NEW BRUNSWICK ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

MARCH 27, 2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS - CONFERENCE CALL

President Charles Kavanaugh

1st VP Deputy Chief Scott Poupart

2nd VP Deputy Chief David McLinley

Past President Chief Mike Walton

South East FF Association Deputy Chief Paul Bruens,

Chauleur Deputy Chief Quentin McGrath

Northwest Deputy Chief Yvon Pelletier

Central Valley – Fire Chief Stephen Armour

Miramachi Valley Fire Chief Roger Pitre

Fundy- Chief Kevin Theriault

NBCC Serge Gallant

Permanent Chiefs Jody Price

Industrial Chief Jeremy Stuart

Deputy Chief Dan McCoy

Fire Marshal Michael Lewis

Volunteer Chiefs Fire Chief Tim Corbin

Environment Local Government Martin Corbet

DENR - Eric McLellan

President Charles Kavanaugh reported that over the past number of months the executive has met and have had meetings regarding the position of Executive Director as Nadine LeBlanc has advised of her retirement.

Deputy Chief Dave McKinley reported the CAFC held a meeting with National Adviser Council on Wednesday of this week for meeting **cooperate**  with otherer members of the NBAFC. Discussion on COVID 19. Similar issue throughout the province. Overall cafc working on have similar situations. Over all the CAFC working on with respect Volunteer fire fighter be sure they are not penalized under the insurance act when being called out. This is being worked on with the fed government. Also package for all chiefs cafc.ca web site and can assess the information.

Also testing for Vaccine for Covid 19 virus and testing will be made available to all the fire departments.

Negations the Natural Federal Emergency reserves. He noted that various individuals who are going on this web site which should not be he asked members be extra careful. He stated people must be careful what they are logging into web sites.

Charles Kavanaugh MFCA sprinkle summit in fall in Waverly not sure if it will be a go, it is a wait and see.

Conference in Halifax updates will come on convention 2020. Board meeting in April which will be conference call. He will provide an update to the members

Scott Poupart – following the good information from the OFM ensuring the information gets out to their association. The other source of information is with the EMO group in their area. Trying to minimize information any missed information. Trying to keep currant with the information received.

Chief Mike Walton brought the members up to date on the MBU. He received a phone call last week and the plant has been shut down so all is at a standstill. COVID 19 have stopped all work.

Deputy Chief Dan McCoy his committees are permanent suspended until further notice.

FM Mike Lewis – Finalizing Provincial Auxiliary Awards, this award is eligible to members who are not fire fighters however they are people who have given substantial contribution towards the fire service. They assist in the areas of working with the fire service and giving of their time; Years of service award. They were hoping to have this complete prior to the conference.

Competition for new Fire Investigator for Grand Falls has completed and will be completed as soon as possible.

RFM Paul Boudreau has taken the position of Regional Fire Marshal for the Miramichi Area replacing Leon Ross who as taken the position of Fire Chief Tracadie-Shiela.

Certification is ongoing and issues have been resolved. OFM is presently working on Mental Health Plan and started out to support network which will be a 1-800 number and there will be someone to assist with resources who have been trained and can direct you to the proper channels.

Provincial Grant for peer support for 1st responders. Submission has been to Mental Health and there is call line.

E manifesting project going well aiming for January 1, 2021 -50 trucks and training will be done throughout the province, phase two of manifesting project gives called out and create inventories they will get a prompt the vehicle has hazardous material phase two of the E manifesting project.

Province is in a state of emergency with that the Fire Marshal has a bit more authority we are very much in a status quo. They are making sure that all departments in the province and have the resources to carry out their mandate.

He stated the does not want to have a service interruption, if the fire chiefs are having problems regarding with sickness please reach out to the OFM for assistance. Information from Officer of Health is available

Inventory of all departments have been done and there are numerous different angles which Fire Marshal remember stated going door to door is not necessary No need to be in contact with community members stay in vehicle and listen to Your Officer.

Vaccine available fire service. This is not available at the moment. The Fire Service is one of the first service. Mike Malary is Acting Fire Marshal with Susan Gamble is working with him. He will be in the position, April 12th, he will be back full time. However, you can call him through the day.

A decision from Government New Brunswick at the beginning of this crisis and inspections no non-emergency inspections will not be done; just emergency inspections will be carried out. Mike Wlaton re the message May 21st E Manifesting trial demonstration. This will be deferred to the Fall.

Deputy Chief Paul Bruns health care workers being fire fighters are after health workers, they help with medical assist. How does the department deal with systematic OFM stated they should be isolated from the from the department? This will be sent out the fire service. Direction on getting low on Supplies. OFM asked the point of contact for the fire service. OFM noted it is the Health Emergency Operation Centre is the point of contact should you be low on supplies.

Survey going around the fire departments what they need fit test for N95 surgical mask. OFM stated what is the need N95 or surgical mask.

Local Government Martin Corbin – fire trucks - there are 17 apparatus that they are looking at and will be tendered however; they are presently on hold due to the crisis.

Construction 3 -4 departments will be purchased in Spring. Renous Quarryville will receive a new fire Hall, Belisle valley and upper Gagetown Fire Department.

Mention signed one of the regional dispatches with Saint john PSAP which will cover Funday Region Charlotte county, Sussex region.

Agreement for Codiac PSAP has been signed and is now with the Minister Office to be signed

COVID19 non-essential members have been sent home however they are being redeployed to others department. Local Service Manager and Administration assistant are deemed essential. Meeting have been held with LSM to remain on the job and to touch base. He is working closely with the Office of the Fire Marshal.

With respect to the COVID19 to obtain supplies; to be able to send the fire departments. He noted the OFM is doing a good job with working with his department and the fire service of NB.

They are working with the Fire Departments to ensure our departments have the necessary supplies in place to get to the Local Service Department. LSM make sure garbage collection is being continued, Play grounds are being looked into as well. Keeping in touch with Municipalities as well.

**NBCC** – Serge Gallant Training was going well in all corners of the province. Everything is on hold until we get further direction from the Province regarding Covid-19, I presume we will recommence in the fall, as summer is never a good time to run blocks.

We are looking at alternative measures on how we could deliver theory

Pre-employment/MBU

Planning has started on the delivery of a NB pre-employment course; this also is on hold due to Covid-19.

The mobile burn unit was almost ready to ship last week the Lyons/Bullex plant currently closed due to Covid-19. Once reopened they should be able to ship within a matter of days.

Workshop 2020

Email and posted on Facebook: Registration for lead instructors and anyone want to offer a session at this year’s workshop. We are to meet again to finalize this year’s session. We will still launch registration at the end of May unless Covid-19 is still an issue.

Prior Learning recognition

Last meeting, I reported that a new unit was going to handle all PLR’s. After meeting them, they cannot currently handle our demands in a timely matter. For now, it will stay within our office.

Student Registration

Students are not filling in the forms properly, which is delaying the process on our end. I am working with the ATR’s and instructors on this matter. As of April 1, student services will no longer process improperly filled out registration forms. They will be resent to the department to be refilled.

First Aid After working with Worksafe NB for some time, we have received a letter stating that we can accept the Standard first aid level c CPR and AED certificate. Workplace does not have to be on it. Worksafe NB is working with providers at a national level to have all provinces use the same titles for all courses.

DNR – Eric McLellan just ready for the 2020 season and should be getting out to get weather stations ready. Reports of grass fire southern part of Province. 15 people were sent to Australia and now some staff have been mobilized the Provincial Border Crossing. Non-essential traffic at borders. Chief Kevin Theriault asked about responding to grass fires. They have been informed that if there is fire in the woods there is no need to respond as the woods are very wet. However, unless there are houses in the area then they need to be looked into.

Spring grass fire do not use foam. This is a waste of the product.

**Volunteer Chiefs Tim Corbin**

The efforts to meet with NB Power are ongoing. First meeting was cancelled due to sickness, second meeting was cancelled due to Covid-19, and teleconference was postponed due to Covid-19. We will continue to try and reschedule whenever the opportunity becomes available.

Our regularly scheduled spring meeting in Miramichi will not be scheduled this year. We are looking at alternate arrangements to have our two meetings later in the year.

**Industrial Chiefs Jeremy Stuart -** no new update since last report from Walker Clark at the January meeting. Deputy Chief Scott Poupart stated with the change in his work as an Industrial Chief he is no longer Chief of this association as with the present constitution he can no longer be on this committee.

Chief Jody Price no meeting since the last Permanent Chiefs. One issue on the Covid19 the bigger departments are assisting the smaller departments. David McKinley the CAFC are in the process of opening a Covide19 web site and he will send out to the members. Chief Price noted this is for the smaller department as they do not have the resources to research. Fire Marshal Mike Lewis stated notices can be sent out to these departments for information to go out at least every two days.

Chief Price stated they appreciate the messages that are being sent out from the OFM. He stated Fire Marsal has showed very good information from Mike Lewis and his staff, very much appreciated. He stated the members are very much appreciated.

Scott Poupart suggested they set up a blog for the NBAFC link. Serge Gallant stated these blogs have good information however there is information that should not be on blog and should have someone looking for the information.

President Kavanaugh informed the members he received a call from Kate Letterick from CBC news asking permission to talk to some of the departments to see how this is affecting the fire service. He did give her some information from his side.

One concern Charlie has is that with the decrease in the amount of gas, people are starting to store it and not in the proper containers. He stated this could be a problem.

**Chaleur** Deputy Chief Quentin McGrath - no report

Acadian Peninsula – absent

**Miramichi Roger Pitre** will remain President for the Miramichi Valley Association Chief Dwain Halland will hold the position of 1st Vise President. He noted that departments are flowing the Provincial Guidelines.

Southeast FF Association – Deputy Chief Paul Bruns

* **GUEST SPEAKERS**

Mike Lewis could not attend. Raymond LeBlanc, Regional Fire Marshal, filled in to discuss the 2025 FD Survey.

**President’s Report**

* On December 10th, 2019, a meeting was held in Moncton to review the E- manifest program.
* The next scheduled NBAFC meeting is being held in Moncton on 25/26 Jan at Chateau Moncton.
* NBCC has sent out a flow path for review and implementation for personnel who are members of a FD and have attended Texas Training Division. These individual(s) will be still required to write a Lv 1, 2 Awareness and Ops exam with NBCC. Then the Chief is responsible for sign offs. This would then recognize the individual as FF1 and FF2 with Awareness and Ops in NB with NBCC Certification only.
* 18/19 Jan ICS 200 course was sponsored by SEFFA, 18 pers participated sponsored by Moncton Fire.
* 07/08 Feb – SEFFA is hosting a media (Public Information) course, sponsored by City of Moncton.
* Spring Training sponsored by SEFFA may be postponed - scheduled for June

### Level 1

A Firefighter Level 1 has started in Petitcodiac with 22 students on the roster.

### Level 2

Saint Paul has completed a Level 2 and Sackville will host a Lv 2 course, in February and March.

### Basic Off-Road Rescue

Cocagne hosted a 5-hour off-road rescue course.

### Low Angle Rope Rescue

Cocagne hosted a low-level rescue.

## The next SEFFA meeting which was scheduled for Sunday, March 22, 2020 10:00am, Riverview Fire Dept was postponed due to COVID-19

## Guest Speakers will be NBAFC President, Chief Kavanaugh and Ian McVicar from FireQ.

**Royal FF Association– Deputy Chief Tim Nickerson**

Last meeting was held January 27th however, I was not in attendance as I was out of Province on family business.

Elections were done for the positions of 1st VP and Treasurer.

For the safety of our Firefighters, the Firefighter I Course was postponed prior to the Province placing a State of Emergency in place.  They were working on Block 3 at the time.

All FD’s are working on emergency calls only in the area, now.  No training is being done.

A meeting was held in regards to the Pt. Lepreau Workshop scheduled for the end of June.  Plans are still in place, for now.  This workshop serves Royal, Fundy and Capital Associations.

The next meeting of the Royal Firefighters Assoc is scheduled for the end of April but will most likely be cancelled.

**Fundy District Kevin Theriault** reported Marion Jammer went to Calgary for R2MR course. They have not had their Association meeting since his report in January.

**Capital District** – Harry Farrell stated they are looking after the present Covid19 issue, nothing else to report.

**Central Valley** Stephen Armour

We are shut down until further notice.  One block and JPR days to complete when we are allowed to resume.

Held one association meeting in February had lots scheduled

**Northwest –** Yvon Pelletier Covide19 all activities and training has been canceled.

Bursaries 2020 will be discussed with the committee.

Bursary for 2020 will be done and a conference call will be done with the committee members.

NBAFC Conference 2020 – Tim Nickerson stated the way things are going he does not see a chance in hosting the conference. Chief Price stated a one-day business meeting in the fall; just do an annual general meeting would be good if at all possible.

Chief Fire Mike Walton

Reported an invoice will be received for equipment for MBU. This amount could be in the $ 10,000 range. Mic Mac has offered to assist in the funding nothing in writing to date.

Motion Dan McCoy that the NBAFC provide funding to cover additional cost required for the NBAFC in order to obtain equipment for the unit, 2nd Scott Poupart, motion carried

Deputy Chief Dan McCoy - motion that the 2020 Conference be postponed in 2021 with a civet that in the fall the AGM be held; for the Board to decide, 2nd Yvon Pelletier, motion carried,

The other awards will be done at the NBAFC Conference 2021

Motion to adjourn Chief Harry Farrell, motion carried