

# OSOYOOS FIRE RESCUE



**Through unwavering dedication, advanced training, and professionalism, we will deliver fire and life safety services promptly. We are committed to proactive prevention, public education, teamwork, and community engagement. We will continue to strive to make a difference on the traditional and diverse lands which we protect and serve.**

OFR EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Response Type	2025			2024		
	Osoyoos	Rural Fire Protection	Outside F/P	Osoyoos	Rural Fire Protection	Outside F/P
Ambulance Assist	6	1		7		
Burning Complaint		3				
Carbon Monoxide Alarm	1	2				
Fire Alarm Activation	2			1		
False Alarm	6	4		16	6	
False Alarm (Good Intent)	1			3		
First Medical Responder						
Chimney Fire						
Grass Fire	1			1		
Rubbish Fire						
Structural Fire	1			5		
Unclassified Fire						
Vehicle Fire	1					
Gas Spill						
Gas Leak	2	1				
Hazardous Material						
Investigation				2		
Ice Rescue						
Lines Down		1				
Mutual Aid			2			
Motor Vehicle Incident	1	1	3	2	2	
Standby Only						
Public Service	2			1		
Rescue and Safety	1			1		
RCMP Assist				2	1	
Smoke Visual or Smell	4	1				
Sprinkler Pipe Burst				4		
<b>Total By Region</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>8</b>	
<b>Total Emergency Callout</b>	<b>48</b>			<b>53</b>		
<b>Average Response Time</b>	<b>9.31</b>			<b>9.55</b>		
<b>Average Turnout</b>	<b>5.5</b>			<b>5.1</b>		
<b>Total Personnel Hours</b>	<b>324</b>			<b>378</b>		

- Osoyoos Fire Rescue responded to 48 emergency call-outs between January 1, 2025, to March 31, 2025. In the First quarter of 2024, we responded to 53 emergency call-outs. This represents a 10% decrease in our first-quarter 2025 responses compared to 2024.
- Our average response time in the first quarter of 2025 is 9.31 minutes, in 2024, 9.55 minutes, still below our goal of 10 minutes. An increase in response time can be attributed to Mutual Aid in Oliver, RDOS callouts, EMBC Callouts to Kobau Lookout and Radio Tower Road. This is normal

for our winter months with snowy roads outside the town.

- Our total personnel hours in the first quarter increased from 1770 hours in 2024 compared to 2101 hours in 2025. This increase can be attributed to the additional firefighters and more firefighters coming to practice nights and training. We are thankful for the increase in membership and the dedication of our existing team.

### Yearly Emergency Call Outs

Year to Date Totals for 2025 and other years are total calls received.

Year	Calls	Year	Calls	Year	Calls
2025	48	2017	193	2009	195
2024	216	2016	176	2008	156
2023	255	2015	204	2007	129
2022	221	2014	158	2006	136
2021	274	2013	128	2005	105
2020	219	2012	141	2004	97
2019	206	2011	138		
2018	161	2010	153		

### TRAINING

#### Training Hours Completed:

- Driver Training Hands On.
- Superior Tender Shuttle practice.
- Chapter 12 - Search and Rescue Fire Fighter Training.
- Chapter 1 – 4, Fire Fighter Training.
- Chapter 8 – 10, Fire Fighter Training.
- Ice Rescue Training.
- EMA First Responder.
- Air Brake Training.
- Assisting Individuals in Crisis & Group Crisis Intervention.

#### Number of Topics Covered on Practice Nights:

- Ice Rescue.
- Forcible Entry.
- PPE and Scene Safety.
- Driver Training Orientation.
- Apparatus Familiarization.
- Introduction for New Recruits to the Fire Hall.
- E191 Review of New Engine.
- Fire fighter survival skills.
- Fire fighter Communication.
- Pump.
- Firefighter health and safety.
- PPE.
- Salvage & Overhaul.
- Drafting.

- Veira Fire Fighter Training.
- Air Tank Inventory.

### Annual Recruitment and Interviews

- Orientation for the new 5 firefighters.
- New recruits started the Fire Fighter program (1001).
- One new member started last month, and we are very thrilled to increase our number of volunteers.

### Meetings

- Three Officer Meetings.
- Three OH&S Meetings.
- Attended a biannual South Okanagan Chiefs’ Meeting in Penticton.

“We don't rise to the level of our expectations; we fall to the level of our training.”

Archilochus.

## FIRE PREVENTION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

### In the last quarter:

- Fire Safety inspections and new business license inspections continue with the start of the new year.
- On Jan 29 we had an event at the Osoyoos Coyotes game highlighting Fire prevention. We had some giveaways of smoke alarms and fire extinguishers to help educate the public.
- Several of our members attended the First Responder Appreciation Night hosted by the Rotary Club, at Spirit Ridge. We appreciate all the work and dedication of our other First Responders in our community.
- We had some members of the public at the fire hall for public education and a tour of the facility.
- Atom Fiesta was again held this year. The fire department was invited to attend the opening ceremony, and three members took part in the celebration.

## FIRE PREVENTION STATISTICS SUMMARY

**Total inspections due for the year 2025 are 212**

Quarter	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total for the Year
Regular Inspections Required for 2025	94	48	40	30	212
Regular Inspections Completed in the Quarter	33				
Re-inspections Required					
Business License Inspections	12				
Requests from Public					
Complaints					
<b>Events Completed for the Quarter</b>	<b>45</b>				
Burn Permits Issued	4				

**BUDGET**

**CAPITAL REPORT**

	Budget	Anticipated Completion Date	Status
Firehall Overhead Door	\$75,000	Mid May	Waiting for the arrival of doors
Battery Powered Combi tool - Cutter Spreader	\$25,000	Mid Summer,	Testing options with membership
Used Aerial Truck Ladder Truck	\$60,000	Late summer early fall	

**Summary**

- Firefighter Jones received his Firefighter I & II certificates. This is a milestone for our firefighters as they complete their Fire Fighter Certificate.
- We are actively working towards achieving our Superior Tanker Shuttle Service (STSS) accreditation.  
This certification focuses on the efficient transportation of water from a source to the fire scene, simulating a hydrant system in rural areas. Achieving this accreditation could lead to improved fire protection ratings and potentially lower insurance premiums for properties within the regional district.
- Seven members completed training and received Certificates in Critical Incident Stress Management.  
This intensive three-day course focused on mental health challenges within the fire service and provided essential tools for recognizing and responding to stress-related symptoms. Participants learned techniques such as *Defusing* and *Debriefing*, which are vital in supporting the mental well-being of first responders following critical incidents.

- This past month, we dedicated our new Engine 191. This Engine was dedicated to Chief Walter Lemke, who served the community for 35 years. This event was celebrated with family and friends at the fire hall.





We would like to recognize our paid-on-call firefighters and the dedication they continue to show to our wonderful community, its visitors and residents. Without their service and commitment to the fire service we would be without the first responders to deal with those people in their time of need.

