

## OSOYOOS FIRE RESCUE (OFR)



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.



In the fourth quarter of 2024, we responded to 48 emergency call-outs. This is an 8% increase from last year.

- We had an increase in alarm call-outs and burning complaints, which is usual for this time of year.
- A review of false alarms was completed, and letters were sent to those who had repeated false alarms.
- Some burning complaints are defused quickly when confirmation of the current burning permits being in place is confirmed by the chiefs.

**Response Times**

In the fourth quarter of 2025, it was 8 minutes, still below our goal of 10 minutes.

In the fourth quarter of 2024, it was 8 minutes.

- There were 10 out-of-town calls out of 52 total; this could affect our overall times by extended times in reaching the incident.
- The time of day that the incident occurred can also affect the response times from dispatch to the time at the scene.

**Personnel Hours**

In the fourth quarter of 2025, our hours were 269.

In the fourth quarter of 2024, our hours were 329.

A decrease of 18% from last year.

This decrease can be attributed to:

- Reduction in structure fires compared to structure fires for last year for the same quarter last year. Structure fires take longer and require more personnel to deal with them.
- Increase in alarm call-outs this quarter compared to last year. Alarm calls take less time and personnel.

**Yearly Emergency Call Outs**

The end of year total for 2025 emergency call-outs is 256 calls.

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

A busy year this year, with a 16% increase from last year. These figures may grow slowly each year as the town’s population increases.

TRAINING

**Training Hours Completed:**

1. Live fire training at Penticton Fire Training Centre on October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. The live fire scenarios meet the NFPA training standards.
  - Firefighters receive the opportunity to hone skills in fighting fires, breach doors, access windows, use fans to move smoke, and practice using all their equipment.
  - During the training, essential team-building skills were built, and confidence in their own and the team's abilities was developed throughout the training.



2. Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (WMS)

WMS is a specialized training program that focuses on assessing and mitigating wildfire risks to structures and properties.



Delivered here in the Osoyoos Training Room.

3. Superior Tanker Shuttle Service (STSS)

This certification strengthens our community's fire resiliency and ensures dependable water delivery anywhere in the Osoyoos area. Our firefighters have been training and preparing for the last six months for this test. We're proud of all our firefighters for putting in a tremendous effort to achieve this certification.



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

1. Prelive fire practice – Ready for live fire training on Oct 4th and 5<sup>th</sup>.
2. 1010 Training commenced for new POC firefighters.
3. 1001 Exams took place to move towards becoming fully qualified firefighters.
4. Emergency scene traffic - traffic control management at motor vehicle incidents – 29/29 all candidates passed.
5. Water Shuttle scenario in preparation for Superior Tanker Shuttle Service (STSS) to provide water directly to structure fires.
6. Structure Fire Training – Providing water supply to structure fires, including water shuttle requirements.
7. Forceable Entry – The act of entering a building to fight a fire via a door, window, or wall, using force.
8. Size Up – Quickly assessing key elements such as the fire’s location, the building's layout, and any potential hazards.
9. Ice Rescue – Theory and practical skills on how to deal with ice rescues.
10. Chimney Fires – Fire suppression strategies and tactics for extinguishing and overhauling a chimney fire.
11. Fire Hydrants – Connecting hydrants for water supplies, including flushing, opening valves, and pressure.
12. Team Building – Exercises to promote working together as a team.
13. Firefighter Survival – Building entry whilst wearing an air pack that may have to be removed to enter small spaces.

**Inventory Checks**

1. Truck checks.
2. Hose checks.

**Annual Recruitment and Interviews**

1. Four candidates came for a “meet and greet the team” on October 8, 2025.  
All four candidates moved forward with being selected by the team.

**Meetings**

1. OH&S meetings.
2. Officer meeting.
3. Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) meeting of the team and work on the Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG) – Emergency training on how individuals and groups cope with stressful events in life.

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

Archilochus.

**STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES (SOP AND SOG)**

1. CISM review – The team met to review the operational guidelines for Critical Incident Stress Management. This team supports firefighters who may have been affected by attending incidents. This gives them an avenue to discuss how they feel, any support requirements, and any improvements that could be made to activities or guidelines.

**FIRE PREVENTION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION**

**In the last quarter:**

1. Osoyoos Elementary School – Fire Safety Talk.



2. Open house at the fire hall, a great turnout of the community.





3. Chief for a Day

An opportunity for an individual to see the workings of their local firefighters.



**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	47	90	83	253
Re-inspections Required				1	1
Business License Inspections	12	8	7	6	33
Requests from the Public				1	1
Complaints					
Events Completed for the Quarter	45	55	97	91	288
Events Completed for the Year	45	100	197	288	288
Burn Permits Issued	4	2	0	3	9

**BUDGET**

**CAPITAL REPORT**

Item	Budget	Anticipated Completion Date	Status
Used Aerial Truck Ladder Truck	\$60,000	Late fall 2026	

**Association**

**The following additional volunteer activities took place.**

1. October 31, Trick or Treat and meet the public on Main Street – great turnout.





2. Movember – Men’s Cancer Awareness – firefighters partnered with the Local Brewery.



3. November 11<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day Ceremony.



Our Administrator also took part in the ceremonies.



4. Firefighters' Foodbank Fundraiser at Save on Foods and Nesters. They collected a truck full of food and \$1000 in cash.



5. The Society donated \$500 to support the local OSS Senior Girls Volleyball Team as they travel to the Provincial Tournament.



- The Society donated \$5000 to South Okanagan Similkameen Medical Foundation – Hospital infrastructure improvements.



- December 6 – Helped the Oliver Fire Department with their Annual Drive Through Breakfast Fundraiser.



- Dec 12 Family Xmas Party at the Station.



9. Osoyoos Christmas Light Up.



**Summary**

Overall, the fire hall had a very busy and productive last quarter to close off the year. We look forward to a productive and effective 2026.

We are looking forward to the arrival of our new Fire Chief, Everett Cooke.

We are looking forward to moving some of our trainee firefighters to fully qualified firefighter positions.

We are also very proud that one of our members has been offered a full-time firefighter position within BC. Their dedication and excellent training programs helped to ensure that this firefighter reached his personal goal of becoming a full-time firefighter.

Our firefighters would not be able to work as firefighters within the town without the support of their family/employers and the fire hall team behind them. We wish all our firefighters and their families a safe and happy 2026.



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.

