

FIRE SERVICES

The Fire Services net 2016 budget is \$17,103,900

WHAT IS FIRE SERVICES?

The Fire Department has been providing fire fighting and rescue services to residents since 1919. The mandate of the Department is to protect citizens and property by providing proper measures to prevent, control and extinguish fires. The Department also responds to medical emergencies, land and marine rescue operations, requests from other fire services, hazardous materials incidents and requests for public service. Currently the Department employs 123.5 uniformed personnel and 7 support staff.

DID YOU KNOW WE PROVIDE?

Administration:

The Administration Division is responsible for the organization, administration, and direction of fire and emergency management services for the Municipality in accordance with policies and bylaws approved by Council. Oversight is provided for the application and enforcement of the Fire Services Act and related provincial and federal statutes to support public safety. Administration also supports the Department's role in human resources, collective bargaining, personnel management, strategic planning, budget development and fiscal management, and document management. It takes a lead in fostering constructive external relations, public participation, internal improvement, and supports management of the Department's buildings, grounds, equipment and materials.

Net cost \$1,632,600





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Suppression & Rescue:

The Suppression & Rescue Division is responsible for fire and life safety response within Saanich and upon request to Mutual Aid partners. There were 4,610 incident responses in 2015 for fire, medical, marine, hazardous materials, technical rescue, motor vehicle incidents and public service calls. Fire inspections of buildings are conducted, fire and life-safety public education provided and cleaning and routine maintenance of fire stations, equipment and apparatus completed on a regular basis.

Net cost \$12,248,100

Dispatch:

The Communications Division is a regional service provider for Fire Dispatch. Emergency and non-emergency call receiving, processing, and dispatching is provided to Saanich as well as client municipalities including Oak Bay, Esquimalt, Central Saanich, North Saanich, Sidney, Colwood and View Royal. A partnership with Ecomm supports the hosting of Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management Systems (RMS) for use by Saanich and dispatch clients. Additional fire information technology is supported including mobile workstations, radios, telephones and 9-1-1. A total of 12,290 incidents were dispatched in 2015 for Saanich and dispatch clients. After hours call answering is also provided for Public Works.

Revenues \$544,900 Expenditures \$1,569,900 Net cost \$1,025,000





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Fire Prevention:

The Fire Prevention Division manages the inspection of commercial, residential, and industrial occupancies to ensure compliance with municipal and provincial fire safety regulations and by-laws. It has responsibility for the delivery of fire and life safety education to the public through programs such as Juvenile FireSetters, Learn Not to Burn, Seniors Fire Safety, etc. It conducts fire cause and determination investigations on behalf of the Fire Commissioner; conducts plan reviews for new construction and site inspections for fire and life safety systems prior to occupancy. The Division also manages pre-fire plan development and data entry to support safe fire ground operations.

Net cost \$873,500

Staff Development:

The Training Division manages the Department's recruiting and staff development activities. This includes planning, implementing, and monitoring the training requirements for the Department's 123.5 uniformed personnel to improve fire fighter safety, operational efficiencies, promotion and succession planning requirements. The Division manages the training records, documentation and certification tracking for individual and fire company training activities. It also develops operational best practices for disciplines such as high rise fire fighting and develops implementation plans for new equipment such as new fire apparatus.

Net cost \$427,800





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Equipment Maintenance:

The Mechanical Division is responsible for maintaining the Department's fleet of fire apparatus and vehicles and performing mandated commercial transport inspections of heavy apparatus. Firefighting equipment, Jaws of Life extrication tools, and self contained breathing apparatus are also maintained, and instruction in the safe operation, care and maintenance of apparatus, vehicles and related equipment is provided. A contract with Smeal Fire Apparatus is supported to provide mechanical warranty service for Southern Vancouver Island.

Net cost \$811,300

Building Maintenance:

This program tracks the building maintenance and utility costs incurred at all three fire stations operated by the Fire Department.

Net cost

\$85,600

