

# BURNING ISSUES



## PREVENTION • PROTECTION • PUBLIC EDUCATION

### MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE COMMISSIONER

**Douglas M. Popowich**

**W**elcome to this edition of Burning Issues. My apologies to yourselves as readers and our editor as this issue was planned to be out earlier. Who would have guessed that the Fire Commissioner would be responsible for holding up the production because they would not print this issue until they had an article from me.

A lot of activities have occurred since our last edition. I will try to enlighten you on a few of them.

We had a very successful conference once again and saw a lot of new faces. The very positive comments from conference attendees are what continue to motivate those individuals who put in the many hours of planning required to make this a success. Plans are already under way for this year's conference which will be our 20th. This will be a 'must attend' type function so mark it on your calendar for events to attend in 2006.

The Manitoba Association of Fire Chiefs (MAFC) was able to successfully launch the Provincial 25 Year Service medal they have been wanting for so long. President of the MAFC, Chief Gary MacGregor put a lot of hard work into this project and it came to a very successful conclusion with the first awarding of

these medals at the end of October. There will be more on this further in this newsletter.

Our Premier, The Honourable Gary Doer, hi-lighted Public Safety in the throne speech which opened the current session of the legislature. As a result, a number of initiatives around public safety have been hi-lighted with respect to our Province's ability to respond to major emergencies. There are a number of areas that our Office plays a major role in which has required us to ensure we are doing everything we can to be prepared to provide assistance to municipalities should you be faced with a situation too large or complex for existing municipal resources. Chemical, Biological, Radiological, & Nuclear (CBRN), Major Hazmat situations, Urban Search & Rescue (USAR), and Ground Search & Rescue (GSAR) are just some of those activities. The other issue is ensuring that for all of these types of situations an effective incident management system is in place. Many of you know that our Office uses the Incident Command model of emergency management. In order to make this training available to as many first responders as possible we have been working with Campus Manitoba to develop an internet training package for the first level of incident command

training. ICS 100 will be available by early spring. This program will be accessible to everyone and will become the pre-requisite to many of our current programs. The good thing about this is that it will be available over the internet and accessible to you when it best suits your schedule. Watch for more information on accessing this internet based training program in the very near future.

A new public education committee has been established within our Office and their first meeting was held a few months back. This new committee has an expanded mandate to not only continue to maintain and support existing programs and initiatives in this area, but to look at ways

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# NEWS AND VIEWS OF MANIT

that we can help some of these smaller communities struggling with developing and maintaining a fire department. The recently completed Provincial Hazard Analysis and Risk Assessment highlights a number of smaller municipalities and communities who are having difficulty maintaining a fire protection force capable of providing an offensive fire attack. This committee is to look at ways that we can assist those areas in developing public education programs that may help in some way. This is a large challenge. It's not a secret that rural populations are declining. It is our collective responsibility to work at developing other ways of providing effective fire protection in those areas.

We have redesigned the Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) program after some input from our instructors and students and believe that we currently have a good EMR program. There are a number of fire service personnel who have taken an EMR program in the past but who are not licensed by Manitoba Health. We are looking at developing an EMR refresher program for these individuals to allow them to become current EMRs once again.

The 05/06 Emergency Medical Technician programs are up and running. As a result of licensing concerns and staffing we have had to add additional training spots in Northern Manitoba and we are pleased that we were able to make this happen.

A lot of work has been going into revising the legislation which governs our Office, and supports fire protection and response activities in the Province and your jurisdiction. This legislation has been worked on by the MAFC and our Office for a number of years. It is finally ready for introduction to the legislature. It is the intent that this legislation will be introduced in the spring session. Once this occurs, your district ESO will be

able to keep you informed of its progress. I did provide a session on the proposed changes to the Association of Manitoba Municipalities at their annual meeting in November.

A large issue dealt with by our Codes and Standards Section through the fall and early winter was that of creating legislation more clearly outlining the requirements, and roles and responsibilities of architects and engineers with respect to the design and construction of buildings. There has been a history of concern between these two professions that was finally resolved through legislation. Staff from this Section spent an inordinate amount of time dealing with this issue, and I give them credit for being part of the resolution.

New Building, Fire and Plumbing Codes will be introduced into our Province this spring. These codes will be following the new "Objective" based format which is designed to allow for more innovative ways of achieving the objectives of these codes. This has been a long and arduous process at the National level. Staff from our Office has been involved in a number of committees, working on these new codes. As well, our Provincial Building Standards Board, a committee of key players in the building construction and regulatory fields who advise the minister on codes, have also been involved.

The Federal Government has been working at organizing a National USAR exercise to bring together the five USAR teams from across Canada. This exercise has been re-scheduled a number of times, but finally will be held in Calgary the weekend of March 10 to 12. Manitoba will be sending a 52 person team to participate.

In preparation for the Calgary exercise, and to allow our Manitoba team to exercise, we were extremely lucky to have had made available to us, the old Winnipeg arena site. During the

weekend of February 3 & 4 our USAR team held an exercise in which over 75 of our team members from across the Province participated. The old arena site provided an excellent training venue the likes of which we will probably not be able to find again. Every type of situation that could be associated with a large building collapse was able to be put into this exercise by our facilitators. Observing the exercise were USAR team leaders from Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto and Halifax. Their feedback was positive on all aspects of our teams' capabilities, from technical rescue to logistical support, to command operations. This is a Provincial asset that the entire Province can be proud of, as it is truly a Provincial team.

This is the time of year that our Office goes into planning mode. In order for us to make the best use of our resources we develop a yearly plan. We are in the business of providing services and the type of services we provide are done so by our very dedicated and committed staff. There are a number of things we need to do as an organization, a number of things many of you ask us to do, a number of things our staff would like to do and a number of things the Province requires us to do. It's a juggling act to meet all of these requests but we are getting better at it. I want to thank all the mutual aid districts for getting their requests in to us by the required deadline as this information is invaluable as we go into this planning process. We would like to feel we accommodate everyone in some form or fashion, but I felt it important that you understand that we do have to plan and stick to that plan in order to utilize our resources and staff in the best possible fashion.

Hopefully this spring will have just the right amount of moisture to not see us have a busy grass and brush fire season, and not too much moisture or runoff to cause a flooding problem. Have a great spring.

# OBA EMERGENCY SERVICES

## PROVINCIAL GROUND SEARCH & RESCUE EXERCISE AUGUST 2005

**O**n August 27, 2005, Devils Lake, Manitoba, was the site of the Provincial Ground Search and Rescue exercise. This exercise attracted more than 100 participants from the following Agencies; Mutual Aid District (MAD) Volunteer Search Teams; Ranger Patrol Group (DND); CASARA (Civil Air Search and Rescue Association); RCMP D-Division Hasty Team; Manitoba Conservation; Winnipeg Police Services and Riding Mountain National Park. The volunteer search team members originated from the following districts; North East MAD; Pembina Valley MAD; Turtle Mountain MAD; Winnipeg Police Service; Grand Valley MAD; South Interlake MAD; North Interlake MAD; South Central MAD; Oaklake MAD; West Central and the Clear Water Training District. The Ranger Patrol group members originated from Lynn Lake, Leaf Rapids, Snow Lake and Winnipeg.

The objectives for this exercise were:

To provide Provincial GSAR resources including, MAD GSAR Teams, and responsible Agencies, an opportunity to network and train in a realistic setting.

To provide the responding Agencies an opportunity to implement and practice the Incident Command System during GSAR operations.

To allow ground crews the opportunity to practice safe helicopter operations, including heli-spot construction.

To utilize advanced technologies such as search management software, infra-red cameras and satellite communications systems in a search and rescue training environment.

To provide an opportunity to practice a remote command post deployment and the necessary logistical requirements to support this operation.

The scenario was based on a downed aircraft with multiple survivors left at the crash area. Team response times were



staggered and the first Team was briefed at noon and each Team was then airlifted to their drop-zones by one of two helicopters on site. Helicopter service was provided by Provincial and Prairie Helicopters. CASARA planes based out of Dauphin were also involved in spotting although the weather hampered some flights. All Teams were out in the search area before dark and were out all night. Conditions for the Team members were extremely harsh as many groups spent the entire time in swamp like conditions. Everyone that participated definitely gained experience from this exercise and have greater appreciation of knowing how to be prepared physically, mentally and equipment wise. One injured crash survivor was rescued at the crash site and the remaining two wandered away but were eventually

located by the RCMP Hasty Team. Teams started to get picked up early Sunday morning and all were debriefed and treated to an excellent breakfast prepared by OFC Staff.

An exercise of this size could not have been possible without funds from the National Search and Rescue Secretariat and the countless hours of preparation and teamwork that all responding Agencies contributed to put on this event.

A special thank you goes out to Provincial & Prairie Helicopters for the great service that was provided and to Manitoba Conservation from Gypsumville and Manitoba Hydro for allowing us to use the tower site at Devil's Lake for a Command area. It is very rewarding to be part of such a great group. We in Manitoba have an incredible volunteer base that allows us to provide prompt, knowledgeable and dedicated service to the residents of Manitoba.

This year's exercise has already been scheduled for August 26th and 27th, 2006 (location to be announced).

Hope to see you there!

*Contributed by Scott Kerbis, ESO – OFC*



# NEWS AND VIEWS OF MANIT

## ABORIGINAL & NORTHERN AFFAIRS TRAINING INITIATIVE – PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN OFC & ANA

**B**eginning in July of 2005, the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC), in partnership with Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs (ANA), began the implementation of the Provincial Aboriginal and Northern Affairs Training Initiative. The primary objective of this initiative is to bring quality community-based training directly to those communities that have, in the past, struggled to access either the necessary funding to support the training, or have struggled to access instructors at the community level. This initiative is a direct result of the recently completed Hazard Analysis and Risk Assessment that identified the need for a greater emphasis on training within our Northern Affairs Communities.

The OFC has committed to provide and support a full time instructor to coordinate the delivery of the training at the community level, as well as provide all necessary logistics to support the delivery and evaluation of these training programs. Various other OFC staff as well as local contract instructors have also been utilized to provide instruction and logistical support to the program.

Mr. Ken Giersch of The Pas, Manitoba, was hired in late May, 2005 as the Lead Instructor of the ANA Initiative. Ken is a 10 year veteran of The Pas Fire Department where he was an Instructor and Captain prior to joining the OFC Team. Ken spent his first 6 weeks with the OFC in Brandon working with the College Instructors in the delivery of the Public Fire & Paramedic Program in order to familiarize himself with the Office, the staff and the delivery of the program. Ken has a permanent office in The Pas, however spends much of his time on the road instructing at the community level.

Manitoba ANA has committed to provide the necessary operating funds to support the course delivery, to liaison with the various community councils to provide a suitable venue to host the course delivery, as well as to work with the community councils to ensure the necessary equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) are available to support the course delivery.

Both Agencies have provided a cache of equipment to support the delivery of the program. Both Agencies have also committed to supporting the delivery of up to five full programs annually in communities that will be prioritized by ANA in an effort to enhance the response capabilities of our Northern Affairs communities.

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*Members of the Community of Cormorant Fire department receive instruction on fire behaviour and interior fire attack operations at The Pas Fire Department Training Centre in January, 2006 as part of their Fire Fighter Level 1 training program.*



*Members of the Community of Barrows Fire Department participate in a public education presentation to local elementary school children as part of their Fire Fighter Level 1 training program in October 2005.*

*Members of the Community of Barrows Fire Department perform vertical ventilation operations as part of their Fire Fighter Level 1 training program in October 2005.*



*OFC Northern Affairs Training Officer Mr. Ken Giersch with fire fighter trainees from the communities of Camperville and Duck Bay, Manitoba taken during one of the recent successful ANA Training Programs delivered within the*

*local communities. Both Camperville and Duck Bay are members of the Lake Winnipegosis Mutual Aid District. The two councils agreed to host the program jointly in an effort to benefit both communities.*



# OBA EMERGENCY SERVICES

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To date, three successful programs have been delivered in the communities of Camperville / Duck Bay, Barrows and Cormorant, with a total of twenty-seven candidates successfully acquiring their Fire Fighter Level 1 certification. The program has been delivered over a full seven weeks and includes the complete Fire Fighter Level 1 – NFPA 1001, and Hazmat Awareness - NFPA 472 courses. Each of these communities and the candidates are very proud of their recent accomplishments and should be commended for the hard work and effort put forward.

On behalf of The OFC, ANA and the Community of Cormorant, we would like to thank Fire Chief Ron Borquin, Deputy Chief Richard Paetzold and the members of The Pas Fire Department for their support in this initiative. The Pas Fire Department recently supported the Cormorant Fire Department during a week of practical training evolutions, as well as hosted the final practical skills evaluations at The Pas Fire Department Training Facility in January, 2006. The use of your training facility and apparatus, as well as assistance with the instruction, is very much appreciated.

The next community scheduled for training is the Community of Thicket Portage, located approximately 1 hour south of Thompson, Manitoba. This program is scheduled for February and March, 2006, assuming that the winter roads will cooperate.

*Contributed by Dave Schafer, Manager, Operations - OFC*

## 2006 MAFC CONFERENCE

Sponsored by Pembina Triangle  
Hosted in Winkler Manitoba  
May 31st, June 1st, 2nd and 3rd

The communities of Letellier, St. Jean, Emerson, Gretna, Altona, Plum Coulee, Morden and Winkler invite you to come to the Heart of the Pembina Triangle.

Conference, evening social activities and banquets will take place at the Heartland Resort & Conference Center

Friday night activities planned by Letellier, St. Jean, Emerson, Gretna and Altona

Saturday night events planned by Plum Coulee, Morden and Winkler

Ladies program will be provided

Winkler is celebrating its' Centennial in 2006 and on behalf of the Pembina Triangle we look forward to seeing you in Winkler.

Contact Fire Chief Garry Klassen, Winkler Fire Department at [garryk@winklerfire.com](mailto:garryk@winklerfire.com) for further information.

## Public Fire Paramedic Program Students Support Canadian Cancer Society Event

**T**wenty-nine members of the Manitoba Emergency Services College, Public Fire Paramedic Program, raised over \$3000.00 in support of the Canadian Cancer Society Head Shave Event, Manitoba Chapter, Monday January 16th.

The event took place at the Shoppers Mall, at the Old Center Court in Brandon. Members from the prostate cancer support group were there to make a special presentation to the class, as well as promote their calendar sales.

A quick note of thanks to Mr. Winder, Mr. Fisher, and Mr. Carmichael for agreeing to shave their heads, as well as the Office Administration Staff, for agreeing to shave the heads.

*Contributed by Pete Molnar, PFPP Student*



# NEWS AND VIEWS OF MANIT

## Manitoba Association of Fire Chiefs Provincial 25 Year Service Medal Presentation

**O**n October 16th at the Canad Inn on Regent Avenue in Winnipeg, Manitoba, the inaugural ceremony to present Fire Service personnel with their 25 Year Service Medals was held. There were 139 medals presented to members of career and part-time fire services as well as Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) personnel. Fire Commissioner Doug Popowich looked after the Master of Ceremony duties in fine style and managed to keep the pace of the presentations moving along. Guest speakers were the Honourable Ministers Nancy Allan, Labour and Immigration and Scott Smith, Intergovernmental Affairs, along with Manitoba Association of Fire Chief (MAFC) President Gary MacGregor and Fire Commissioner Doug Popowich. Each speaker stressed the importance of recognizing personnel in the fire service for the many years of commitment that they have given to their communities. It was noted as well that the medals were a great idea and should have been done many years ago. The medals presentation went very smoothly, and were made by Minister Allan, Minister Smith, Fire Commissioner Doug Popowich and MAFC President Gary MacGregor.

This medal was championed by Gary MacGregor over the last several years in conjunction with the MAFC and a big thank you goes to him for all the hard work he put into this project. The medal probably could not have moved ahead if not for the help of Doug Popowich and his staff at the OFC and we certainly thank them for helping make the medals a reality.

It is planned that a presentation evening can be held yearly in October so if any chiefs in the province wish to apply for medals for their personnel the forms and criteria are available from your MAFC representative and will soon be on a new web site [www.mafc.ca](http://www.mafc.ca). The deadline for 2006 is May 31st.

*Contributed by Dan Thorsteinson, Fire Chief, City of Selkirk*

If your department has not already received photos of its members accepting the awards, please contact the Office of the Fire Commissioner at (204)945-3328. As well, a "Photo Album" link is currently under construction on the OFC website. It is here [www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca) that we would like to share photographs from such events, training exercises, incidents, etc. Look for it in the near future.

## 2005 Smoke Alarm Blitz Report

**I**n the fall of 2005 (22 Oct to 17 Dec), members of the Sperling Fire Department attended to all the residences in the Sperling Fire Protection Area (88 homes). We provided 9 volt batteries and home safety pamphlets. We also offered to check smoke alarms to ensure they were working properly (checked battery and exposed units to smoke) and installed new batteries.

If residents did not have a working smoke alarm or the existing unit was over 10 years old, we offered to install a new alarm for \$10. We offer this service to new residents at no charge. Attending fire fighters had the option of waiving the \$10 fee if they felt it was appropriate. During this campaign we installed 15 new smoke alarms (4 units at no charge).

We noticed an improvement in the number of working smoke alarms found in homes since our last campaign which was done in the fall of 2003. In 2003 only 46.9% of the homes checked (32 homes) had working smoke alarms. In 2005 we discovered that 79% of the homes checked (48 homes) had working smoke alarms.

This Public Education event was made possible by generous donations from Co-operators Life Insurance, Carman Co-op and the Fire Fighters Burn Fund.

*Contributed by Lyle Rance, Fire Chief, Sperling Fire Department*



# OBA EMERGENCY SERVICES

## Ethelbert Opens New Emergency Services Building

On Saturday October 22, 2005 a major milestone was achieved for the Village and Rural Municipality of Ethelbert with the Grand Opening of their new Emergency Services Building.

The Grand Opening was the culmination of many years of hard work and countless hours spent by individuals to provide for the ever changing needs of the community. Cooperative efforts of councils, the fire department and the generous donation of land by the Podolsky Family saw this project through to final completion.

The official ribbon cutting was done by long-time fire fighter and former Fire Chief Frank Zaryski. Guest speakers on hand for this event included Swan River MLA, the Honourable Roseann Wowchuk, Reeve Art Potoroka, Mayor Michaluk, Parkland Regional Health Authority Central District EMS Manager Brent Lubiniecki, former Dauphin Fire Chief Dave Seeley, and Office of the Fire Commissioner Emergency Services Officer Al Gray.

This new building is now home to Ethelbert's Fire Department, including a newer Triple Combination Pumper and Parkland EMS Modular style ambulance.

*Contributed by Al Gray, ESO - OFC*



*Ethelbert Fire Chief Bruce Stratuliak receiving commemorative certificate from OFC ESO Al Gray.*

## Fire Safety House Experience For Students



*The safety house at Holland school with a class and the fire department instructors.*

*The Safety house set up in Baldur with Volunteer fire fighter Dori Gudnason of Baldur/Argyle Fire Department and students from the Baldur school*



The fire departments within the Turtle Mountain Mutual Aid District took advantage of the availability of the fire safety house built by the Pembina Triangle Mutual Aid District to provide some realistic training to the students in the various schools within their area.

The fire safety house was brought to the district and for a week was moved to the various departments. Starting at Ninette Fire Department to the west, the house then traveled to Cartwright/Roblin Fire Department, Baldur/Argyle Fire Department, Glenboro/South Cypress Fire Department, Cypress River Fire Department ending up at the Holland Fire Department.

Fire safety lessons were conducted in the various rooms in the house including what to do in the case of fire. Students had the opportunity to experience the room or hall filling with artificial smoke and then crawling to safety. With the two storey building students were able to practice an escape down a fire ladder. Various handouts were given out at the end of the session. The fire fighters participation in the training found it an enjoyable experience. Students from some of the colony schools also participated in the training.

This is the second time the Turtle Mountain Mutual Aid District has provided this type of training, the first time 2 years ago with the training house out of Winnipeg.

*Contributed by Deputy Chief Garth McIntyre, Glenboro/South Cypress Fire Department*



# NEWS AND VIEWS OF MANIT

## CARBERRY/NORTH CYPRESS'S "VEHICLE EXTRICATION TEAM" Helps Disaster Victims

**A**t the time that Hurricane Katrina was bearing down on Florida the Carberry/North Cypress Fire & Rescue's Vehicle Extrication Team was preparing to leave for Broward County, Ft. Lauderdale, to compete in the "International Vehicle Extrication Competition."

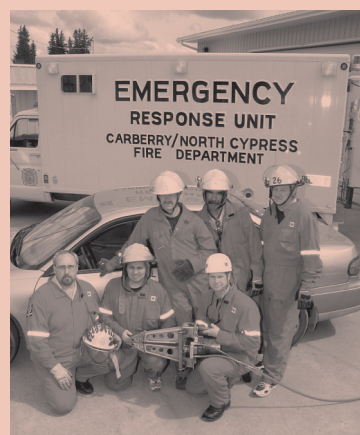
The damage they saw was nothing compared to the damage in Louisiana. They had the chance to see the hurricane in the distant sky as they came into the airport in Florida.

While there for a week they watched the horror as it unfolded on television. People were struggling to survive with nothing except the clothes on their back. Families were split up as well some dying on the street.

While traveling home, Team Captain Bob Toma could not get off his mind what he heard someone say while being interviewed. The person said "It seems like no one cares". Bob disagreed. Many people care, it's just they don't know what to do.

Bob came up with an idea that he shared with the rest of the Team. He called a meeting and suggested that they do something for the victims of Katrina. They agreed but were not sure what. Bob had the idea to use the money they had leftover from their trip that was going to be used to help purchase new jaws for their department. He presented his plan to have a lapel pin made that would reflect something to the effect that Canadians truly do care. The sale of the proceeds would go to the Red Cross to be distributed to those involved in a disaster in North America.

The Team, Captain Bob Toma, Jim Brereton Medic, & Technicians Keith Loney, Danny Udey, Ty Cobb and Jayson Downey proceeded to put all their ideas together to come up with a design. There were some things it had to say. One, it had to say Canadian. Second, it had to say as Canadians we do care. Third it had to show respect to those who died from the catastrophe. Finally it had to indicate the support of fire departments across Canada.



The final design is a red maple leaf to represent Canada with the words "I CARE" inside. The axes represent fire departments across Canada that are supporting the cause. The colour black represents those who lost their lives.

The price of the pin is \$5.00 with ALL the proceeds going to the Red Cross.

As fire fighters we know it is hard to be prepared for every situation BUT this can help.

The Carberry/North Cypress Fire Department would like to ask departments across Manitoba and Canada help raise awareness and money to prepare for a disaster.

Any fire department that plays a part will be recognized in some way.

Furthermore, Bob is trying to acquire a large corporation that will help them with their efforts by placing the pins in a major store chain across Canada.

Contacts: Disaster Relief Fund, Box 388, Carberry MB. R0K 0H0  
Phone: Bob Toma (204) 834-2038 e-mail btoma@mts.net  
Phone: Ty Cobb (204) 834-2048 (204) 841-0066 e-mail chav911@yahoo.com

Help us show that whether volunteer, full time or part-time, FIRE FIGHTERS are ALWAYS there to HELP.

## Carberry\North Cypress Fire & Rescue

"Vehicle Extrication Team"

## Help us Prepare!

\$5.00



CANADIANS DO CARE

The Proceeds of this Lapel Pin will go to the "RED CROSS" for  
Disaster Victims  
in  
North America

WE NEED TO BE READY  
NOT WAIT TILL IT HAPPENS

ASK YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR ONE

Representation:  
Maple Leaf - Canadians  
Axes - Firefighter Efforts  
Black - Those people that lost their LIVES in a Disaster

For more info contact Bob Toma btoma@mts.net (204) 834-2038  
Disaster Relief  
Box 388 Carberry MB.  
R0K 0H0

Designed by the  
"Vehicle Extrication Team"  
Pins supplied by Regent Custom Creating

# OBA EMERGENCY SERVICES

## EAST ST. PAUL FIRE DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES 108 YEARS OF SERVICE

**A**t the Annual General Meeting held on December 19, 2005, one retired and two present members of the East St. Paul Fire Department were recognized for their dedication and contributions to the municipality. Alex Strukoff, Frank Burtney and Charles "Chuck" Henry were presented with Manitoba Awards and Exemplary Service medals.

Alex has been with the fire department for 40 years and was one of the original members when the East St. Paul Fire Department was established in 1966. Alex indicated they had 15 members at the start and the original equipment consisted of one water tanker that was converted from a fuel tanker. This vehicle had been donated to the fire department by Imperial Oil. He indicated the department was instantly "modernized" by the purchase of a brand new Thibeault pumper and they became the envy of other municipalities. This pumper is still with the fire department.

Frank Burtney was an original member of the fire department and retired in 2000 after serving for 34 years. Chuck Henry started in 1972 and has also served for 34 years. Chuck indicated he has seen a lot of progressive changes over the years as the municipality has evolved and grown. When he first started, they averaged 75 calls a year most of which were grass fires. In comparison, the fire department responded to 260 calls in 2005 including: grass, residential and vehicle fires, motor vehicle collisions, medical emergencies, water rescue and ground searches.

Alex and Chuck will be retiring this year. Congratulations to the Alex, Frank and Chuck from the Officers and men of the East St. Paul Fire Department. It is an honour and privilege to have worked beside you.

The East St Paul Fire Department has 35 members consisting of a Chief, 2 Deputy Chiefs, 4 Captains and 28 firefighters. Current equipment consist of two pumpers (Spartan and E-One), the original Thibeault pumper, a rescue/command post unit (Alexis) and two water tankers. Most of the members are also certified First Responders. The fire department trains regularly on Monday evenings. In addition to fire suppression and rescue, the department conducts specialized training in vehicle extrication, water rescue, hazardous material response, trench rescue and ground search.

*Contributed by Captain Jernej Anderlic, East St. Paul Fire Department*



*Fire Chief Ray Riddolls with Alex Strukoff.*



*Fire Chief Ray Riddolls with Chuck Henry.*



*Fire Chief Ray Riddolls with Frank Burtney.*

# EDUCATION

## 4TH ANNUAL FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY EDUCATOR'S CONFERENCE: "GETTING TO KNOW FIRE"

The 4th Annual Fire and Life Safety Educator's Conference was held in Brandon on Saturday September 17, 2005 with 70 people attending. Many thanks to the Mutual Aid Districts who sponsored backpacks this year- Grand Valley (2 backpacks), Boyne River, Lake Winnipegosis, North Interlake, South Interlake, West Central and Eastman.

Barb Kidd, co-author of the British Columbia Curriculum "Getting to Know Fire" gave an overview of the publication. The publication is a comprehensive fire and life safety education curriculum containing detailed lesson plans, which target audiences ranging from preschool aged children through to seniors. The curriculum provides accurate and consistent messages and all support materials necessary to deliver interesting and informative presentations. "Getting to Know Fire" is unique in its comprehensiveness and focuses on the needs of front line fire service personnel delivering fire and life safety education. Copies are still available by contacting Kathy Danino at 1-888-253-1488.

Many thanks to our other presenters: Terry Leslie, Fire-Up Your Classroom Presentations and American Sign Language Emergency / Assistance Signs and Don and Pam Peters, Super Safety Safari.

Planning is underway for next year's conference which will be held in Brandon from October 12-14th, 2006 in conjunction with the Manitoba Emergency Services Conference.



*From Left to Right: Brenday Willey, Leonie Lazarus, Charlotte Parham, Lyle Zarichney, Pat Mazur, Ray McNabb, Bev Hamm, and Kyle Schmidt.*

## TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS REMINDER

In the school year 1999/2000, in an attempt to increase the teaching of the Learn Not to Burn® fire safety program for Kindergarten to Grade 3 students in Manitoba schools, and reduce needless deaths, the Office of the Fire Commissioner created a School of the Year Award. This Award was open to all schools in Manitoba. This year the award has changed. The Award is still open to all Kindergarten to Grade Three Schools in Manitoba and will now be one \$250.00 award each for a Kindergarten, Grade One, Grade Two and Grade Three teacher. Teachers can enter on their own or as a Kindergarten to Grade Three school entry to win \$1000.00 for the school. As well the winning teachers will receive free fire safety materials for their classrooms.

In September 2005, letters and criteria entry forms were mailed out to all Kindergarten to Grade 3 schools in Manitoba. If you have been working with your school teaching fire safety and using the Learn Not to Burn Curriculum please send in your entry forms and all materials by the deadline listed below.

Please contact Kathy Danino at 1-888-253-1488 to receive your copy of the criteria and entry form.

The deadline for submissions for the Teacher Awards for the 2005/2006 school year is April 28th, 2006

## INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM - 100 INTERNET TRAINING

In the near future The Office of the Fire Commissioner through the Manitoba Emergency Services College will begin offering the ICS-100 Incident Command course via Internet. The intention is for this course to serve as a prerequisite to many of the programs offered at the Emergency Services College thus providing for more practical training time within the offered programs.

This course will be located on the Office of the Fire Commissioner web site [www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca) and will be free and accessible for anyone wishing to complete the training. It consists of four lessons with a 25 question test and equates to approximately 8 hours of in class training. As the course is completely on-line based the student will be able to work at their own pace which provides for a more flexible means of receiving the training you wish to complete.

More information regarding this program will be released soon as it is in the final stages of development. The program will be available for individuals to access in the coming weeks. Stay tuned for more information.



# EDUCATION

## **FIRE PREVENTION WEEK GRAND PRIZE WINNER**

Grade One student Bryden Kleinsasser at Plainview Colony near Elkhorn, Manitoba was the winner of the Office of the Fire Commissioner's province-wide Fire Prevention Week Contest.

Bryden received a new computer system on Tuesday, November 22, 2005 in a ceremony held at his school. The computer was presented to him by Colin Edey, Aboriginal/Community Relations from TransCanada, Central Region who so generously donated the computer and printer. Bryden won the contest by participating in fire prevention week activities and lessons in his classroom and by bringing home information on fire safety, showing it to his family and having his parents sign the form acknowledging his efforts. His name was then drawn from over 75 entries gathered from Kindergarten to Grade three schools and local fire departments across the province.

The contest was part of the Office of the Fire Commissioner's annual fire prevention week campaign "Fire Safety Starts with You". It taught children about the importance of testing your smoke alarm, kitchen safety, using caution and care around candles, planning a safe escape at home in the event of a fire and crawling low under smoke.

*Contributed by Kathy Danino, Fire & Life Safety Educator - OFC*



*The citation was presented to Bryden from Murray Bedford, Emergency Services Officer, Office of the Fire Commissioner.*



*Left to right Kathy Danino, Fire and Life Safety Educator, Office of the Fire Commissioner; Colin Edey, TransCanada; Murray Bedford, Office of the Fire Commissioner; Terry Bajus, Elkhorn Fire Department; Brad Yochim, Virden Fire Department.*



*Minister of Labour and Immigration, Nancy Allan proclaimed it Fire Prevention Week.*



*Grade Five Students from Dalhousie School performed.*

## **FIRE PREVENTION WEEK Kick Off**

It's Fire Prevention Week: "Use Candles with Care, When You Go Out Blow Out" was the theme for Fire Prevention Week October 9 – 15, 2005.

The kick-off was held in Winnipeg at City Hall on Thursday October 6th, 2005. The event started off with opening remarks from Robin Alford, Public Information Officer with Winnipeg Fire and Paramedic Service who emceed the event. His welcome was immediately followed by the Grade Five students from Dalhousie School, in Winnipeg, singing O'Canada.

Minister of Labour and Immigration, Nancy Allan proclaimed it Fire Prevention Week.

Winnipeg Fire and Paramedic Chief Wes Shoemaker, Deputy Minister, Labour and Immigration Jeff Parr and Deputy Fire Commissioner Chris Jones and City Councillor Mike Paghatkan were also in attendance and able to recognize the following individuals for their exceptional service to our community: Brian Andree, Jamie Schmidt, Karen McLachlan, Neil Thrumble, Regan Katz, Rod McKay, Private Tristan Gray and Arthur and Connie Walker.

Many thanks to the following sponsors: Colin Edey, TransCanada for donating the Grand Prize of a computer system, McDonalds, Princess Auto Limited, DSI Security Systems, and Panago Pizza.

The event was wrapped up with a Fire Fighter Rap Song performed by the Grade Five Students from Dalhousie School.

# EDUCATION

## Upcoming Course Dates

March 20 – 24 Change of Date	Part 9: Buildings – Plumbing Inspections	Brandon
Feb. 27 – Mar. 3 & March 6 - 10	Primary Care Paramedic - Bridge	Brandon
March 6 – 10	Report Writing for Fire Investigators	Winnipeg
March 6 – 10	Incident Command	Brandon
March 31, April 1 & 2	Fire Ground Management	East Selkirk
April 3 – 7	Managing Human Resources	Brandon
April 3 – 7	Hazardous Materials Operations	Brandon
April 4 – 6	Rescue Practices	Brandon
April 7, 8 & 9	Ground Search & Rescue – Basic	Oakbank
April 8 & 9	Youth Fire Stop	Thompson
April 8	WRITTEN EXAM(s)	Dauphin
April 15	WRITTEN EXAM(s)	Brandon
April 15	WRITTEN EXAM(s)	The Pas
April 19	Fire Investigator Accredited Testing	Winnipeg Brandon
April 21, 22 & 23	Ground Search & Rescue – Basic	Austin
April 21, 22 & 23	Farm Accident Rescue Instructor	Brandon
April 22 & 23	PRACTICAL EXAM(s)	Brandon
April 24-28 & May 1-5	Hazardous Materials Technician	Brandon
April 28, 29 & 30	Ground Search & Rescue – Team Leader	LaRiviere
April 28, 29 & 30	PRACTICAL EXAM(s)	Selkirk
April 30	WRITTEN EXAM(s)	Thompson
April 30	WRITTEN EXAM(s)	Winnipeg
May 1 – 5	Confined Space Rescue Technician	Brandon
May 5, 6 & 7	Ground Search & Rescue – Basic	Inwood
May 6	WRITTEN EXAM(s)	Brandon
May 6 & 7	PRACTICAL EXAM(s)	Winkler
May 9, 10 & 11	Fire Investigation Accreditation Testing	
PRACTICAL EXAM	Brandon	
May 8 – 12	Emergency Services Instructor Level I	Thompson
May 9 – 10	WRITTEN EXAM(s)	The Pas
May 13	Emergency Services Instructor Continuing Education	Thompson
May 15	WRITTEN EXAM(s)	Brandon
May 15	WRITTEN EXAM(s)	The Pas
May 15 -19	Fire Investigation Level I	Thompson
May 26, 27 & 28	Ground Search & Rescue – Basic	Thompson
May 27	WRITTEN EXAM(s)	Selkirk
May 30	WRITTEN EXAM(s)	Thompson
May 30	WRITTEN EXAM(s)	Winnipeg

The 2005/06 MESC Course Catalogue details MESC Programs & Courses. It is now available to view and print from our website [www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca).

# CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT

## CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT VS. COMMUNITY TRAUMA POSTVENTION SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES

Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) and Community Trauma Postvention (CTP) are similar strategies for dealing with trauma in that they both employ “psychological first-aid” processes to help people cope with trauma. They are interventions which are used after an event which has potentially caused trauma reactions in a population, either those directly involved or secondarily involved (as in emergency services workers). They are structured processes to create an environment where people who have been affected have an opportunity to learn about their reactions, have them validated and normalized and learn effective coping strategies. In other words, they are both processes of psycho education. They are not counselling or therapy processes, but they are usually therapeutic.

Both CISM and CTP use teams made up of trained people who have a clinical background (e.g., mental health workers, social workers, psychologists, etc.) who will follow a structured model to accomplish these goals and are predicated on the belief that they are dealing with normal people having normal (or natural and common) reactions to an abnormal event (an event which is outside their usual range of human experience).

CISM processes (e.g., defusings, debriefings, etc.) are designed to be used primarily with emergency services personnel, police and hospital based staff as opposed to the general public. The CISM process creates a safe environment for the affected people to talk about what they have experienced and then use a psycho educational process to have these reactions validated and normalized. They are also taught methods of coping to help mitigate their reactions and help bring closure (see table below). Lastly, CISM may attempt to empower people

to regain a sense of control after the incident. CISM also uses trained peers (other emergency services workers) to assist in the processes. By using CISM trained peers they can learn from others who have had similar reactions that they too can survive these reactions.

CTP processes are designed to be used with the general population (e.g., community members, children, youth, etc.) to help them cope with trauma that may effect that community (e.g., murders, disasters, etc.). Similar to CISM, the processes first attempts to create a safe environment then provides psycho education to validate and normalize people reactions and then asks people about their reactions (see table

below). The CTP model can be used with larger groups and does not require peers to assist with the process but usually require additional community resources.

Crisis intervention strategies are usually used during a crisis or event to help people deal with the event. It is usually used with individuals and small groups and focuses on helping people deal with “problems” and primarily teaches problem solving strategies.

For further information please contact: Gord Favelle, CISM Manager/Clinical Director, Office of the Fire Commissioner, 508 – 401 York Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3C 0P8, (204) 945-2919, [gfavelle@gov.mb.ca](mailto:gfavelle@gov.mb.ca).

Intervention	Timing	Activation	Goals	Format	Processes
CISM Defusing Target groups: Emergency Services, Police, Hospital	Post-crisis (within 24 hours)	Usually symptom driven	Symptom mitigation Possible closure Triage	Small groups	Explore Facts Verbalize thoughts, reactions & symptoms (validate & normalize) Psycho education Empower
CISM Debriefing (CISD) Target groups: Emergency Services, Police Hospital	Post-crisis (1 to 10 days; 3- 4 weeks mass disasters)	Usually symptom driven, can be event driven	Facilitate psychological closure. Symptom mitigation Triage	Small groups Explore	Facts Verbalize thoughts, reactions & symptoms (validate & normalize) Psycho education Empower
Community Trauma Postvention (CTP) Target groups: Communities, schools, general population	Post-crisis (1 to 7 days ideal, anytime afterwards)	Either event driven or symptom driven	Provide information, psycho educational, psychological first aid, facilitate psychological closure, triage	Small or large groups, organizations, schools, etc.	Explore Facts Psycho education Verbalize thoughts, reactions & symptoms (validate & normalize) Empower
Individual crisis intervention (1:1)	Anytime Anywhere	Symptom driven	Symptom mitigation Return to previous level of functioning, if possible Referral if needed	Individuals	Define problem Use problem solving & coping strategies Reevaluate strategies for success in resolving crisis



# CODES & STANDARDS

## Adoption of the 2005 Building, Plumbing, and Fire Codes

### *The Manitoba Building Code and the Manitoba Plumbing Code*

The 2005 Model National Building, Plumbing, and Fire Codes were published last fall by The National Research Council of Canada (NRC). The past practice in Manitoba was to automatically adopt the Model National Building and Plumbing Codes upon publication by the NRC. This has been a problematic practice as it often did not allow Code users sufficient time to purchase the material, become familiar with the content, and incorporate any required changes into their operations. By comparison, many other jurisdictions allow for a period of time between publication and official adoption of the Codes.

The Manitoba Government has considered this issue and passed a regulation that provides that the effective date of adoption for the 2005 Model National Building and the 2005 Model National Plumbing Code will be April 1, 2006.

### *The Manitoba Fire Code*

Adoption of the 2005 Model National Fire Code is conducted through a different process. The effective date of adoption of the 2005 Fire Code is to be confirmed. Until that time, the current Manitoba Fire Code (which adopted the 1995 Model National Fire Code) continues to be in effect.

Copies of the 2005 Codes and related material can be purchased from the NRC through their website at: <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/virtualstore/>.

For more information on the adoption the Building, Plumbing, and Fire Codes, please contact the Office of the Fire Commissioner at [firecomm@gov.mb.ca](mailto:firecomm@gov.mb.ca).

## LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS

On November 30 2005, the Provincial Government passed legislation that amended The Buildings and Mobile Homes Act, The Architects Act, and The Engineering and Geoscientific Professions Act. Subsequent related amendments were also made to the Manitoba Building Code. The purpose of the amendments was to address a long-standing dispute that directly involved design professionals, but which had implications for other stakeholders in the building construction industry in Manitoba.

The changes to the two professional Acts include provisions for an enhanced dispute resolution role for the Engineering, Geosciences and Architecture Inter-Association Relations Joint Board Architects, the assurance that a client can choose the prime consultant for a building construction project, and grandfathering provisions for those professional engineers who have gained experience and knowledge in architectural practices. Amendments to The Architects Act clarify the respective roles of architects and professional engineers in respect of building construction. The amendments also provide that non-architects may perform architectural work, but only on buildings/projects that are set out in The Buildings and Mobile Homes Act or by any regulations under the Act such as The Manitoba Building Code.

Additions have been made to Article 2.3.1.3 of The Manitoba Building Code. Specifically, the new provisions include a table that specifies the type of professional required for an application to build a building covered under Subsection 2.1.2 of the Code

(commonly known as Part 3 buildings).

New provisions to the Code also provide that where an AHJ has determined that an alteration to a building covered by Subsection 2.1.2 is, or is likely to significantly affect one or more listed building elements, a professional designer is required to prepare, sign, and seal the plans, drawings, and related documents. The type of professional involvement will be determined by the AHJ and must be based on the type of work concerned. Where the AHJ determines that the alteration to the building in Subsection 2.1.2 of the Code is minor and does not, or is not likely to significantly affect the integrity of any of the listed elements, a non-professional may submit plans for the work.

All authorities having jurisdiction are required to comply with the requirements in Article 2.3.1.3. in the course of processing permits for buildings covered by Subsection 2.1.2 of The Manitoba Building Code.

The amended legislation and the amendments to The Manitoba Building Code are all available on-line. The Manitoba Building Code can be viewed at <http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/>. The amended versions of The Buildings and Mobile Homes Act, The Architects Act, and The Engineering and Geoscientific Professions Act can be viewed at <http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/ccsm>.

Should you wish additional information, please contact the Office of the Fire Commissioner at [firecomm@gov.mb.ca](mailto:firecomm@gov.mb.ca).

# RECALLS/ADVISORIES

## ***UL Warns of Potentially Hazardous Self-Ballasted Lamps***

NORTHBROOK, Ill., - December 5, 2005 - Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) is notifying consumers that self-ballasted fluorescent lamps manufactured by Turolight bear a counterfeit UL Mark for the United States and Canada and may pose a risk of fire or electric shock. These products have not been evaluated by UL and do not meet UL safety requirements.

**Name of Product:** Model EL-20W-ES and TL-GLEOM13

**Units:** Unknown quantity

**Manufacturer:** Turolight

**Date of Manufacture:** Unknown

**Hazard:** The products have features that present potential fire and shock hazards

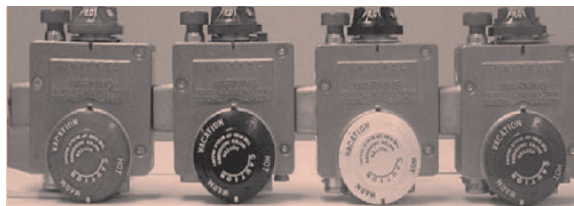
**Identification:** The base of the lamps is marked with the Model No. "EL-20W-ES" or TL-GLEOM13", electrical ratings "120V 60Hz", followed by "11W, 13W, 15 W or 20W" and may be marked "TUROLIGHT"

**What you should do:** UL recommends that users stop using the lamp immediately and return it to the place of purchase.

**Consumer Contact:** Consumers with any questions should contact Turolight at +1-416-736-0447, or [customerservice@turolight.com](mailto:customerservice@turolight.com).



## ***CPSC, Robertshaw Controls Co. Announce Recall of Gas Control Valves on Water Heaters***



WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the manufacturer named below, today announced voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed

**Name of Product:** Robertshaw R110 Series Gas Control Valves

**Units:** About 178,000

**Manufacturer:** Robertshaw Controls Co., of Long Beach, Calif.

**Hazard:** Screws on some water heater valves could break. If this happens, gas could leak from the valve, which poses a risk of gas explosion and fire.

**Incidents/Injuries:** None reported.

**Description:** The R110 Gas Control Valves being recalled are installed on natural and liquid propane (LP) gas water heaters. The recalled valves were manufactured between July 25, 2005 and August 14, 2005 with production date codes 5-31 through and including 5-33, although not all valves with these date codes are affected. The recalled valves were installed on the following water heater brands: American Proline, Bradford White, GE, GSW, Hotpoint, Jetglas, John Wood, Lochinvar, Premier Plus, Powerflex, Rheem, Richmond, Ruud, Vanguard, Whirlpool, and U.S. Craftmaster. The model and serial number can be found on the manufacturer's label on the water heater. Electric water heaters are not included.

**Sold:** Installed on water heaters by gas appliance distributors and retailers, including Home Depot and Lowe's, as well as plumbers and plumbing/heating equipment suppliers. The gas valves also were sold separately through gas appliance service providers. Water heaters sold or serviced prior to July 25, 2005 are not affected.

**Assembled in:** Mexico

**Remedy:** Consumers that believe they may have an affected water heater, please click on [www.robertshaw.com](http://www.robertshaw.com). Have the model and serial numbers of your water heater ready.

# RECALLS/ADVISORIES

For further assistance, please contact Robertshaw. The model and serial numbers can be found on the manufacturer's label on the water heater. Robertshaw will arrange for a free repair or replacement, if necessary. If you smell gas near the appliance or in the building, immediately leave the area and call your gas company or a certified gas technician to investigate the cause.

**Consumer Contact:** Call Robertshaw at (888) 225-1071 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. ET, Monday through Saturday, or visit the firm's Web site at [www.robertshaw.com](http://www.robertshaw.com) to review a list of the appliances with recalled valves and to register for the recall.

## **CPSC, Sony Computer Entertainment America Inc. Announce Recall of Certain AC Adaptors Sold with Slim Version PlayStation® 2 Systems**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

**Name of Product:** Certain AC Adaptors sold with slim version PlayStation® 2 Systems

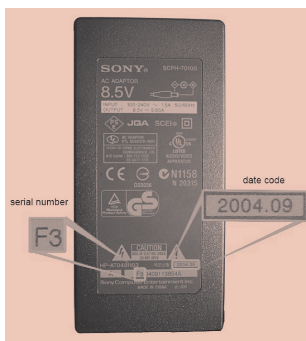
**Units:** About 843,000

**Importer:** Sony Computer Entertainment America Inc., of Foster City, Calif.

**Hazard:** The recalled AC adaptors can overheat and melt. This poses the risk of fire, burn and shock injuries to consumers.

**Incidents/Injuries:** Sony Computer Entertainment America has received 38 reports of adaptors overheating, including 19 reports of melting. There have been four reports of minor property damage, two reports of minor burns and one report of a minor shock.

**Description:** The recall involves AC adaptors with the following date codes: 2004.08, 2004.09, 2004.10, 2004.11 and 2004.12 and serial numbers beginning with "F3". The date code is located in a white box on the lower right hand portion of the adaptor's label. Just below the date code box is a serial number beginning with "F3" followed by a series



of digits. Adaptors with other date codes and without the "F3" serial numbers are not included in this recall. The AC adaptors were sold with slim version PlayStation® 2 consoles with model number SCPH-70011 or SCPH-70012. The PlayStation® 2 model number is located on a label at the base of the slim console.

**Sold at:** Electronics, toy and computer game stores nationwide, as well as Web retailers, from October 2004 through August 2005 for about \$150 for the complete system.

**Manufactured in:** China

**Remedy:** Consumers should stop using the recalled AC adaptors immediately and contact Sony Computer Entertainment America to receive a free replacement adaptor. Consumers should carefully unplug the recalled adaptors from the wall outlet and allow to cool before handling.

**Consumer Contact:** For additional information, call Sony Computer Entertainment America toll-free at (888) 780-7690 between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. PT Monday through Saturday, and between 7 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. PT Sunday, or visit the firm's Web site at [www.us.playstation.com](http://www.us.playstation.com)

## **CPSC, Lasko Recalls Box and Pivoting Floor Fans Posing Fire Hazard**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

**Name of Product:** Lasko, General Electric, Galaxy, and Air King King Brand Box and Pivoting Floor Fans

**Units:** About 5.6 million

**Manufacturer:** Lasko Products Inc., of West Chester, Pa.

**Hazard:** An electrical failure in the motor can pose a fire hazard to consumers.

**Incidents/Injuries:** Lasko has received 42 reports of fires possibly associated with motor failures, with seven reports of injuries, including burns and smoke inhalation. At least eight of the reported fires resulted in extensive property damage.

**Description:** This recall involves various models of Lasko, Galaxy, Air King and General Electric fans manufactured between January 1999 and July 2001, and sold through February 2004. Styles and model numbers of recalled fans, which are either stamped or on a label on the bottom of the fans, are listed below:



# RECALLS/ADVISORIES

Brand	Type of Fan	Model Numbers
Lasko	Box Fan	Models 3700, 3723, 3733, 3750
	Cyclone Fan	Models 3510, 3550, 3800, 35105
	Wind Machine	Models 3300 and 3521
	Air Companion	Model 3515
	Air Director	Model 2135
	Wind Tunnel	Models 3400 and 3410
General Electric	Box Fan	Model 106620
	Cyclone Fan	Models 106600, 106630
Galaxy	Box Fan	Model 3733
Air King	Cyclone Fan	Model 9500
	(20" deluxe pivot fan)	
	Air Companion (15" deluxe pivot fan)	Model 9515

Detailed information and pictures of affected models can be found at [www.laskoproducts.com](http://www.laskoproducts.com)

**Sold at:** Discount department stores nationwide from September 2000 through February 2004 for between \$10 and \$25.

**Manufactured in:** United States

**Remedy:** Consumers should stop using the fans immediately and contact Lasko to receive a free fan protection cord adaptor.

**Consumer Contact:** For additional information, visit Lasko's Web site at [www.laskoproducts.com](http://www.laskoproducts.com) or call the firm at (800) 984-3311 anytime.

## CPSC, SFC America Announce Recall to Repair Fire Extinguishers

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission announces the following recalls in voluntary cooperation with the firms listed below. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

**Name of Product:** Dry Chemical Fire Extinguishers

**Units:** About 50,900

**Manufacturer:** Strike First Corp., of Scarborough, Ontario, Canada.

**Importer:** Strike First Corporation of America (SFC America), of Front Royal, Va.

**Hazard:** The fire extinguishers can fail to discharge properly when the trigger is activated, which puts consumers at risk of fire-related injuries.

**Incidents/Injuries:** SFC America has received three reports of the fire extinguishers failing to discharge properly when activated. No injuries have been reported.

**Description:** The recall includes Strike First 2.5 lb and 5 lb dry chemical fire extinguishers with model numbers WBSF-ABC110AP, WBSF-ABC210AP, and WBSF-ABC340AP. The model number is located under the manufacturer's address on the far right hand side of the instruction label. The recalled fire extinguishers have the following serial numbers:

Model Number	Serial Number Range
WBSF-ABC110AP	TC101566 through TC108819
WBSF-ABC210AP	TC114969 through TC135000 VV822001 through VV832000 WH161001 through WH167622
WBSF-ABC340AP	TC135894 through TC142345

The serial number is located on the extinguisher's label, below the "UL" mark. The fire extinguishers are red, and designed for commercial, industrial, multi-residential and vehicle applications.

**Sold at:** Fire extinguisher dealers nationwide from December 2002 through April 2004 for between \$13 and \$21.

**Manufactured in:** Canada

**Remedy:** Consumers with fire extinguishers included in the recall should immediately contact SFC America for information on how to arrange to have their extinguishers repaired.

**Consumer Contact:** Call SFC America at (800) 255-5515 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or visit the SFC America Web site at [www.strikefirstusa.com](http://www.strikefirstusa.com)



WBSF-ABC110AP    WBSF-ABC210AP    WBSF-ABC340AP

# RECALLS/ADVISORIES

## **CPSC, Generac Power Systems Inc. Announce Recall of Fuel Hoses Sold with Guardian® Home Generators**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

**Name of Product:** 12" Braided Flex Fuel Hose sold with certain Guardian® Home Standby Air-Cooled Generators

**Units:** 20,000

**Generator Manufacturer/Hose Distributor:** Generac Power Systems Inc., of Waukesha, Wis.

**Hose Manufacturer:** RB Royal Industries Inc., of Fond du Lac, Wis.

**Hazard:** The fuel hoses can leak if bent in an unreasonable fashion during installation or upon completion of installation. If an ignition source is present, a fire or explosion can occur.

**Incidents/Injuries:** Generac has received no reports of fuel hose leaks. No injuries or property damage have been reported.

**Description:** The recalled 12 inch braided flex fuel hoses are used with Guardian® Home Standby Air-Cooled Generators with serial numbers 3789827 and below. The generators are about 4 feet by 2 feet by 27 feet, tan in color, and have identification decal tags displaying the serial number. The decal tag is affixed to the black divider plate that separates the engine from the control panel and can be found by lifting the top/lid of the metal enclosure. The fuel hose came supplied with the generator kits and connects the fuel supply to the generator. The hose is 12 inches long and covered with braided steel.

**Sold at:** Independent and national dealers sold these generators with the flex fuel hoses between March 2001 and September 2003 for about \$1500 to \$2500.

**Manufactured in:** United States

**Remedy:** Consumers should stop using the generator if the fuel hose is bent or if the ferrules (connectors) are cracked, split or damaged in any way. Consumers with a bent hose or damaged connector should contact Generac Power Systems or a Generac authorized service dealer, to arrange for a free inspection and replacement of the flex fuel hose.



**Consumer Contact:** Call Generac Power Systems at (800) 949-7440 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. CT Monday through Friday, or visit their Web site at [www.generac.com](http://www.generac.com)

**Generac's Media Contact:** Stephanie Borowski at (262) 544-4811.

## **CPSC Approves New Flammability Standard for Mattresses**

*Federal standard could prevent 270 deaths each year*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – One of the most important safety standards ever developed by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) was approved today. By a vote of 3 to 0, CPSC approved a new federal standard to reduce the severity of mattress fires.

The new mandatory flammability standard for mattresses is the first major regulation passed by the CPSC in the agency's history. A major rule is one that has more than a \$100 million annual impact on the economy.

When fully effective, CPSC estimates the new mandatory standard for mattresses is likely to save as many as 270 lives, preventing 78 percent of the deaths, and 1,330, or 84 percent of the injuries currently occurring every year.

"Consumers who purchase a new mattress that meets this standard will add an important layer of fire safety protection to their home," said CPSC Chairman Hal Stratton. "Lives will be saved as a result of this standard, as it requires new mattresses to limit the spread and intensity of a mattress fire, which will give people more time to escape from their residence."

The mandatory standard addresses mattress fires ignited by open flame sources, including matches, candles, lighters, and other related scenarios. The test protocol was developed in coordination with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). "NIST's contribution to CPSC's development of this standard was invaluable," said Stratton.

Under the new mandatory federal rule, mattress sets must meet a performance standard. The CPSC does not specify how manufacturers are to design their mattresses to meet the standard. The new federal standard for mattresses goes into effect on July 1, 2007.

In the performance standard, the peak heat release rate is limited to 200 kW during a 30 minute test. The total heat release is limited to 15 MJ within the first 10 minutes of the test.

Cigarette ignition is covered by a separate mandatory standard. That standard, 16 CFR Part 1632, has been in place for more than 30 years during which deaths and injuries

# RECALLS/ADVISORIES

from mattress fires caused by smoking materials have fallen dramatically.



*Three minutes after a conventional mattress is ignited during testing. Three minutes after a mattress that complies with the new federal mattress standard is ignited during testing.*

## New Canadian Standard for Safer Cigarettes

On September 30, 2005, Canada passed new legislation to reduce the fire hazards associated with cigarettes. The new legislation specifies standard for ignition propensity. The regulation specifies that "Every manufacturer shall ensure that the cigarettes of every brand that it manufactures on or after October 1, 2005 burn their full length no more than 25% of the time when tested on 10 layers of filter paper using ASTM International Standard Test Method for Measuring the Ignition Strength of cigarettes.

Smoker's materials are the leading cause of residential fire-related fatalities and loss in Canada. The Office of the Fire Commissioner statistics show that during 2000-2004 in Manitoba, smokers' materials caused 669 fires resulting in 21 fatalities, 107 injuries and an estimated \$16,778,774 loss of property.

Please note that the new standard does not make cigarettes fire-safe; any burning object is never completely safe from fire.

For more information, visit [www.gosmokefree.ca](http://www.gosmokefree.ca)

## Remote Control Flying Saucers Sold by QVC Recalled for Fire Hazard

February 2006

The following product safety recall was voluntarily conducted by the firm in cooperation with the CPSC. Consumers should stop using the product immediately unless otherwise instructed.

**Name of Product:** Pro Flying Saucer (Radio Control)

**Units:** About 180,000

**Importer/Distributor:** Creative Innovations & Sourcing LLC, of Pittsfield, Mass.

**Retailer:** QVC Inc., of West Chester, Pa.

**Hazard:** The battery charger cord sold with these flying saucers can overcharge and cause the toy to overheat, posing a risk of fire.

**Incidents/Injuries:** There have been at least 56 reports of overheating, smoking, melting and fire including eight reports of minor damage to furniture, carpeting or countertops. There have been seven reports of minor burns to hands or fingers.

**Description:** The Pro Flying Saucer is about 13 inches in diameter and comes in blue or yellow. It is made of Styrofoam and has a plastic propeller. The Pro Flying Saucer comes with a controller unit, launch pad and a battery charger cord. The item number of the recalled product, M12037, is found on the product's packaging.

**Sold by:** QVC Inc. exclusively nationwide from November 2005 through December 2005 for \$27 or \$30.

**Manufactured In:** China.

**Remedy:** Consumers should stop using the product immediately. QVC will notify all purchasers of the product about the recall, and instruct them to return the battery charger cord to receive a new battery charger cord.

**Consumer Contact:** For additional information, contact QVC Inc., toll-free at (800) 367-9444 anytime or log on to the company's Web site at [www.qvc.com](http://www.qvc.com) under the product recall section.





## STAFF UPDATE

Congratulations to Rick Hoglander who has accepted a permanent position with our Office in the Codes and Standards Section.

Welcome to Jenny Maliteare who joins the Office of the Fire Commissioner in Brandon as an Administrative Assistant. Jenny came to us from the Assiniboine Regional Health Authority, and is a great addition!

Welcome Jennifer Ager who has joined Winnipeg Office, Administration Section. Jennifer previously worked for the law firm of Thompson, Dorfman Sweatman. Welcome to the OFC Jennifer.

Welcome Loretta Oliver who has accepted the position of Coordinator Emergency Medical Services Programs. Loretta has her Bachelor of Nursing degree, has been involved in EMS delivery and instruction and has 29 years of experience in Health care. Prior to joining us Loretta was employed at the Carberry Health Centre as a practicing nurse and continues to work for Perimeter Air as a flight nurse. Loretta will be a valuable asset to our organization and the qualifications and experience she brings will build on our already very capable and competent EMS program area.

Congratulations to J.P. Lebel who has retired following 28 years of dedicated service to Emergency Services. On January 18, 2006 J.P. and his wife Linda were honored at a celebration of J.P.'s retirement by the Fire Commissioner, President of the MAFC, Manitoba EMO and staff of the OFC. Congratulations J.P. to a well deserved retirement.



Congratulations Fire Commissioner Doug Popowich, who has been awarded a Certificate of Achievement, through the National Search and Rescue Secretariat (NSS) Awards Program. Mr. Popowich was one amongst six recipients in the year 2005. The program was introduced in 1995 to acknowledge outstanding work by search and rescue (SAR) professionals and organizations and to raise awareness of SAR efforts across the country and is awarded annually. Doug's role as a founding member of the Manitoba Ground Search and Rescue Program has resulted in over 1,000 trained volunteers. Mr. Popowich's expressed his appreciation and credited his colleagues and staff for the success of this initiative.



*NSS Executive Director Jean Murray presents Fire Commissioner Doug Popowich the Certificate of Achievement*



The Office of the Fire Commissioner produces the *Burning Issues* newsletter. *Burning Issues* is a collection of updates from the Office of the Fire Commissioner, news and views from the Manitoba Fire Service and information on public safety.

EDITOR: Lisa Morhun

Deadline for submissions for the Summer/Fall Edition of *Burning Issues* is **July 17, 2006**.

Contributions, news items and suggestions are appreciated.

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