

PIVFD Trustees Report – 2021

Over the past year, Piers Islanders have been subjected to challenges created on a global scale. Covid 19 continues to evolve, climate change became a reality for many of us with the emergence of a heat dome producing record high temperatures followed by extremely dry conditions.

And here we are today; Piers Island hasn't experienced a serious covid outbreak, we all made it through the heat dome and the island hasn't burned down. Issues that most of us could not have predicted a year or two ago, have become today's reality.

The PIVFD, under the leadership of Steve Cruise, our fire chief since 2014, has seen many improvements to reduce the overall fire risk to our families, our homes and our forest. By establishing long range goals, working with Provincial regulatory agencies, recruiting new firefighters and first responders, establishing connections with other fire departments, ensuring all volunteers meet the educational and operational requirements, establishing training schedules, promoting FireSmart, educating Islanders on fire prevention, the PIVFD has ensured that we have the people and the know how to deal with the unexpected.

Over the last several years, the PIVFD has been responsible for improving our existing facilities and adding modern fire fighting equipment & medical equipment to serve our island's changing demographics and environment. Our 2 fire halls have been upgraded inside and out, a second firetruck added, modernizing and upgrading of our fire fighting equipment & medical emergency equipment as well as the installation of up to 4,000' of fire hose throughout the interior of our island, all to ensure we have the equipment to deal with an emergency.

In November of 2020 the PIVFD hosted a flu clinic, with Dr. Michal Pawlik providing seasonal influenza vaccines to Piers Islanders, followed in April and June of this year with a Covid clinic, offering on-island vaccinations.

The PIVFD has proven itself to be well prepared, whether that be fire, personal injury, pandemic or tomorrows unexpected. Without the dedication, hard work and perseverance of the many volunteers, we would not be experiencing the level of safety and security we currently enjoy on our island. As trustee, I'd like to thank all our volunteers, the entire crew of PIVFD and special thanks to Steve and Pauline, for all the work they do to ensure our ongoing health and safety.

Thank you all,

Doug Turner / PIVFD Trustee