

Quick Start to February Kept Marystown Firefighter's Busy

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On February 4th, 2013 intense winds were battering much of the island portion of the province, and the Burin Peninsula was no exception. At 2:40PM the Fire Department was dispatched to an overturned Tractor-Trailer just north of the Terrenceville intersection on the Burin Peninsula Highway approximately 75 kms outside of Marystown, at the request of the RCMP for a fuel spill. The Tractor-Trailer had overturned due to the high winds in the area, which were reported to have gusted to approximately 130-140 km/hr. Mobile Unit #5, equipped with a spill kit and other equipment, and 2 Officers and 2 Firefighter's, responded to the call. Upon arrival our services were no longer required, and we returned to Marystown.

At 4:13PM, just as Mobile Unit #5 had returned to the fire hall, a call came through for a Chimney Fire on the Main Road in Beau Bois. Engine #3 and Rescue Unit #4 responded with 6 Officers and 8 Firefighter's. The chimney fire had burned out on its own upon our arrival.

Firefighter's had just returned to the fire hall, when once again at 5:27PM, a Pole Fire was reported at Smallwood Crescent. Engine #3 and Rescue Unit #4 responded with 5 Officers and 4 Firefighter's. The site was secured until the arrival of Newfoundland Power and the firefighter's returned to the fire hall at 5:55PM.

In the midst of the influx of calls, just as the call came through for the Chimney Fire in Beau Bois, the department experienced a communication breakdown. All pager and radio communications were interrupted. The interruption was due to power

failure in the area of the Tolt, where our communications are located. During the breakdown, firefighter's were on stand-by at the fire hall should any other emergencies occur. Firefighter's remained on stand-by until approximately 1 AM by which time the service was restored and the pager/radio system was operational.

On February 12, 2013 at 6:18PM a Pole Fire was reported on Creston Boulevard by the Green Depot in Creston South. Engine #3 and Rescue Unit #4 responded with 6 Officers and 7 Firefighter's. The site was secured until the arrival of Newfoundland Power at 7:30PM.

With the recent activity on ponds and waterways, the fire department got busy refreshing on training for Ice-Water Rescue on Sunday, February 24th and the following night at the regular weekly drill. The department refreshed skills for rescue as well as searches and operation of the hovercraft. The firefighter's also spent the month upgrading to Health Care Professional CPR and conducting preplanning in the community.

On the February 25th, 2013 Drill Night, the Marystown Kinette's showed up at the fire hall with Tim Hortons coffee and donuts for the firefighter's in recognition of Random Act of Kindness Week. The following night, the fire department took the great idea of the Kinette's and dropped by the RCSCC Mary Rose Sea Cadets drill with a snack for all cadets.

The Marystown Volunteer Fire Department serves approximately 5400 residents from the centrally located Fire Hall. The Fire Department has 30 very dedicated firefighters and a fleet of 2 Pumpers, 1 Aerial, 2 Rescue Vehicles, 1 Pick-up, 1 SUV, a Hovercraft and a Hazmat Unit. Visit our website at www.marystownvolunteerfiredepartment.com or you can also visit us on Facebook.