

DATE: April 20, 2026
REPORT NO: WLFD-05-2026
SUBJECT: **Monthly Update – March 2026**
CONTACT: Tim Hofsink, Fire Chief

OVERVIEW:

- This report will address March 2026 fire responses and activities.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That, Information Report WLFD-05-2026 titled “Monthly Update – March 2026”, dated April 27, 2026, be received.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

Theme #1 and #4

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

Recruits: Recruit training has been focused on the final portion of the recruit program, Hazardous Materials responses. The group has carried out some of the training online and have been practicing with the physical training materials. Testing for the final element of their recruit training is scheduled for early June, after which the group will graduate as fully certified firefighters.

Retirement: Captain Mike Perry

Promotions: The testing and selection process for the Training Officer-Lieutenant position is underway for the vacant position at Station 1. The promotional process for filling the vacancy of Captain at Station 2 will proceed in the coming months.

Training: This month, firefighters continued to drill on hose advancement techniques. Fire Hose advancement can be challenging due to fire conditions and the need to heavily coordinated teamwork. Newer fire line management techniques have been developed and are being implemented to help ensure that the firefighters in West Lincoln are remaining current with the changing fire environments that they face.

Firefighters participated in table-top emergency scenarios where all had an opportunity to “command” a scene and provide radio reports. This resulted in a great group discussion where ideas were shared on strategies and tactics.

The team also held medical training presented by our recruit team covering the issues our firefighters encounter most at emergency scenes such as bleed control, CPR and Airway management. After the presentations, firefighters were able to put their skills to the test, participating in various medical scenarios while being evaluated by senior firefighter staff.

West Lincoln's Officer team continued into their third month of Incident Command training. This training teaches a standardized approach to the command, control and coordination of emergencies. The goal of this training is to ensure that all officers are trained to the same standard, so that common language and techniques are applied consistently at all our emergency calls.

Fire Prevention / Public Education:

March 13- Fire safety/story time at St Martin school, four classes and about 80 kids.

March 26- Food truck event at Smithville Public School 4-7pm

Several fire inspections were conducted at various locations.

Apparatus Fleet: Tablet installations are continuing with the remainder of the apparatus to be outfitted with the new tablets in the coming months. In terms of Capital equipment projects, WLFD has now taken possession of two new battery-operated ventilation fans in March, with the third one on order. These new fans provide additional operational capabilities over our previous older gas-powered fan, allowing for ventilation within structures without negatively impacting the environment. These fans can also serve to provide rehab cooling and misting at incidents during the summer months. We also received notice from the supplier that the Station 2 SCBA compressor that was ordered this past December should be arriving in mid-April.

Fire Services Activities: Training continues to be centre-stage at WLFD, with multiple different courses underway. West Lincoln's team of firefighters display eager willingness to learn and upgrade their skills, ensuring that the community will be well served by professional, prepared firefighters.

A cohort of firefighters in West Lincoln continue to train together for fitness, with some members preparing for fitness competitions as well as running races. The team is made stronger by these individuals working together to become physically stronger, as well as to bring members of the team closer together.

A number of community events are being planned by the members of both stations, with a drive-through barbeque planned at Station 2 for Saturday, April 25.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial implications as a result of this information report.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTS:

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

CONCLUSION:

This report is to inform Committee and Council of the March 2026 operations of West Lincoln Fire and Emergency Services.

SCHEDULE(S):

Schedule A – WLFD March Responses

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