commercial building fires in the City of Hamilton in 2018 were electrical/mechanical problems and arson related fires.

WARD	RESIDENTIAL FIRES		COMMERCIAL FIRES	
	CAUSE 1	CAUSE 2	CAUSE 1	CAUSE 2
Ward 1	Careless Smoking	Electrical/Mechanical	Arson	Undetermined
Ward 2	Careless Smoking	Electrical/Mechanical	Undetermined	Arson/Careless Smoking
Ward 3	Careless Smoking	Arson/Unattended Cooking	Unattended Cooking / Mechanical Electrical	Undetermined
Ward 4	Electrical/Mechanical	Arson	Electrical/Mechanical	Improper Handling Flammable Materials
Ward 5	Careless Smoking	Improper Handling Flammable Materials	Maintenance	Arson/Careless Smoking
Ward 6	Electrical/Mechanical	Unattended Cooking	Arson	Undetermined
Ward 7	Careless Smoking	Arson	Arson	Improper Handling Flammable Materials
Ward 8	Electrical/Mechanical	Careless Smoking	Arson	Undetermined
Ward 9	Electrical/Mechanical	Undetermined	Undetermined	
Ward 10	Electrical/Mechanical	Improper Handling Flammable Materials	Electrical/Mechanical	Maintenance
Ward 11	Electrical/Mechanical	Undetermined	Improper Handling Flammable Materials	
Ward 12	Electrical/Mechanical	Undetermined	Undetermined	Electrical/Mechanical
Ward 13	Electrical/Mechanical	Undetermined		
Ward 14	Undetermined	Undetermined	Electrical/Mechanical	Undetermined
Ward 15	Careless Smoking	Undetermined	Arson	

## All Responses by Ward

ALL RESPONSES BY WARD	2018 RESPONSES
WARD 1	2143
WARD 2	5480
WARD 3	4249
WARD 4	2542
WARD 5	2409
WARD 6	1959
WARD 7	2932
WARD 8	2574
WARD 9	1448
WARD 10	1053
WARD 11	1565
WARD 12	1375
WARD 13	1112
WARD 14	664
WARD 15	1002
N/A (Outside of Ward Boundary)	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32509</b>

## Fire Fatalities

There were five fire fatalities in the City of Hamilton in 2018. One fatality occurred as the result of a preventable fire as the cause was determined to be careless smoking.

YEAR	FIRE FATALITIES
2014	4
2015	5
2016	11
2017	6
2018	5



# APPARATUS RESPONSES

There were 42,234 total apparatus responses in 2018 which represents an increase of 6.2% over 2017. The following charts provide a breakdown of all apparatus responses by station.



STATION 1	TOTAL RESPONSES	
Engine 1		1541
Ladder 1		878
Rescue 1		3955
Platoon 1		312
<b>Total</b>		<b>6686</b>

STATION 2	TOTAL RESPONSES	
Engine 2		1649
District 3		184
Car 73		518
<b>Total</b>		<b>2351</b>

STATION 3	TOTAL RESPONSES	
Engine 3		2328
<b>Total</b>		<b>2328</b>

STATION 4	TOTAL RESPONSES	
Ladder 4		1148
Rescue 4		2408
Support 4		19
HAZMAT 2		18
<b>Total</b>		<b>3593</b>

STATION 5	TOTAL RESPONSES	
Engine 5		1249
<b>Total</b>		<b>1249</b>

STATION 6	TOTAL RESPONSES	
Pump 6		3875
<b>Total</b>		<b>3875</b>

STATION 7		TOTAL RESPONSES
Engine 7		1237
<b>Total</b>		<b>1237</b>

STATION 8		TOTAL RESPONSES
Engine 8		2032
District 2		226
<b>Total</b>		<b>2258</b>

STATION 9		TOTAL RESPONSES
Engine 9		2310
Ladder 9		1032
<b>Total</b>		<b>3342</b>

STATION 10		TOTAL RESPONSES
Ladder 10		1211
<b>Total</b>		<b>1211</b>

STATION 11		TOTAL RESPONSES
Engine 11		2358
<b>Total</b>		<b>2358</b>

STATION 12		TOTAL RESPONSES
Pump 12		897
Rescue 12		2076
<b>Total</b>		<b>2973</b>

STATION 14		TOTAL RESPONSES
Tanker 14		124
<b>Total</b>		<b>124</b>

STATION 15		TOTAL RESPONSES
Ladder 15		175
<b>Total</b>		<b>175</b>

STATION 16		TOTAL RESPONSES
Pump 16		206
Squad 16		313
Tanker 16		38
<b>Total</b>		<b>557</b>

STATION 17		TOTAL RESPONSES
Engine 17		1230
Tanker 17		94
<b>Total</b>		<b>1324</b>

STATION 18		TOTAL RESPONSES
Pump 18		180
Ladder 18		59
Support 18		273
Tanker 18		68
<b>Total</b>		<b>580</b>

STATION 19		TOTAL RESPONSES
Pump 19		322
Tanker 19		83
Tower 19		51
<b>Total</b>		<b>456</b>

STATION 20	TOTAL RESPONSES
Ladder 20	879
<b>Total</b>	<b>879</b>

STATION 21	TOTAL RESPONSES
Engine 21	850
Pump 21	52
Rescue 21	115
Tanker 21	78
<b>Total</b>	<b>1095</b>

STATION 23	TOTAL RESPONSES
Pump 23	1348
Support 23	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1353</b>

STATION 24	TOTAL RESPONSES
Engine 24	938
Ladder 24	37
Support 24	60
Tanker 24	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>1136</b>

STATION 25	TOTAL RESPONSES
Pump 25	88
Rescue 25	135
Tanker 25	45
Brush 25	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>285</b>

STATION 26	TOTAL RESPONSES
Pump 26	60
Support 26	61
Tanker 26	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>168</b>

STATION 27	TOTAL RESPONSES
Pump 27	81
Squad 27	109
Tanker 27	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>225</b>

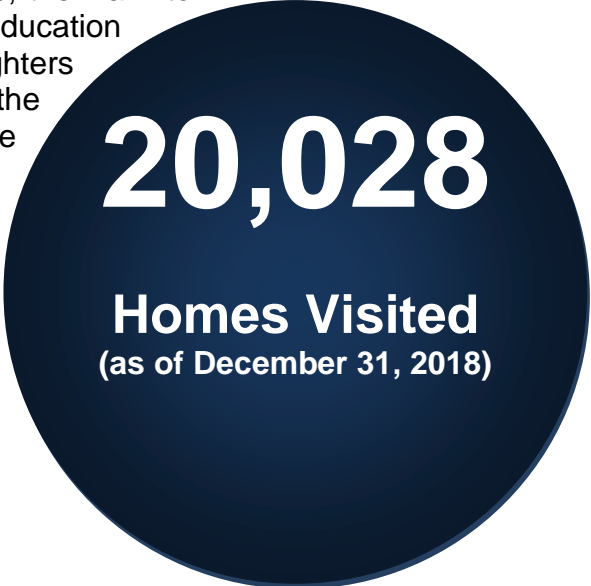
STATION 28	TOTAL RESPONSES
Pump 28	147
Squad 28	222
Tanker 28	45
<b>Total</b>	<b>414</b>



Central Fire Station -1922

# HOME FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM

In response to the tragedies that occurred in 2016, the Hamilton Fire Department initiated the Home Fire Safety Education Program in May of 2017. This initiative has firefighters going door to door speaking with residents about the top two causes of house fires and checking smoke alarms. If no smoke alarms were found or smoke alarms were non-operational, new smoke alarms or batteries were installed free of charge. This highly successful program enhances the safety of residents in their homes and contributes to a healthy and safe community.





# PARTNERING FOR A SAFER COMMUNITY

The Hamilton Fire Department is grateful to our community partners who support our Alarmed and Ready Smoke Alarm Program and our Home Fire Safety Education Program.

In 2007, the Hamilton Fire Department embarked on a partnership with Union Gas to increase our ability to provide smoke alarms to the citizens of Hamilton. Over the past 11 years, we have received a number of generous grants totaling over \$35,000 from Union Gas which has allowed us to purchase approximately 4,600 smoke alarms to install in the homes of some of our communities most needy and vulnerable families.



In 2018, Union Gas again presented a cheque in the amount of \$2,500 to Chief Cunliffe in support of this life saving initiative.



Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation is dedicated to improving life safety capabilities of first responders and public safety organizations. In 2018, Firehouse Subs became a primary sponsor of the Hamilton Fire Department's Home Fire Safety Education Program with a generous grant of over \$19,000 which has been utilized to purchase over 2,000 smoke alarms for installation in homes across the City.

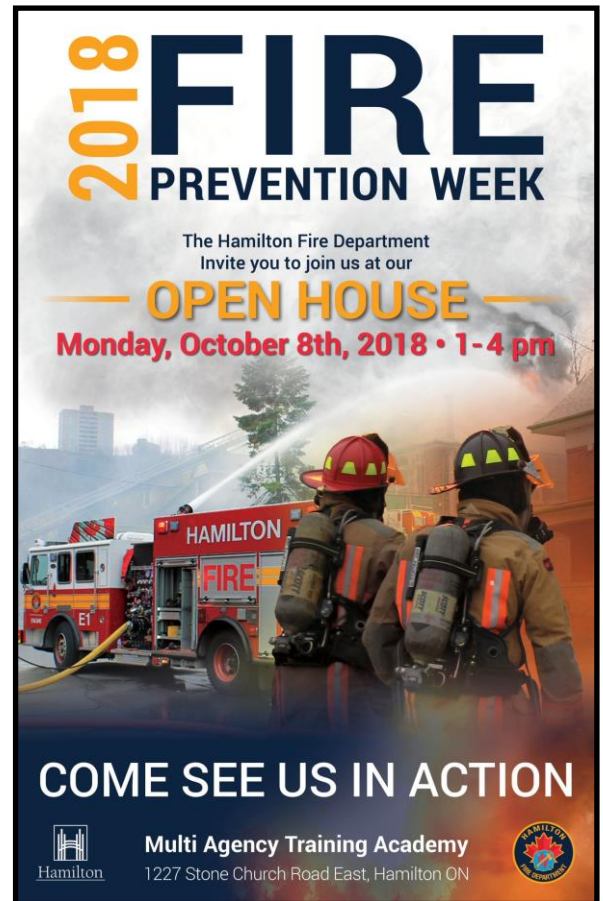


# FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2018

In addition to delivering fire safety education to school children across the City during Fire Prevention Week, the Hamilton Fire Department held its second annual open house at the Multi Agency Training Academy. The public were invited to meet with Fire Department personnel to discuss the various services provided by the Hamilton Fire Department and to discuss fire safety and emergency planning.

A number of scenarios that included a car fire, a rope rescue and an auto extrication evolution were conducted.

Static displays included the Department's Fire Safety Trailer, Command Unit, HAZMAT units, Ladder 15, Brush 25, Rescue 25, Pump 19 and Tanker 26.



# BOX 43

The Box 43 Association was founded in 1950 to serve refreshments and food to firefighters at multiple alarm incidents. They began by serving coffee and drinks from the trunks of their cars. A homemade trailer was then constructed and served as the first canteen.



Later, in 1956, an older International Harvester step van was purchased and utilized as the canteen. In 1970, that old step van was replaced with a 1964 Chevrolet step van which had been formerly used as a newspaper delivery van. All of the vehicles noted above were modified for use as a canteen by the members of the Box 43 Association. In the late 1980's, the Association was incorporated and received charitable status. Fundraising events took place and soon they were able to purchase a fully equipped 1992 Ford cube van, equipped with a refrigerator, stove, microwave and a built-in 35 gallon water tank. In 2016, a newer Rehab vehicle was purchased and placed into service.



Dispatched by the Hamilton Fire Department via pagers, Box 43 was dispatched to 58 incidents in 2018 including one in Burlington. Regardless of the time of day; when called upon, this dedicated group of volunteers respond to incidents and provide an invaluable service to all first responders on scene.



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BOX 43	TOTAL DISPATCHES	
	2014	47
	2015	54
	2016	62
	2017	46
	2018	58

26% Increase Over 2017

# HAMILTON FIRE DEPARTMENT IN THE COMMUNITY

The Hamilton Professional Firefighters Association (Local 288) and The Greater Hamilton Volunteer Firefighters Association (CLAC 911) continue to support the City of Hamilton with numerous charitable fundraising events and attendance at public events.



# TANKER DONATION TO FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES

In June of 2018, the City of Hamilton and the Hamilton Fire Department were proud to donate two of their surplus tanker trucks to First Nations communities in northern Ontario. The two 1997 Freightliner tankers were donated, one to Couchiching First Nation and one to Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation which are both located east of Fort Frances, Ontario.



CN Rail joined in the effort to deliver the trucks and shipped them to Winnipeg, Manitoba at no cost. From there, Chief Cunliffe, Deputy Chief Moss, Chief Mechanical Officer Keenan and the City's Urban Indigenous Project Manager Shylo Elmayan drove the two tankers to the two First Nation destinations.



# CAMP FFIT HAMILTON

Under the direction of Firefighter Pike Krpan, the Hamilton Fire Department for the fourth consecutive year hosted Camp FFIT (Female Firefighters in Training). This camp is for young women 16 to 20 years old who are interested in learning more about a future career in firefighting. Camp FFIT provides participants with first-hand knowledge of the duties of a firefighter while developing emergency preparedness skills.



Over the past decade women have applied in increasing numbers to the fire service. Camp FFIT is designed to support and expand their participation in

the fire service.

Camp FFIT Hamilton is three full days of physically and mentally demanding hands-on learning. The Hamilton program is modelled after similar camps that have been conducted elsewhere in the province and is supported by Fire Service Women of Ontario.



# FIRE PREVENTION SERVICE DELIVERY

The Fire Prevention Division consists of a Chief Fire Prevention Officer, an Assistant Chief Fire Prevention Officer and 22 Inspection staff.

The Fire Prevention Division operates from three locations; the West District Office located at 55 King William Street (includes 2 Inspectors assigned to schools), the East District Office located at Fire Station 12 on Highway 8 in Stoney Creek and the Mountain District Office located at Fire Station 21 on Wilson Street in Ancaster.

The Fire Prevention Division is responsible for the enforcement of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act (FPPA), the Ontario Fire Code and various municipal by-laws dealing with fire safety, co-ordination of a juvenile firesetters program, a home and commercial inspection program by suppression personnel and a smoke alarm/CO alarm installation program. In addition, all Fire Prevention staff conducts public education initiatives that include talks, presentations and training sessions for school children, community service organizations, building staff and citizens.



The following chart provides an overview of the number of Inspections assigned to each of the inspection districts over the past four years. Intake inspections include but are not limited to items such as general inspections, licence inspections, complaints, permit inspections, occupant load inspections, carbon monoxide/smoke alarm complaints, propane reviews, pesticide notifications, fire drills etc.

YEAR	2015	2016	2017	2018
WEST DISTRICT	1338	1284	1297	1260
MOUNTAIN DISTRICT	750	862	863	905
EAST DISTRICT	439	589	561	590
SCHOOLS	116	122	153	185
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2643</b>	<b>2857</b>	<b>2874</b>	<b>2940</b>

The Fire Prevention Division is mandated to inspect and witness fire drills in all vulnerable occupancies in the City of Hamilton on an annual basis. Once again, Fire Prevention staff successfully completed those inspections in order to protect some of our most vulnerable residents.

YEAR	TOTAL OCCUPANCIES	NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS	TOTAL INSPECTIONS	% COMPLETION
2017	119	6593	119	100.00%
2018	119	6593	119	100.00%

### Public Events and Public Contacts

The Hamilton Fire Department attends hundreds of public events annually which include visits to schools and conducting presentations. In 2018, Hamilton Fire Department staff interacted with approximately 55,679 citizens at these community events and through the Home Fire Safety Education Program.

PUBLIC CONTACTS	2016	2017	2018
CHILDREN	37261	32807	30938
ADULTS	14054	17331	13467
SENIORS	3345	3674	5611
HOME FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION		8526	5663
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>54660</b>	<b>62338</b>	<b>55679</b>

### Alarmed and Ready Program

Complementing the new Home Fire Safety Education Program, the Hamilton Fire Department's Alarmed and Ready program provides for the installation of smoke alarms/batteries and carbon monoxide alarms in owner occupied homes of citizens who cannot afford them, unable to install them themselves and for senior citizens.

This program requires citizens to make contact with the Department and an appropriate time is scheduled for the installation. In conjunction with this, firefighters who are in attendance at a property and who find no operational detectors, will install the required number to ensure the safety of the residents.



The following chart provides an overview of smoke alarm/battery installations over the past four years.

Recognition for the success of this program must be provided to Union Gas who each year generously provide a donation to the Hamilton Fire Department for the purchase of smoke alarms.

YEAR	2015	2016	2017	2018
SMOKE ALARMS INSTALLED	134	135	317	411
BATTERIES INSTALLED	123	145	247	352



# TRAINING DIVISION SERVICE DELIVERY

The Training Division consists of the Chief of Training, five Training Officers and one Medical Training Coordinator. This Division operates from the Multi-Agency Training Academy located at 1227 Stone Church Road East.



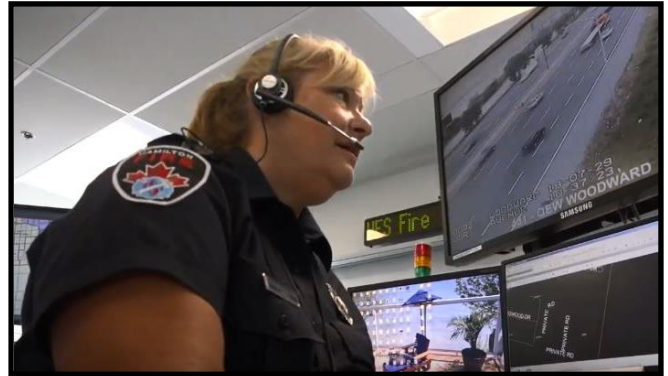
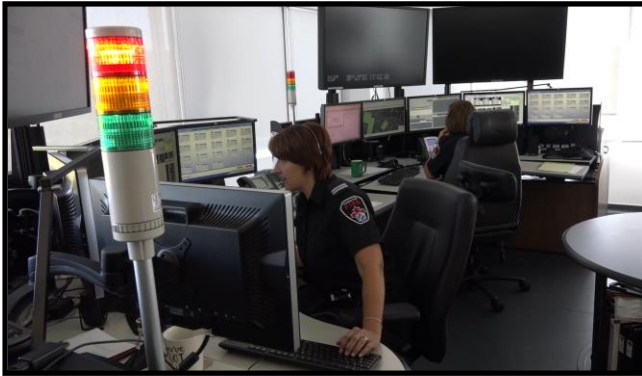
The Hamilton Fire Department uses a comprehensive internal program of training for its members and provides for attendance of promotion oriented personnel at community college, off-site resources, and the Ontario Fire College. The Training Division also administers promotional examinations. The Training Division is responsible for continuous training, upgrading, competence and proficiency of all personnel and develops training procedures for compliance with legislated standards. This covers all service areas of the Department.

The Training Division is responsible for the co-ordination of training of new firefighter recruits, both career and volunteer; as well as the ongoing training of personnel on a daily basis. Training programs are directed primarily to the Fire Suppression Division and to other divisions where necessary. Each firefighter participates in a minimum of 180 hours of on-going theoretical and practical training each year. The Training Division also serves as research and development for fire suppression technology matters, the dissemination of new information in the field, and the updating of all manuals.

In 2018, the Training Division facilitated the training of two career firefighter recruit classes which resulted in the successful graduation of 37 firefighters. Each recruit class was 18 weeks in length. In addition, two volunteer recruit classes were held which resulted in the successful graduation of 45 Volunteer recruit firefighters. The Volunteer firefighter recruit class involved 26 weeks of training.

# COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION SERVICE DELIVERY

The Communications Division consists of a Chief Communications Officer, four Communications Officers (one per Platoon) and eight Communications Operators.



This Division is responsible for the intake of emergency calls, dispatching of apparatus, relocation of apparatus and monitoring of all radio transmissions. In addition, this Division handles non-emergency calls, station mapping requirements, monitoring of hydrant status and road closures, documenting alarm system testing and maintains information within the Departments Computer Aided Dispatch system (CAD). The Communications Division also receives and processes non-emergency requests for service from the public, emergency agencies and other public safety services.

The Communications Centre is a co-user of the Hamilton municipal trunked radio system that enhances coordinated delivery of public safety emergency services in the City. Other users of the trunked radio system include the Hamilton Police Service, Hamilton Public Works and Hamilton Airport.

In 2018, the Communications Division dispatched over 32,000 calls for assistance. In addition, there were numerous calls for assistance in neighbouring municipalities in which Hamilton dispatchers fielded calls and dispatched resources.

Communications Division staff provided 540 hours of training for firefighters who would then be able to fill-in as an operator as required. Over 700 hours of internal training with Communications personnel was also completed.



# MECHANICAL DIVISION SERVICE DELIVERY



The Mechanical Division of the Hamilton Fire Department is staffed by a Chief Mechanical Officer, a Breathing Apparatus Technician, one Shipper/Receiver, one Storekeeper and eight mechanics.

Effective delivery of emergency responses by the fire suppression force depends on adequate and reliable vehicles. The Mechanical Division of the Hamilton Fire

Department is charged with the maintenance and repairs of the Department's approximately 100 apparatus, ancillary equipment, and the ambulance fleet for the Hamilton Paramedic Service. This Division is also responsible for writing specifications for fire apparatus and maintaining firefighting clothing, breathing apparatus and equipment.

Under a Chief Mechanical Officer, licensed mechanics, a self-contained breathing apparatus technician and a storekeeper carry out regular comprehensive programs of maintenance, testing and repair. Emergency repairs are done at all hours and there is staff attendance at multiple alarm fires when required. Routine maintenance is performed on apparatus on three-month, six-month, and annual cycles. The work of the division is wide ranging, including major vehicle work customarily contracted out in many other fire departments. In 2018, Mechanical staff completed 1,223 repair orders and registered 7,123 labour hours on Fire Department vehicles and 2,222 labour hours on Paramedic Service vehicles. An additional 391 hours were spent on fire equipment repairs and 13 hours on Paramedic equipment repairs.

LABOUR HOURS	2017	2018
FIRE APPARATUS	7400	7123
FIRE EQUIPMENT	423	391
PARAMEDIC APPARATUS	2090	2222
PARAMEDIC EQUIPMENT	21	13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9934</b>	<b>9749</b>



# CORPORATE RADIO SERVICE DELIVERY



The Corporate Two-Way Radio section is staffed by a Radio Systems Specialist and a Radio Technician.

The division is responsible for maintaining a 12 channel radio system operating through 10 tower sites across the City. This radio system provides service to approximately 3,000 radio units (mobile and portable) across the City of Hamilton.

Public safety users of the radio system include the Hamilton Fire Department and the Hamilton Police Service. Public Works users include Roads, Parks, By-law, Traffic and Water Divisions. Other partner agency users include the Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit (HBRU) and Hamilton International Airport.

Radio channels are logically divided into over 150 talk groups for use by public safety and public works personnel. Communications personnel have the ability to patch radio channels with neighbouring Departments such as Burlington, Grimsby and Puslinch for interoperability when working at emergency scenes.

The Corporate Radio team also maintains the alphanumeric paging system infrastructure used to page out volunteer firefighters to emergency calls. In addition, the fire station alerting system that alerts on-duty career firefighters in stations of an emergency call is also maintained by Corporate Radio personnel. Mobile computing hardware installed in fire apparatus is maintained by the Corporate Radio team. All fire apparatus have a Windows based mobile computer complete with Wi-Fi, a wireless modem, and GPS tracking.

## **Fire Department Inventory**

- 112 mobile radios
- 497 portable radios
- 80 mobile computers
- 7 radio dispatch consoles at Fire Communications Centres
- Fire station alerting system
- 9 site Alphanumeric paging system

## **Public Works inventory**

- 450 mobile radios
- 550 portable radios
- 2 radio dispatch consoles at the Customer Contact Centre

# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICE DELIVERY

The City of Hamilton is required to adopt an Emergency Management Program through an approved by-law. Originally created in 2003, the by-law was rewritten in 2005 and more recently in 2017 to reflect the evolution of the program.

The City of Hamilton is required to have an up-to-date Emergency Plan, which must be provided to the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management. In 2012, the municipal Emergency Plan underwent a significant re-write to reflect the adoption of the Incident Management System as the municipal emergency response model. This internationally recognized system is a standardized approach to emergency management encompassing personnel, facilities, equipment, procedures, and communications, operating within a common organizational structure. It has been adopted provincially and led by Emergency Management Ontario in partnership with over 30 organizations.



The Emergency Plan is reviewed annually with the 2018 review resulting in some minor revisions.

Municipalities must have a designated Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) and a designated Emergency Information Officer. Currently, the City of Hamilton has two designated CEMCs whom have completed the required training under Ontario Regulation 380/04. The CEMCs are responsible for the day-to-day activities of the Emergency Management Program and report to the Office of the Fire Chief for day-to-day operations and to the Emergency Management Program Committee (EMPC) for guidance on the implementation of the Emergency Management Program.

Municipalities must also develop a community risk profile and identify critical infrastructure. The City of Hamilton has developed and maintains a Hazard

Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) which identifies and assesses the various risks and hazards to public safety that could give rise to emergencies in the City of Hamilton. The HIRA was reviewed in 2017 with input from stakeholder agencies and subject matter experts.

The top ten identified risks for Hamilton are:

1. Hazardous Materials Incident/Spills – Fixed Site Incident
2. Flooding
3. Hazardous Materials Incident/Spills - Transportation Incident
4. Human Health Emergency
5. Energy Emergency (Supply)
6. Extreme Ice Storm
7. Explosion & Fire
8. Transportation Emergency – Rail
9. Critical Infrastructure – Telecommunications
10. Active Shooter / Violent Situation



Courtesy of The Hamilton Spectator

The Emergency Management Program maintains a listing of critical infrastructure within the City, both private and publicly owned. This was reviewed and updated in 2017.

The Municipal Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) is the location where senior municipal staff convenes to manage the emergency from the strategic level. The

EOC supports the needs of tactical responders and manages the impact on the community at large while ensuring the delivery of municipal services continues.

The City of Hamilton primary EOC is a 24/7 state-of-the-art facility and is one of only a handful of stand-alone facilities in the province. In the event that the primary location is affected by the emergency, the City has an alternate EOC at the Municipal Service Centre in Stoney Creek. At this facility, the Saltfleet Room and Council Chambers are transformed into our EOC facility. The EOCs have a variety of communication systems including internet phones, landlines, email, fax and radios.

The Emergency Management Program conducted three emergency exercises in 2018:

- June 11<sup>th</sup> - Notification exercise (29 people contacted)
- September 7<sup>th</sup> – Cyber-Attack - City-wide exercise (40 people)
- November 7<sup>th</sup> – Mass Casualty - City-wide exercise including the activation of the Emergency Social Services Control Group and the Reunification Phone Line with the Customer Contact Centre, Hamilton Health Sciences and St. Joseph’s Healthcare
- Notification exercise (29 people contacted)

The Emergency Management Program delivered 12 training sessions in 2018:

- Development of a training video for the setup and operations of reception centers
- Crisis and Reputation Management course (Jan 25) (11 participants)
- IMS 200 (Feb 9) (19 participants)
- Public Works DOC Training (March 5) (9 participants)
- Public Works DOC Training (March 27) (9 participants)
- Information Officer Training (March 29) (2 participants)
- Operations Section Training (March 29) (17 participants)
- Finance Section Training (May 14) (10 participants)
- Finance and Administration Workshop for Brant County (June 8) (30 participants)
- Social Media Summit (October 18<sup>th</sup>) (14 participants)
- On-line learning module ‘Essential Components of Emergency Management’ launched November 1<sup>st</sup> – training module for the EOC Management Team
- Communication Team – IMS training and Emergency response (Nov 27<sup>th</sup>) (7 participants)

A variety of public education and awareness initiatives were implemented in 2018. The Emergency Preparedness Week campaign “5 Days to Emergency Preparedness” was a success with a coordinated media campaign to reach a



broad spectrum of the local population. In addition to broad awareness initiatives, several audiences were targeted such as the Canadian Hearing Society, Long Term Care Homes and Residential Homes.

- Emergency Management Symposium Florida Hurricanes and Kansas Tornado (97 participants)
- Long Term Care Facilities and Retirement Homes compliance to Retirement Home Act and preparedness for an emergency/evacuation (44 participants)
- Canadian Hearing Society – Hamilton (20 participants)
- Long Term Care Facilities (33 participants)
- Climate Change Impacts on Infrastructure and Emergency Management (70 participants)
- Emergency Preparedness Week Campaign – multi media campaign with TV, radio and social media
- Police in the Park
- Emergency Guidelines for Employees launched on city internet (Emergency Preparedness Week 2018)
- Amica – Emergency Response for Seniors (10 participants)
- Meadowlands – Emergency Response for Directors of Long Term Care Homes (8 participants)
- Hamilton Fire Department Open House (200 participants)
- Distribution of Emergency Preparedness Guide in libraries and around the City (600)
- Ontario Business Improvement Association presentation (25 participants)
- Emergency Management Symposium (guest speakers from Las Vegas on the Mandalay Bay Mass Casualties and London England on events in London resulting in mass casualties) (140 participants)
- Councillor Orientation (24 participants)

In addition to the legislated requirements, the following plans were updated as part of the continual improvement of the Emergency Management Program and the corporation's ability to respond to emergency events:

- Emergency Social Services Plan
- Reunification Phone Line Procedure
- Emergency Preparedness Guide for employees
- Special Events Emergency Planning
- Mass Casualty Plan
- Emergency Information Plan

Community partners such as the Red Cross, Salvation Army and Good Shepherd often assist the City in responding to City emergencies. The Emergency Management Program has established a partnership with these agencies to provide Emergency Social Services to evacuees and those affected by the emergency.

The City of Hamilton will continue to develop and maintain the Emergency Management Program and will enhance current partnerships that will enable the City of Hamilton to work effectively together under the stress of a major disaster.



# HAMILTON FIRE STATIONS AND APPARATUS

STATION 1      35-43 JOHN STREET NORTH  
 PLATOON 1  
 ENGINE 1  
 LADDER 1  
 RESCUE 1  
 SUPPLY 1

STATION 2      1400 UPPER WELLINGTON STREET  
 DISTRICT 3  
 ENGINE 2  
 CAR 73

STATION 3      965 GARTH STREET  
 ENGINE 3

STATION 4      729 UPPER SHERMAN AVENUE  
 RESCUE 4  
 LADDER 4  
 SUPPORT 4  
 HAZMAT 2

STATION 5      1227 STONE CHURCH ROAD  
 EAST  
 ENGINE 5  
 COMMAND UNIT

STATION 6      246 WENTWORTH STREET NORTH  
 PUMP 6

STATION 7      225 QUIGLEY ROAD  
 ENGINE 7

STATION 8      400 MELVIN AVENUE  
 DISTRICT 2  
 ENGINE 8

STATION 9      125 KENILWORTH AVENUE  
 NORTH  
 ENGINE 9  
 LADDER 9

STATION 10      1455 MAIN STREET WEST  
 LADDER 10

STATION 11      24 RAY STREET SOUTH  
 ENGINE 11

STATION 12      199 HIGHWAY #8  
 STONEY CREEK  
 PUMP 12  
 RESCUE 12

STATION 14      595 CHAPEL HILL ROAD  
 ELFRIDA  
 TANKER 14

STATION 15      415 ARVIN AVENUE  
 STONEY CREEK  
 LADDER 15

STATION 16      939 BARTON STREET EAST  
 STONEY CREEK  
 PUMP 16  
 SQUAD 16  
 TANKER 16

STATION 17      363 ISSAC BROCK DRIVE  
 STONEY CREEK  
 ENGINE 17  
 TANKER 17

STATION 18                    2636 HIGHWAY 56  
     BINBROOK  
     PUMP 18  
     LADDER 18  
     SUPPORT 18  
     TANKER 18

STATION 19                    3303 HOMESTEAD DRIVE  
     MOUNT HOPE  
     PUMP 19  
     TOWER 19  
     TANKER 19

STATION 20                    661 GARNER ROAD  
     ANCASTER  
     LADDER 20

STATION 21                    365 WILSON STREET  
     ANCASTER  
     ENGINE 21  
     PUMP 21  
     RESCUE 21  
     TANKER 21

STATION 23                    MEMORIAL SQUARE  
     DUNDAS  
     PUMP 23  
     SUPPORT 23

STATION 24                    256 PARKSIDE DRIVE  
     WATERDOWN  
     ENGINE 24  
     LADDER 24  
     SUPPORT 24  
     TANKER 24

STATION 25                    361 OLD BROCK ROAD  
     GREENSVILLE  
     PUMP 25  
     RESCUE 25  
     TANKER 25  
     BRUSH 25

STATION 26                    119 LYNDEN ROAD  
     LYNDEN  
     PUMP 26  
     SQUAD 26  
     TANKER 26

STATION 27                    795 OLD HIGHWAY 8  
     ROCKTON  
     PUMP 27  
     SQUAD 27  
     TANKER 27

STATION 28                    1801 BROCK ROAD  
     FREELTON  
     PUMP 28  
     SQUAD 28  
     TANKER 28







**SUPPORTING A HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITY**

**HAMILTON FIRE DEPARTMENT  
1227 STONE CHURCH ROAD EAST  
HAMILTON, ONTARIO  
L8W 2C6**

[www.hamilton.ca/fire](http://www.hamilton.ca/fire)



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**@HFD\_Incidents**