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Cover photos taken by: Jody Herperger
SASKATCHEWAN VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Mission:

To provide a responsible voice and leadership to the Volunteer Fire Fighter of Saskatchewan, with the intent being to minimize loss of life and property in all aspects of Volunteer Emergency Response.

Objectives:

- To provide training and education for the Volunteer Fire Fighter.
- To solicit province-wide membership from every Volunteer Fire Department in Saskatchewan and to encourage active and concerned participation in the Association’s objectives.
- To establish responsible representation and leadership towards the role of the Volunteer Fire Fighter in fire prevention and public safety.
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Hard to believe we are half way through 2019. I hope this year so far has been a good one and all is well in your houses, both fire and personal.

This spring we had the opportunity to gather in Pilot Butte for the spring school and tradeshow. Both were exceptionally well attended and Chief Kevin Dell and his crew should be proud of what they achieved.

For the first time we had a department apply for and receive the bursary of $1500 from our friends at Scotia wealth and for this we are grateful and thankful. The Pilot Butte Volunteer Fire Department has generously provided a matching $1500 for a second bursary for this fall school and A.G.M. to be held in Swift Current. So make sure to apply for this opportunity or make sure a small department in your area, that needs financial help, is aware and have them apply.

One other item still on our radar is the continued improvement to the peer support system we started a few years ago. We are involved in high level talks to develop an app to be on your phone so if someone needs help, this app will make it as easy as tapping the link on your phone. Additionally we are eagerly anticipating further developments as it applies to presumptive cancer coverage to be extended to volunteer firefighters. Currently the provincial government is working on the fine details of getting this applicable to all firefighters, so stay tuned and we will let everyone know where this ends up in the not too distant future.

In closing I want to wish everyone a great summer and remember the question we should always ask ourselves. “Are we in this for the shirt or are we in this for the long haul?”

Yours in brotherhood.

Doug Lapchuk, President SVFFA

*Always be safe and wear your seatbelt*
Hi All!

It was great seeing many of you at Fire School this past spring. What a great success that was. The Pilot Butte Fire Department did an amazing job hosting the school that had record breaking attendance! Job well done by all!

*To view photos of the school, check out the “home” tab on the SVFFA website. A BIG thanks to Jody Herperger for all of the great shots!*

The SVFFA Fall Fire School will be hosted by the RM of Swift Current Fire Department. They have some new courses planned and a lot of fun things lined up for Saturday night. You don’t want to miss this one! If you require study material for the course you plan on taking, please remember to **pre-order** your study material from the SVFFA office.

I hope everyone has a fantastic summer with family and friends!

Take care,

*Courtney*

If you, or someone you know is in need of Critical Incident Stress Management or Critical Incident Stress Debriefing, please do not hesitate to reach out for help. Please call 306-520-3278 to be put in touch with our CISM/CISD team.

*The 2019 SVFFA Fall Fire School will be hosted by the RM of Swift Current Fire Department, October 18th - 20th. Details to follow later this summer!*
Hello all from Zone 1,

I want to congratulate the Pilot Butte Fire Department on a great job hosting the past Spring school. The school was another huge success!

On the topic of the SVFFA Schools, I am proud to say that along with my department and the RM of Swift Current Fire Department, we are hosting the fall school. The date for the school is October 18th-20th. It will be a fun weekend! We are going to offer some never offered before courses and of course the regularly offered courses. Information on the school will be released shortly.

Until the next newsletter, enjoy your summer and I look forward to seeing many of you in Swift Current.

Louis Cherpin
Zone 1 Director

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It seems spring has finally sprung and with that comes seeding along with the start to grass fire season. If your department hasn’t already done so, now is a great time to review your response plans & suppression strategies.

Spring Fire School was hosted in Pilot Butte this year. Congratulations to the planning committee on a very successful event with one of the largest Fire Schools to date - your hard work & dedication didn’t go unnoticed.

I would also like to congratulate Ron Heisler from Qu’Appelle on receiving the CVFSA Lifetime Achievement Award.

I hope everyone has a safe & enjoyable summer!

Trevor Sali
Zone 4 Director

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Hello everyone. Once again find myself sitting to write a newsletter. The last quarter has been fairly quiet in zone 5. Churchbridge hosted an ics 200 class, Lemberg fire dept hosted a fire behavior, safety, and ppe class.

From there we lead in to the spring school, which was a rousing success. Thank you chief Dell and your team for an awesome school.

The spring wildland season has everyone on edge and for some departments in the area, really busy. Be safe out there and stay in the black.

At the end of the quarter had the opportunity to attend the class flammable liquid training courtesy of CP. A very enjoyable experience with lots of knowledge gained. The instructor group on this course are truly world class. A huge thank you to CP rail for sponsoring a course like this.

Stay safe and train hard.

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**Zone 5**

**Darren Arseneault**  
**Zone 5 Director**

**Zone 5: Darren Arseneault**  
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Ph: 306.896.9607 (res) Ph: 306.896.3238 (cell)  
d.arseneault@hotmail.ca
So I promise not to mention the current weather conditions as I seem to “jinx” the province every time I bring it up in my report ( don’t believe me , take a look at my last one – ouch ! )

I’m sure it’s been mentioned in these pages multiple times, but needs to be restated- Pilot Butte was a PHENOMENAL success ! Our biggest school yet at 322 students and knocking Balgonie out of the top spot they previously held at 308. ( SORRY MR.PRESIDENT ). However, no rest for the wicked as Chief Louis Cherpin has already got the wheels in motion for the Fall school in Swift Current. There will be some new courses offered once again and the Chief has organized some exciting festivities for all.

If there are any courses you’d like to see us holding please let us know, our instructor group has a wealth of knowledge and is more than happy to change things up.

One of the things that I dropped the ball on was to see if there was any interest in SVFFA FIRE T shirts, these are the same as our Instructor shirts, albeit with FIRE across the back in green. I will post on FaceBook to gauge numbers. If we get enough requests we will move forward and do some pre-orders for the next school.

For the First Responder departments out there I’ve attached a statement from the Saskatchewan Health Authority in regards to it’s position on driving lights and sirens to medically dispatched calls. I know it’s frustrating having a “roadblock” to using one of the resources we have to respond, but we have to work within the boundaries allowed. I will continue working with the SHA to find a solution that is acceptable to all. One thing the SVFFA is working towards is creating an emergency vehicle/apparatus driving course to assist departments in this endeavour.
I usually try and close out with a quote, and I think I may have created my own, tell me what you think...

“ I became Fire Chief to help people, not “put out fires””

....see what I did there ? Kind of a metaphorical political double-entendre dealio

Stay safe this summer and hope everyone gets to enjoy the sunshi- WOAH almost did it again !

Cheers !
Paul Cockell

SHA Medical First Responder Message

The Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) recently provided clarification to their Medical First Responders (MFRs) regarding the use of emergency vehicle lights and sirens on vehicles that SHA MFRs operate when responding to MFR calls in the province.

In the fall of 2018, the SHA was advised that many of the old ambulance units that were donated to MFR groups around the province did not have the emergency lights and sirens deactivated. MFRs reported that the lights and sirens on these old ambulance units are activated when MFRs respond to calls in these units. This prompted the SHA to review the applicable legislation regarding the use of lights and sirens.
After a thorough review of current legislation (Saskatchewan Traffic Safety Act, Saskatchewan Driver Licensing and Suspension Regulations and the Vehicle Equipment Regulations), and consultation with the Ministry of Health and SHA legal counsel, the SHA provided MFRs with the following direction regarding the use of lights and sirens when responding to MFR calls:

1. MFRs must follow all traffic laws and bylaws when responding to calls.
2. Emergency lights and sirens will not be activated while driving to a call unless the municipality has a bylaw allowing the use of emergency lights and sirens. If there is a bylaw in effect authorizing the use of emergency lights and sirens, the MFRs and the vehicle must comply with all requirements of the bylaw and legislation, including licensing, training and vehicle equipment and inspection requirements.
3. While parked at the scene of a call the MFRs may activate amber or amber and blue beacons or flashing lights if the vehicle is stopping on a roadway/highway or if the vehicle presents a hazard to other vehicles on a roadway/highway.

Safety of our MFRs is of the utmost concern to the SHA. The use of emergency lights and sirens can be particularly dangerous and often without the intended result to save a clinically significant amount of time. Many articles have been published identifying that the use of emergency lights and sirens while responding to an emergency scene do very little to benefit patients and put the responding medical providers and public at increased risk.

When responding to any emergency event on a roadway/highway MFRs need to wear high visibility vests (CSA Class II) and may activate amber or amber and blue beacons or flashing lights to alert other people on the roadway/highway of the hazard.

Paul Cockell
Zone 6 Director
Zone 6: Paul Cockell
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paulandinga@sasktel.net
Hello to all the fire departments and fire fighters. I am extremely lucky to be able to look out and see the white landscape. It is April 30th. as I am writing this, the moisture is very much appreciated by all.

Major Fire built their own brush truck this winter and have put it to good use this spring, with great success. Kerrobert has had 7 wild land fires in 6 days. They also helped Biggar Fire with man power and equipment for 2 days. Rosetown Fire had about a 1/2 dozen wild land fires, minor in nature. Kyle had 2 wild land fires, 1 being mutual aid both minor. Elrose has had 0 fires but 13 ambulance calls in 6 days and 2 MVC’s. Kindersley Fire reports a busier than normal wild land fires season. On the bright side, the steel is up for their new fire hall and they just took delivery of a new 4000 gallon water tender (tanker). Eston Fire had 2 minor wild land fires. Eston also hosted a Grain Entrapment / Engulfment course on March 23. An eye opener for the 3 departments in attendance.

Now for Biggar Fire: I talked to Gerald Besse, Fire Chief, who said communication was a challenge until the EMFS showed up with the command center and P25 radios. EMFS brought all kinds of other equipment and men. One Air Tanker Spray Plane was used. Biggar Fire had 30 fire fighters and equipment. Equipment and fire fighters from Kerrobert Fire, Delisle Fire and Asquith Fire also helped. Wilkie Fire was back up and responded to 2 fires north of Biggar. Rosetown Fire was back-up for the town of Biggar.

HATS-OFF to everyone involved and the citizens of Biggar for stepping forward going above and beyond. Hopefully we will all get a good rain.

Respectfully,

Richard Baran
Zone 7 Director

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Box 535, Eston, Sk., S0L 1A0
Ph: 306.962.4192 (res)
rbaran@sasktel.net
Zone 9

Just finished a great Fire School hosted by Pilot Butte. I believe that it has established a new record for attendance. There was an excellent example of assistance from neighbouring communities/fire departments with equipment and manpower. Congratulations for a well co-ordinated and run event, I'm sure everyone had a very learning and organized weekend.

Thanks to all who helped our class, Vehicle Fire Fighting. Nice to have all that we require on location. I did have my doubts on Sunday, with the rain and snow; but we got it done, to instructors' and class's delight.

I would like to thank our executive director, Courtney Edwards, for all that she does for our board of directors. We all appreciate her efforts, every day.

Reminder, that the fall school is on October 18 - 20, hosted by Swift Current Rural. Register early!!

With the dry conditions this spring, all depts have been active fighting grass and wildland fires. RMs have placed fire bans in place, to assist the municipality to control their taxpayers from burning. Wildland fires can get out of control rather quickly, when fuels are dry, humidity low, and winds high. This spring, there have been many large fires which have been hard to bring under control. Take care out there!!

If there any questions, or concerns, that I can help you with. Please contact me, and if I do not have an answer, there is a mountain of experience and information that we, as a board of directors, can assist with.

Have a great summer, and see you in Swift Current.

Larry Zadvorny
Zone 9 Director

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larryz@inet2000.com
If you, or someone you know is in need of Critical Incident Stress Management or Critical Incident Stress Debriefing, please do not hesitate to reach out for help. We are here for you 24/7.
Please call 306-520-3278 to be put in touch with our CISM/CISD team.

A Fireman’s Prayer

When I am called to duty, God
Wherever flames may rage...
Give me the strength to save some life
Whatever be its age...
Help me embrace a little child
Before it is too late...
Or save an older person from
The horror of that fate...
Enable me to be alert and
Hear the weakest shout...
And quickly and efficiently
To put the fire out...
I want to fulfill my calling and
To give the best in me...
To guard my every neighbor
And protect their property...
And if according to your will
I have to lose my life...
Please bless with your protecting hand
My children and my wife...
**The benefits you receive as an SVFFA member:**

* Reduced rates for the fire schools offered twice annually.
* Access to certified training instructors.
* Low priced firefighting equipment that the SVFFA acquires periodically.
* 10% discount on all IFSTA training material.
* Access to service pins and certificates to help recognize your fire department members.
* Free classified advertisements in the SVFFA newsletter and on the SVFFA website.
* SVFFA members, or the child of a member, can apply for the $500.00 “Jack Croteau Memorial Scholarship” awarded each year.
* Network for members to share ideas, resources, concerns and solutions.
* You are supporting the volunteer fire service at local, provincial and national levels!!

Visit our website www.svffa.ca to renew or apply for your SVFFA membership.
# 2019 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**NAME OF FIRE DEPARTMENT:** ____________________________  **ZONE #** ______  

**CONTACT PERSON:** ____________________________________________________________  

**MAILING ADDRESS:** ___________________________________________________________  

**TOWN:** ____________________________  **POSTAL CODE:** __________________________  

**CONTACT PERSON:**  
Res: _______________  Bus: _______________  Cell: _______________  

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** ____________________________________________________________  

**FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP FEES:**  
**FIRST 15 MEMBERS =** $200.00  
**$5 PER ADDITIONAL MEMBERS:** = _____ x $5.00 = _______  
**$30 PER INDIVIDUAL, ACTIVE OR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS =** _____ x $30.00 = _______  

**ENCLOSED FEES:** (Please make cheques payable to: S.V.F.F.A. Inc.)  
**Total =** _______  

**NAMES OF MEMBERS:** (Please attach an additional list of names if required.)  
1.  
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*Membership Valid from January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019*

Please complete this form and return with payment. Please retain a copy for your records.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

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Dress up your uniform with an SVFFA pin $6.00/each

Since 1954, Fire Fighters have raised over $85 million to support Canadian families affected by neuromuscular disorders. We think you can help us hit $100 million by 2020!

Is your department already part of our network of heroes? If not, this is your chance to get involved with Muscular Dystrophy Canada and help families living in your community!

For more details on how to get involved please call Barb Yanciw at (306) 241-9423, or email at barb.yanciw@muscle.ca
Thank you Plains Midstream Canada for your generous donation to the SVFFA which will help fund PMC regional schools within our province. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

The Red Cross helps families affected by house fires

The Red Cross provides food, clothing, shelter and personal items for the first 72 hours following a house fire at no cost to the family. Trained volunteers are on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and are located throughout Saskatchewan.

If someone needs assistance they can call 1-888-800-6493.
Wait until you
SEE THIS UNIFORM

If you’re the first responder to an accident scene involving electricity — wait!

• Always assume power lines and electrical equipment are energized.
• Call SaskPower at 310-2220 (7 digit, toll-free number) to report the problem.
• Stay 10 metres away.

• Keep others well back.
• Wait until a SaskPower employee says the scene is electrically safe.

Then — and only then — help those in need.
Waiting to help goes against your instincts — but your life could depend on it!

Visit saskpower.com/safety for more tips on electrical safety.
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Clutter can be stressful and also a safety and fire hazard.

Whether you have a “Little Clutter Issue” (lost items, disorganization) or a “Big Clutter Problem” (mold, pests, fire hazard) we can help.

Our units are available in four sizes. Store all of your valuable treasures safely and leave your home and/or office organized and “Clutter-Free”

Less Clutter! Less Stress!

Hwy1 Storage is proud to support the Saskatchewan Volunteer Fire Fighters Association (SVFFA).

Hwy1 Storage is a state-of-the-art storage facility. All of our units are dry walled and insulated with motion sensor lighting. Our convenient facility is a fenced compound with security cameras and 24/7 access to your unit.

5' x 10' - $95/month
10' x 10' - $135/month
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12' x 25' - $240/month

Located 3 kilometers east of the Pilot Butte turn off on the North Service Road of the No. 1 Highway
Phone: 306-522-HWY1(4991) • Email: hwy1@accesscomm.ca • hwy1storage.com
The Revolutionary Small and Large Rescue ZSTRUTS from JYD Industries are the ultimate solution for your stabilization challenges. Self-contained, lightweight, and easy to use, the ZSTRUT works on the “tension buttress” principles for quick and secure deployment. Constructed of 14 gauge solid wall steel out tube, inner threaded stainless steel column, double ZipNut® adjustment, and Simpson ratchet and axle straps, our struts are engineered to effectively accommodate conventional and ultra modern vehicle construction features. Each rescue strut comes with a durable accessory pouch and is powder coated for an enduring finish.

Large Rescue ZSTRUT Set Includes:
- (2) Large Rescue ZSTRUTS
  - Retracted Length of 51” to a Maximum Extension of 81”
  - 32 lbs. Total Individual Weight
  - Standard Red Color (Customer Colors Available)
- (2) Standard Heads
- (2) Witches Hat Point Heads
- (2) 90 Degree Heads
- (2) Accessory Pouches
- (2) Pickets
- (2) Simpson Ratchet Straps with new floating claw hook
- (2) Simpson Axle Straps with new Floating J-Hook

Small Rescue ZSTRUT Set Includes:
- (2) Small Rescue ZSTRUTS
  - Retracted Length of 27” to a Maximum Extension of 42”
  - 24 lbs. Total Individual Weight
  - Standard Red Color (Customer Colors Available)
- (2) Standard Heads
- (2) Witches Hat Point Heads
- (2) 90 Degree Heads
- (2) Accessory Pouches
- (2) Pickets
- (2) Simpson Ratchet Straps
- (2) Simpson Axle Straps with new Floating J-Hook

Contact:
Greg Churchman
306-529-4947
glc@resconcanada.com

ZSTRUT™ Rescue Strut Features
- Triangulate with One Ratchet Strap
- Self Contained for Easy Deployment
- Polymer Coated Base for Better Grip
- Base and Clevis Operate Separately so Base Will Stay Flat on Ground
- Large Clevis Allows to Pass Through the Ratchet Strap Head for Single Strap Triangulation
- Infinite Adjustment Due to 304 Stainless Steel Threaded Rod
- Comes with Accessory Bag Attached to Strut
- Simpson Ratchet and Axle Strap Rated at 1,300 lbs.
- Patented Zipnut® Technology Allows for Finer Deployment Adjustability with the Ability to Follow Lifts
FULL RANGE AVAILABLE

Rescue Consulting Canada
Greg Churchman 306-529-4947
glc@resconcanada.com

Discover all EVO 3 tools
Whether in person, online or over the phone, we strive to be with you every step of the way.
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OPTIONS DONE RIGHT.
MULTI-PURPOSE RESCUE PUMPER

Integrated pump module
Up to 400 cu. ft. of storage
Lifetime transferable warranty
Heavy-duty extruded aluminum body
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Red Deer, AB T4P 3X2
1-800-494-4210
BeGrainSafe

Grain entrapment is extremely dangerous for the victim and the rescuers. Firefighters must use specific safety and rescue procedures to increase their chances of a successful rescue, while keeping members of their department safe. That's why CASA has developed the following rescue course for firefighters.

Firefighter Grain Rescue Training Course

This training program incorporates both classroom theory and practical training. It is intended to prepare firefighters to respond to a grain entrapment incident on-farm or at a grain handling facility.

NOTE: All course participants are required to complete Introduction to Grain Handling and Storage Hazards (free, online course available at casa-acsa.ca/begrainsafe) prior to taking this course.

Course Details
• In-person Course with Master Trainer
• Approximately 8 to 16 hours (duration dependent upon skill level of participants)
• Continual evaluation throughout course
• Upon completion of this course, a Certificate of Completion will be provided.

The BeGrainSafe Trailer is required for this course.

Course Topics
• Identification of grain incidents
  ~ How they occur
  ~ Common injuries
  ~ Types of entrapments
• Grain handling and storage facilities
  ~ Hazard identification
• Regulatory standards
  ~ NFPA/CSA/SWP
• Confined space and fall protection considerations
• Hazard analysis and risk assessment
• Equipment required
• Practical rescue training
• Bin breach training (available upon request)

For more information about BeGrainSafe, please visit casa-acsa.ca/begrainsafe or call 1 877 452 2272.
Honour your department members with SVFFA Years of Service Certificates and Pins $10.00/set

Contact the SVFFA office at (306) 520-3278 or email svffa@sasktel.net for more information.

Additional SVFFA items available for purchase:

- Small SVFFA Pin: $6.00
- SVFFA Crest: $10.00
- SVFFA Decal:
  - Small (1x1 inch): $2.00
  - Medium (3.5x3.5 inch): $5.00
  - Large (5.75x5.75 inch): $8.00
- **NEW** SVFFA Flag
  - (36x60 inch): $100.00