

PIVFD Report February 2024

In the period since our last report, the department has responded to a number of callouts and incidents. One very serious medical incident was successfully handled by a large number of firefighter and first responder members, in coordination with BC ambulance service. We have additionally been called for a number of smaller matters, mostly weather related, which have required some attention.

Firefighters were trained and tested in several new skills, including electrical safety, forcible building entry, and chimney fire fighting techniques. First responders have taken on several new areas of responsibility, including training in overdose response, blood pressure monitoring, and pelvic fracture treatment. The initiative and hard work of our in-house training team have allowed Piers Island's department to continue our training and education without having to travel off island. Their service is enormously appreciated.

Our new AED unit has now been placed into service. Additionally, the department has invested in several pieces of new medical first response equipment, higher quality gloves for the firefighters and improved lighting equipment for our nighttime responses. Unit 33 experienced a small problem with its air brake system, requiring professional service from off Island. It was quickly repaired and placed back into service. During the January snowfall event the T4 Medical first response vehicle as well as Unit 33 were fitted with snow chains, and the apron area was shovelled to ensure mobility in the event of a call.

Our thanks to the community for its continued vigilance during the winter season. Prevention of fires and accidents is our first line of defense.