

DATE: June 16, 2025
REPORT NO: WLFD-05-2025
SUBJECT: **Monthly Update – May 2025**
CONTACT: Tim Hofsink, Fire Chief

OVERVIEW:

- This report will address May 2025 fire responses and activities.

RECOMMENDATION:

That, Information Report WLFD-04-2025 titled “Monthly Update – May 2025” dated June 16, 2025, be received for information.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

Theme # 1 and # 4

- **Build** – a safe, connected, caring and active community
- **Advance** – organizational capacity and effectiveness

CURRENT SITUATION:

Emergency responses Calls:

See Attached Schedule "A" for May's calls.

New Recruits:

Recruit class is actively training every Monday evening, Wednesday evening and one weekend per month. This month they attended the Training tower at the GRTC in Grimsby for the first time to learn Advanced Ladder Operations. Our recruit firefighters are making excellent progress, with preparations underway to ensure success in their first Provincial Certification exams. Following their exams and Live Fire Training in early June, this class will be cleared to start responding to emergency calls.

Retirement:

None

Promotions:

The recruiting process for Deputy Fire Chief is well underway. Interviews for DC are to be held the first week of June, with hopes of filling the position within the coming weeks.

Training:

During the month of May, our Training Division focused on enhancing both rural and urban water supply operations. This included intensive practice in water shuttling and drafting from a variety of sources—critical skills necessary for effective firefighting in our region.

Additionally, we utilized the Grimsby Regional Training Centre (GRTC) to conduct advanced ladder operations training, ensuring our teams remain proficient with elevated apparatus techniques.

We're also pleased to report that the Training Team at Station 2 has successfully completed all required training to place West Lincoln's Tanker 2 into full operational service. This truck is the second large tanker that West Lincoln Fire has commissioned in the past years. With large water carrying capacity and two portable ponds each, the commissioning of this tanker marks a significant step in bolstering our rural firefighting response capabilities.

Fire Prevention / Public Education

Our Pub Ed team attended Farm/Agricultural day at the West Niagara Fairgrounds. Throughout May we have catalogued our inventory of Public Education Materials. We have ordered new education kits in preparation for our anticipated busy month of June with school visits and events.

Work is being done to prepare for various fire safety initiatives in coordination with the Communications Specialist to spread fire safety/smoke alarm messaging on Social Media platforms as well as other avenues.

Apparatus Fleet

The new tanker for Station 2 has entered service at Station 2. The two large volume portable pumps provided for in the 2024 Capital budget have been put on the new tankers and are in active use.

Work on outfitting the newly purchased Pumper from Fort Garry in Winnipeg, equipment requirements have been finalized and the truck is being prepared for service.

Fire Department Activities

Work is continuing on the preparation for the International Ploughing Match to be held in September. Coordination of varying agencies is underway to ensure appropriate medical and emergency response coverage for the duration of the event, with substantial input from the Niagara West Emergency Management Coordinator.

CampFIRE Niagara, a firefighting camp to showcase the firefighting career to high-

school age girls was held recently in Niagara Falls. Equipment and staff from West Lincoln were provided in support of this important initiative.

The Critical Incident Stress Management team is meeting regularly to prepare for managing traumatic exposures/injuries that may occur in carrying out emergency response duties for West Lincoln Firefighters. The Government of Ontario is beginning to provide important resources to support the mental health of First Responders in Ontario in a variety of ways.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTS:

This report was reviewed by the Director of Corporate Services/CFO, CAO and Clerks Department.

CONCLUSION:

This report is to inform Committee and Council of the May 2025 operations of West Lincoln Fire and Emergency Services.

Prepared & Submitted by:

Tim Hofsink
Fire Chief

Approved by:

Cynthia Summers
**Director of Community and
Protective Services**

Truper McBride
CAO