

Official publication of the ALBERTA INDUSTRIAL FIRE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

AIFEMA

EMERGENCY *Review* 2026

www.aifema.ca



Turning risk into readiness



The FLIR Scout Pro Thermal Imaging Monocular is built for professionals who need range and clarity in the most demanding environments.

Offered in 3 x models with detection ranges up to 1500 meters, it delivers precision thermal imaging.

The FLIR Scout Pro is rugged, reliable, and easy to operate in high-pressure situations.



rockymountainphoenix.com
Order Desk 1-888-815-0500
Red Deer 1-800-494-4210
Scott@rockymountainphoenix.com

COMMERCIAL

EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT CO.



CANADA'S LEADER FOR INDUSTRIAL AND MINING APPARATUS, PARTS, SERVICE, AND SUPPORT.

With best-in-class product knowledge, customer support, and technical expertise, the Commercial Emergency Equipment team is trusted by companies throughout the industrial and mining sectors to provide 24-Hour emergency service, OEM parts and equipment for their apparatus, and testing & inspections.



MAXIMETAL



🍁 **PROUDLY 100% CANADIAN OWNED AND OPERATED.**
VANCOUVER • SURREY • EDMONTON • CALGARY • REGINA • WINNIPEG • Ayr • WOODSTOCK

COMMERCIAL.ca
1.800.665.6126

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 6** 2026 AIFEMA President's Message – Marty Cuffe
- 8** 2026 AFCA President's Message – Drayton Bussiere
- 10** 2026 AIFEMA Past President's Message – Jason Linton
- 12** 2026 AIFEMA Secretary/Treasurer's Message – Kerri Sinclair
- 14** AIFEMA 2025 Scholarship recipients
- 16** Mission statement
- 18** 2026 members
- 19** Membership application
- 20** 2026 photo contest
- 22** Servicing your fire apparatus
- 24** Strengthening industrial emergency preparedness through regional coordination
- 28** The black swan
- 32** Proven in the wild: What makes forestry fire hose different?
- 34** Building resilience through innovation
- 38** Why remote-site fire apparatus requires a different approach
- 40** AIFEMA events
- 41** Sponsorship opportunities
- 42** Building a safer, more sustainable future for fire protection
- 44** Integrating satellite, aerial, and ground intelligence in wildfire response
- 46** Creating value by reducing risk
- 48** From AFFF to F3: Why foam transition demands smarter testing
- 50** Index to advertisers

AIFEMA MISSION STATEMENT

"To promote awareness of industrial fire protection and emergency management by information sharing and joint problem solving to minimize damage, loss and injury throughout the industry."



Communications Inc.

Suite 300, 6 Roslyn Road
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3L 0G5
www.delcommunications.com

President & CEO
DAVID LANGSTAFF

Managing Editor
LYNDON McLEAN
lyndon@delcommunications.com

Director of Sales & Marketing
DAYNA OULION
dayna@delcommunications.com

Advertising Account Executives
JENNIFER HEBERT
ROSS JAMES
ARAN LINDSAY
MIC PATERSON

Creative Director / Design
KATHLEEN CABLE

© Copyright 2026

DEL Communications Inc.

All rights reserved. The contents of this publication may not be reproduced by any means, in whole or in part, without prior written consent of the publisher.

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained herein and the reliability of the source, the publisher in no way guarantees nor warrants the information and is not responsible for errors, omissions or statements made by advertisers. Opinions and recommendations made by contributors or advertisers are not necessarily those of the publisher, its directors, officers or employees.

Publications mail agreement #40934510

Return undeliverable

Canadian addresses to:

DEL Communications Inc.

Suite 300, 6 Roslyn Road

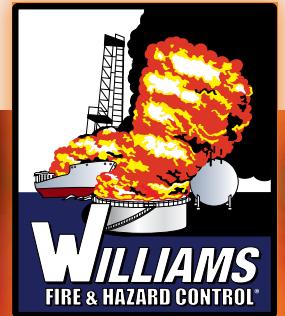
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Canada R3L 0G5

Email: david@delcommunications.com

PRINTED IN CANADA
08 | 2026

Performance IS OUR STANDARD



EMERGENCY RESPONSE



PERFORMANCE EQUIPMENT



RESPONSE READINESS



Williams Fire & Hazard Control has consistently set the benchmark for bold and innovative industrial fire response for the last 45 years.

Experience from nearly 300 incidents around the globe informs innovation and manufacture of our proprietary response equipment, as well as the specialized tactics developed by our dedicated Response Services Group applied across a gamut of industrial emergency scenarios on land and at sea.



From the frontlines of incident response to the manufacture of firefighting foam and hardware,
PERFORMANCE IS OUR STANDARD!

24HR Emergency 409-727-2347
williamsfire.com





Message from MARTY CUFFE *President*



First and foremost, thank you. I am truly honored and humbled to accept the role of President of the Alberta Industrial Fire and Emergency Management Association.

To the membership, the executive, and all of you who placed your trust in me, thank you for your confidence. It's a privilege to stand among so many professionals who share a common mission: protecting lives, assets, and our environment through effective emergency management and industrial fire response.

This association represents more than just a network; it's a community of dedicated individuals and organizations who understand that readiness, response, and resilience are not optional, they're essential. Whether you're managing emergency response in a large facility or working the front lines in the field, your contributions matter. And this role, for me, is about supporting that effort in a meaningful and impactful way.

As President, my focus will be on collaboration, innovation,

Be Prepared. We Can Help. **Emergency Management and Response Consulting**

We offer a multi-faceted team with over 450 years of combined frontline and leadership experience, and consultation expertise that specialize in fire, rescue, and emergency management.

- Fire and Emergency Services Reviews and Master Plans
- Community Emergency Management Programs
- Industrial Emergency Response Plans
- Wildfire Defense Plans and Consulting
- Fire Station Location and Functional Analysis
- Emergency Management Training – Design and Facilitation
- Geospatial Services – GIS Mapping and Analytics
- Community Risk Assessments
- Hazard, Risk, and Vulnerability Analysis
- Hazard Identification and Risk Assessments
- Emergency Response Team Feasibility Studies
- Industrial Facilities Pre-Fire Plans
- Fire and Life Safety Code Consulting
- Business Continuity and Recovery Planning
- Fire Apparatus and Equipment Procurement Consulting

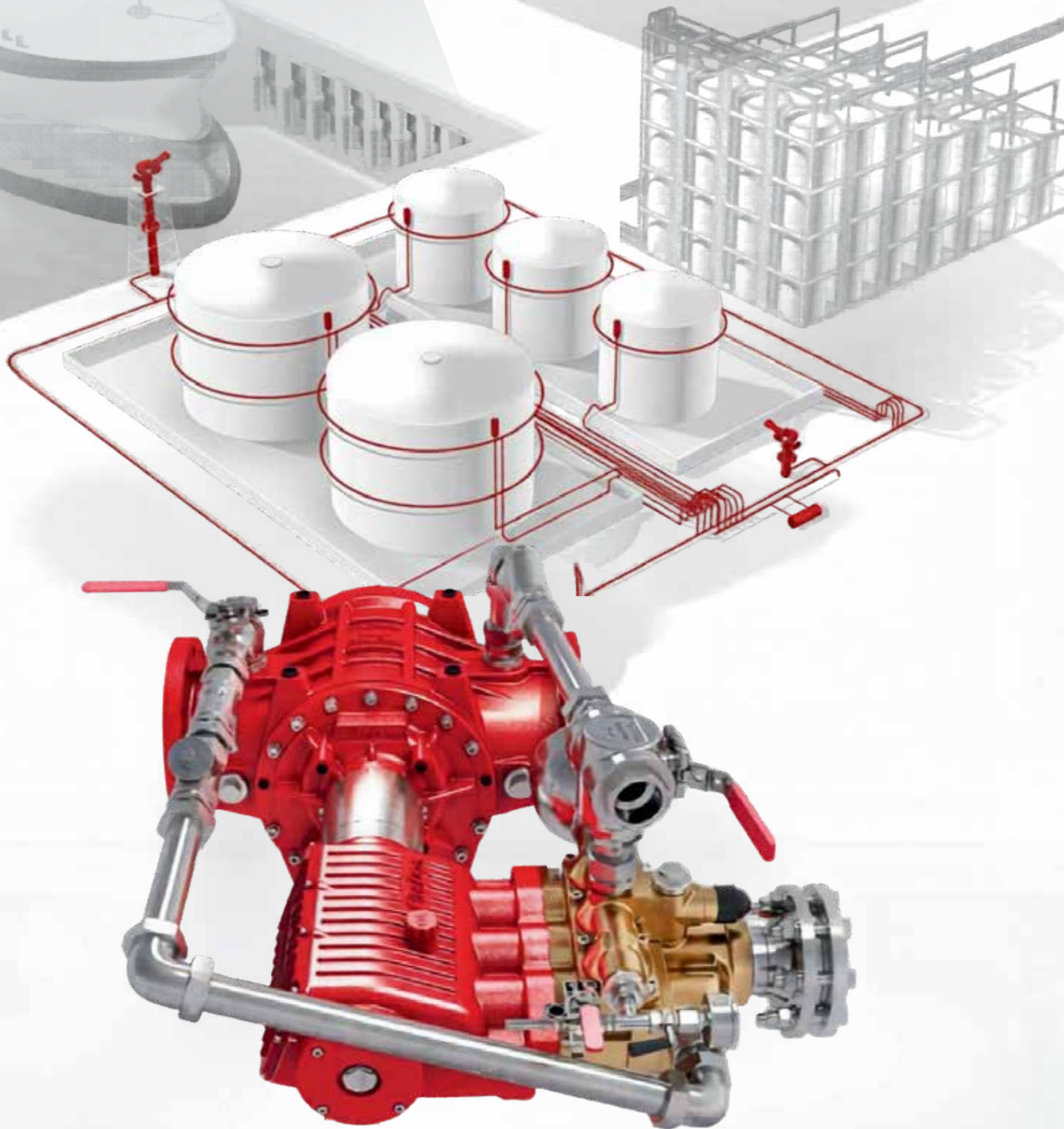


Calgary – Kitchener
Established 2003

Experience, Credibility, and Reputation – Matters!

www.behrintegrated.com

FireDos®



Rotaflow is your trusted partner for PFAS phasing-out projects. With over 30 years of experience, in-house engineering, factory-trained technicians, and authorized FireDos distribution, we support hydraulic calculations, product selection, skid fabrication, commissioning, and startup for the transition to Fluorine-Free fire suppression foam systems.

(780) 469-1220 www.rotaflow.ca enquiries@rotaflow.ca

Message from MARTY CUFFE continued

and capacity-building. I want to help grow our reach, strengthen our partnerships across industry, government, and Indigenous communities – and ensure our members have access to the best tools, training, and knowledge available.

Emergency management is evolving. Climate events are more severe. Industrial hazards are becoming more complex. And public expectations are higher than ever. But with challenge comes opportunity.

We have the expertise within this association to lead not just in Alberta, but across Canada as a model of proactive risk management, excellence in training, and operational readiness. I look forward to supporting our board and our committees to

make that vision a reality.

Let's continue fostering the spirit of shared learning that AIFEMA was founded upon. Let's elevate the next generation of responders, planners, and leaders. And most importantly, let's never forget that behind every emergency plan, every risk assessment, and every deployment are people, families, and communities who count on us to get it right.

Once again, thank you for this opportunity. I look forward to serving you and working with you as we continue building a safer, stronger Alberta.

Stay safe, stay prepared – and let's get to work. 🔥



Message from DRAYTON BUSSIERE *President, Alberta Fire Chiefs Association*

It gives me great pleasure to bring greetings from the Alberta Fire Chiefs Association (AFCA). The AFCA continues to advance its mission of supporting those who provide fire protection, first response, and related emergency services across Alberta. As we move through Summer 2026, our focus remains firmly on strengthening Alberta's fire service system through advocacy, collaboration, data-driven decision-making, and practical solutions that support both municipal and industrial emergency response partners.

Our long-standing relationship with the Alberta Industrial Fire and Emergency Management Association (AIFEMA) remains an important part of that work. The shared commitment between AFCA and AIFEMA to professional excellence, firefighter safety, and emergency management continues to strengthen both organizations and the broader emergency response network across Alberta. AIFEMA's mission of promoting industrial fire protection and emergency management through information sharing and joint problem solving closely aligns with AFCA's provincial mandate.

This year marks an important transition in AFCA executive leadership.

After many years of dedicated service, Chief Randy Schroeder has completed his term as AFCA President. Chief Schroeder has been a strong and steady voice for Alberta fire services, helping lead major provincial advocacy initiatives, strengthening relationships with government, and ensuring that volunteer, composite, career, municipal, and industrial fire services all had a seat at the table.

As I step into the role of President, I do so with great respect for the work that has come before and with a commitment to

continue building on that foundation. AFCA's work is stronger because of leaders like Randy, and I know our members join me in thanking him for his years of service.

Reflecting on the relationship between AFCA and AIFEMA, Chief Schroeder shared:

"The partnership between AFCA and AIFEMA has always been built on mutual respect and shared purpose. Whether through collaboration on provincial issues, being welcomed to the annual AIFEMA Golf Tournament and Conference, or simply having the opportunity to connect with leaders across industrial emergency response, these are moments I will always value. The mutual support between our organizations has strengthened Alberta's entire fire service community, and I am grateful for the friendships and partnerships built along the way."

That spirit of cooperation will continue to be a priority moving forward. AFCA's strength has always come from collaboration. Municipal departments, industrial brigades, volunteer firefighters, career services, and emergency management professionals all form part of the same response system. Stronger partnerships create safer communities. AIFEMA continues to be an important voice within that system, and AFCA values that partnership deeply. As we move forward, our focus remains clear: practical advocacy, stronger partnerships, better data, and sustainable solutions for Alberta's fire services.

Thank you to AIFEMA for your continued leadership, your support of Alberta's emergency response community, and your commitment to protecting the people we all serve. 🔥

WILDLAND PROTECTION FOR REMOTE FACILITIES

40
YEARS
1986\2026



BUILD YOUR FIRE BREAK SYSTEM AT WWW.WFRFIRE.COM



WFR Wholesale Fire & Rescue Ltd.    



Message from JASON LINTON

Past President



As I transition into the role of Past President of the Alberta Industrial Fire and Emergency Management Association, I want to take a moment to sincerely thank all of you, as well as the Executive Team, for your continued support, commitment, and dedication to our association.

It was a true honor to serve as President, and I am proud of the work we accomplished together to strengthen AIFEMA and help position the association for long-term sustainability and success. Over the past year, we made important progress in shaping a strong foundation for the future, and I'm grateful to have been part of that work.

Looking back on the success of our Fall meeting, I am pleased that the association has moved to one annual meeting format to help maximize participation and create the best possible experience for members. This approach will allow us to continue bringing everyone together for meaningful discussion, professional development, and strong industry connection.

I encourage all members to attend this year's meeting in Edmonton. The Executive Team continues to put significant effort into building a program that delivers value to members through quality speakers, relevant topics focused on first responder safety, and workshops that support growth in emergency management and emergency response leadership.

One of the greatest strengths of AIFEMA is the opportunity it provides to connect with peers, share lessons learned, and build relationships across the industry. Those connections, along with the knowledge gained through our meetings, continue to bring tremendous value to both individuals and their organizations.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve as President and now continue supporting the association as Past President. I look forward to seeing many of you in Edmonton as AIFEMA continues to grow and move forward together. 🔥

PROTECTING LIVES SAFEGUARDING ENVIRONMENTS

HELPING REDUCE FIRST RESPONDERS' HEALTH AND SAFETY RISKS



Protecting Those Who Protect Us

780-792-6990

270 Berens Place, Fort McMurray, AB T9K 2C7

sales@EmergencyDeconSolutions.ca
www.EmergencyDeconSolutions.ca



Celebrating over 45 years of Emergency Response Excellence



— The Professionals —

- ✓ Emergency well control and blowout services
- ✓ Pre-fire planning and temporary fire systems
- ✓ Fire shower units and mobile gas monitoring
- ✓ Fire systems testing and maintenance
- ✓ Environmental monitoring (PM, H₂S, SO₂, wind, etc.)
- ✓ Emergency response planning
- ✓ Hazard modeling with GIS
- ✓ Standby fire protection
- ✓ H₂S safety services

We're excited to share a major milestone in our industry!

Barrow Safety Services Inc., Black Gold Emergency Planners Inc., and Firemaster Oilfield Services Inc. have officially joined forces to create **FM Safety Services Ltd.** This merger brings together three leaders with a shared commitment to safety, innovation, and operational excellence.



Firemaster

1-877-342-3473 contact@firemaster.ca www.firemaster.ca

Strategically located in Calgary, Red Deer, Grande Prairie, and Caldwell, Texas, USA.



SCAN ME



Message from KERRI SINCLAIR

Secretary Treasurer



Another year has passed, and AIFEMA continues to grow and evolve. We now have 92 active memberships and 224 individual members. Each member contributes valuable experience, ideas, and solutions as we work together to adapt and advance. We always welcome fresh ideas, new conference themes, and new members.

In April 2026, Jay Hughes stepped down as our elected President. Jay was able to share a personal message with the membership, stating "Serving as your President has been one of the greatest honors of my professional career. It has been a true privilege to work alongside such dedicated fire and emergency management professionals who are committed to excellence, collaboration, and advancing our industry. AIFEMA is an exceptional organization, and I am deeply grateful for the trust and support you have shown me during my time in this role. I have every confidence in the strength of this association and its leadership moving forward. I know AIFEMA will continue to thrive and to advocate effectively on behalf of its members. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. I sincerely hope our paths will cross again in the future."

The Executive would like to extend our sincere appreciation for Jay's years of service to AIFEMA. His dedication, leadership, and commitment have made a meaningful impact on the association. Through his contributions, he was able to strengthen AIFEMA and support its continued growth and success. We have invited Jason to attend the September meeting so we can properly recognize his contribution.

Our annual meeting will take place in Edmonton on September 15-17 at the Fantasyland Hotel. We look forward to the friendly challenge of our annual golf tournament being hosted at The Ranch Golf and Country Club on Wednesday, September 16.

Thank you to our members for your continued support of our strong and growing association. If you are not yet a member, we encourage you to visit www.aifema.ca or contact us at info@aifema.ca.

Finally, thank you to our magazine contributors and to DEL Communications for your ongoing support. 🙌

"The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today." — Franklin D. Roosevelt



OFFICIAL CANADIAN DISTRIBUTOR OF





CANADIAN OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1979
CREATE AN ACCOUNT ONLINE TO RECEIVE DISCOUNTED PROFESSIONAL PRICING

info@vereburn.com (403) 219-2901 Toll Free: 1(800) 263-1055 www.vereburn.com



Communications Inc.

The key to publishing success!

We offer outstanding personal service and quality in the areas of:

- Creative Design
- Advertising Sales
- Trade Publications, Print & Online
- Online Directories
- Digital Magazines
- Qualified Sales & Editorial Team





PRIMCO DENE (EMS) LP

EXCELLENCE IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE

**INDIGENOUS OWNED & OPERATED
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Primco Dene (EMS) LP is an Indigenous owned and operated company committed to delivering professional, reliable, and innovative emergency medical and industrial response services across Alberta and Western Canada.



INDUSTRIAL EMS

On-site medical services for industrial operations and remote locations.



EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Rapid response when it matters most.



REMOTE MEDICAL SUPPORT

Advanced care in remote and challenging environments.



FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES

Professional fire suppression and rescue solutions.



PROUDLY SERVING WESTERN CANADA

From industrial work sites to remote communities, we deliver safe, reliable, and efficient emergency medical and technical response services with the highest level of care and professionalism.

OUR VALUES DRIVE US



SAFETY

Safety in everything we do.



TEAMWORK

Stronger together.



INTEGRITY

Honest, accountable, and respectful.



COMMUNITY

Committed to the communities we serve.



COLD LAKE, ALBERTA



PRIMCODENEEMS.COM



SAFETY. TEAMWORK. INTEGRITY. COMMUNITY.

AIFEMA

Scholarship recipients

AIFEMA is proud to partner with Lakeland College's Emergency Training Centre for the 13th AIFEMA Scholarship. Congratulations to the winners of this year's AIFEMA \$500 scholarships.

The current criteria for the AIFEMA Scholarship are:

- Alberta resident;
- Highly respected by their platoon;
- A graduate of the Fire Fighter Training Program or EST Program who has achieved an overall minimum grade average of 80 per cent.



Justin Brewer, Lethbridge Alberta

My name is Justin Brewer, and I am honoured to have been selected as a recipient of the Austin Award through AIFEMA. I was born and raised in Lethbridge, Alberta, where my passion for emergency services began at a young age, growing up near a local fire station. Watching firefighters respond to calls in my community left a lasting impression on me and inspired me to pursue a career dedicated to helping others.

My journey into emergency services began with volunteering for St. John Ambulance, where I developed a strong foundation in patient care and community service. Building on that experience, I went on to obtain my Primary Care Paramedic certification. This step not only strengthened my clinical knowledge, but also reinforced my commitment to working in high-pressure, team-oriented environments.

As my career progressed, I became increasingly interested in the technical rescue aspect of emergency response. I pursued training in areas such as rope rescue and confined space rescue, which challenged me both physically and mentally while expanding my skill set. These experiences solidified my desire to become a well-rounded and highly capable responder.

I later attended Lakeland College as part of Platoon 1 firefighter training, where I had the opportunity to further develop my skills and professionalism. The program pushed me to grow in discipline, teamwork, and leadership, and it confirmed that firefighting is where I want to build my career. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to my fellow students, whose camaraderie and shared commitment made the experience both challenging and rewarding. To the instructors and staff, I am deeply grateful for your guidance, mentorship, and the high standards you set – your influence has played a significant role in shaping me into the firefighter I am becoming.

Receiving the Austin Bridges Award is a tremendous honour, and I am sincerely grateful to AIFEMA for their support. This recognition not only motivates me to continue advancing my skills in firefighting and technical rescue but also reinforces my commitment to serving my community with dedication and integrity. I look forward to continuing my journey in emergency services and contributing meaningfully to the field.



Dylan D'Amico – Emergency Services Technology: Medical

My name is Dylan D'Amico, and I recently completed the Emergency Services Technology program at Lakeland College. I am excited to begin my career in emergency services and continue pursuing the lifelong goal of becoming a firefighter. I am very appreciative of the AIFEMA for the opportunity to receive this scholarship. It has helped me in my path to becoming a licensed Primary Care Paramedic.

My passion for firefighting began at a young age, growing up with close family members being involved within the fire service. Seeing their dedication to helping others inspired me to follow a similar path and sparked my interest in emergency services early on. During high school, I joined the Edmonton Fire Cadet program, where I gained valuable

experience, developed discipline and teamwork skills, and further confirmed my desire to pursue a career in firefighting.

Wanting to build on that experience and take the next step toward my career goals, I enrolled in Lakeland College's Emergency Services Technology program. My time in Battalion 28 challenged me both physically and mentally while helping me grow as both a student and future first responder. Through the program, I achieved my firefighter certifications as well as my Primary Care Paramedic certification, giving me a broader understanding of emergency response and patient care. The peers I trained alongside motivated me to push my limits and strengthened my passion for serving others.

As I move forward in my career, I'm committed to continuing to learn, improve my skills, and grow both personally and professionally within emergency services. My goal is to become a dedicated career firefighter who can make a positive impact within the community while continuing to uphold the values of teamwork, professionalism, and service. I'm grateful for the experiences that have brought me to this point and look forward to the opportunities ahead. 🔥



GLOBAL FIRE RESCUE SERVICE

Expert fire, rescue, and safety solutions
with top-tier training and equipment –
serving communities worldwide.

- WUI Specialists
- SPUs
- Disasterfield – Drones
- Sprinklers
- CitroTech – Fire Inhibitor
- OroraTech Wildfire Solution

Eugene Wells
587-984-1785 eugene@gfrsinc.com

gfrsinc.com



Mission Statement

To promote awareness of industrial fire protection and emergency management by information sharing and joint problem solving to minimize damage, loss, and injury throughout industry

Membership Benefits

- Promoting awareness of industrial fire protection and emergency management through information sharing and joint problem solving
- AIFEMA is recognized by the Alberta Fire Chiefs Association, Alberta Municipal Affairs Public Safety Division, and the Alberta Fire Commissioner's Office
- Network with your peers and discuss emerging issues and innovations related to fire, rescue, and emergency management within the mining, pulp and paper, petrochemical, fertilizer, oil refining, and various emergency response sectors throughout Canada.
- Annual membership meeting rotating between Edmonton and Calgary
- Guest speakers from industry, government and regulatory agencies informing members about ever changing codes, regulatory requirements and how they impact industry
- Alberta Municipal Affairs Public Safety Division, enabling us to keep up on and have a say on issues which pertain to emergency response and training for emergency response personnel
- AIFEMA members practice the sharing of information and lessons learned from various incidents and response processes
- Presentations from vendors and manufacturers updating AIFEMA members on the latest fire and safety innovations and standards
- Explore emerging and innovative solutions with other emergency management, emergency response professionals and organization stakeholders
- Attend casual and fun networking events such as the annual golf tournament, bowling competition and social night to enjoy a relaxing opportunity to further strengthen business connections

QUESTIONS?

Telephone: (403) 701-2368

Website: www.aifema.ca

Email: info@aifema.ca

READY FOR YOUR WORST DAY.



Engineered for Canada's harshest industrial environments.

Contact Adam to learn more about our industrial solutions.



Adam Croome
REGIONAL SALES MANAGER

403.968.2033

acroome@firetrucks.ca



SAFETEK PROFIRE

*Serving Those Who Keep Our Communities **SAFE.***



MEMBERS

COME AND JOIN OUR CURRENT MEMBERS TODAY!

1892585 Alberta Inc.
3M Scott Fire and Safety
Airdrie Fire Department
Alberta Forestry and Parks
Ambipar Response Canada Inc.
ARC Resources
Artic Fire Safety Services Limited
Associated Fire Safety Group Inc.
Behr Integrated Solutions Inc.
Bravo Target Safety LP
Brogan Fire & Safety
Brooks Fire Department
Building Reports Canada
Bulldog Hose Company
Canadian Natural Resources Limited - Albion Sands
Canadian Natural Resources Limited - Horizon Oil Sands
Canadian Pacific Kansas City Railway
Cenovus Energy - Christina Lake
Cenovus Energy - Lloydminster
Cenovus Energy - Sunrise
Commercial Emergency Equipment Co.
ConocoPhillips Canada
Co-op Refinery Complex
Cypress County
Draeger Safety Canada Ltd. - Chris Linville
Drago-ISI Inc.
ElectroGas Monitors Ltd
Emergency Decon Solutions Ltd.
Emergency Response Assistance Canada
Enbridge - Fort McMurray
Evans & Co
FastTrack Wildfire MGT
Firemaster Oilfield Services Inc - Drayton Valley
Firemaster Oilfield Services Inc - Lacombe County
FireWise Consulting Ltd.
Fort Saskatchewan Fire Department
Gibson Energy
Global Training Centre
H2Safety Services Inc.
HAIX North America
Hog's Tooth Consulting
Imperial Oil (ESSO) - Strathcona
Imperial Oil Resources - Kearl Operations
Innotex Protection
Integrated Emergency and Safety Services Inc.
Intercontinental Truck Body Inc
International SOS Canada Medical Services ULC

Johnson Controls
Keyera Energy
Lac Ste Anne County
Lakeland College Emergency Training Centre
Lloydminster Fire Department
Mercedes Textiles Limited
MSA Safety
Nova Chemicals Ltd.
NRCAER - Northeast Region Community Awareness Emergency Response
NWR Sturgeon Refinery
OFC, AMA, AEMA and AFCA Members
Paratech Inc.
Pembina Pipeline - Grande Prairie
Pembina Pipelines - Redwater
Perimeter Solutions
PMO Global Services
Primco Dene EMS - Cold Lake
Pro Rescue Services Inc.
Railway Association of Canada (RAC)
Rocky Mountain Phoenix
Rotaflow Fire & Utility
Safetek Profire
Silversmith Data
Starfield-Lion
Strathcona County Emergency Services
Strathcona District Mutual Assistance Program
Suncor Energy Corporation
Suncor Energy Edmonton Refinery
Suncor Energy Fort Hills
Suncor Energy Oil Sands
Syncrude (Suncor) Canada Ltd.
Tennacor Canada Inc.
Terra Water Systems
T'NT Work & Rescue
Total Fire Solutions
Transitional Solutions Inc
Unlimited Safety Services
Vereburn Medical Supply Ltd.
Wasp Manufacturing Ltd.
Westvac Industrial Ltd.
WFR Wholesale Fire & Rescue Ltd.
Wildfire Innovations Inc
Williams Fire and Hazard Controls
Winner Garment Industries Ltd.
Wolf Midstream

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP



ALBERTA INDUSTRIAL FIRE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

Date		
Name		Title
Organization Name		
Primary Mailing Address		
City	Province	Postal Code
Phone Number		Cell Number
Primary Email		
Website (this website will be linked to your company name on www.aifema.ca)		
If you would like other individuals in your company to receive information about upcoming meetings or updates, please list their name(s) and email address(es) below:		
Name		Email Address
Name		Email Address
\$500 Membership Fee: ☐ Please issue a receipt		
☐ Cheque	Mail completed application and cheque to <i>Alberta Industrial Fire and Emergency Management Association</i> , Box 2077, Cochrane, Alberta, T4C 1B8	
☐ Credit Card	Email completed application to info@aifema.ca and visit https://aifema.ca/product-category/membership/ to complete the payment online.	

QUESTIONS?

Telephone: (403) 701-2368

Email: info@aifema.ca

AIFEMA 2026 PHOTO CONTEST



AIFEMA is excited to unveil the winners of the 2026 Cover Photo Contest.

We invited members to submit photos reflecting the theme “Turn Risk into Readiness” and received some great images.

Congratulations go to Jeremy Rudrud, whose submission graces this issue’s cover.

Read about Jeremy’s photo below, as well as those of the runners up.

Thanks to everyone who submitted!



WINNER: JEREMY RUDRUD

This image captures “Turning Risk into Readiness” by showing emergency response team members training in a realistic, high-risk environment before they are required to face it in an actual emergency. The image demonstrates that readiness is built through hands-on training, teamwork, situational awareness, communication, and confidence under pressure. The conditions faced all represent the types of complex hazards responders may encounter during an incident. Rather than avoiding these risks, the training environment allows crews to safely experience them, understand their behaviour, and practise effective response actions under controlled conditions. In this context, risk becomes a learning tool. Each scenario helps responders strengthen their skills, test procedures, build trust in their team, and better understand how to protect people, property, and operations when a real emergency occurs.



1ST RUNNER UP: JAMIE GERMAIN

This picture was captured in March of 2025 and features our members fighting a propane fire at the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX). This activity is a twice-annual training collaboration between Suncor Baseplant, Suncor Fort Hills, Suncor FireBag, Suncor Edmonton Refinery and Syncrude, all who are AIFEMA members. I believe this meets the theme of “Turn Risk into Readiness” in a major way. In our Industry, there’s always the potential for significant and extreme fires but it’s incredibly difficult to train for. Conducting Live Fire Evolutions at the biggest Fire Industrial School in the world allows our members to train and practice at the highest caliber. This training has significantly improved our response capabilities and has us ready to face any fire at our respective sites. We risk it there to be ready here!



2ND RUNNER UP: JOEL WOODS

The image was taken during an Advanced Tactical Leadership Training course at TEEX and captures our team positioned in front of a live-fire training prop at the moment a fireball is initiated. The photo reflects a mix of both our full-time Emergency Services personnel and members of our auxiliary brigade, which includes Shift Superintendents and Shift Team Leads. I felt this image aligns strongly with the theme “Turn Risk into Readiness,” as it represents realistic, high-risk training being used to build competency, coordination, and confidence across integrated teams. It highlights not only the technical aspect of managing hazards in a controlled environment, but also the importance of cross-functional collaboration in preparing for real-world incidents.



3RD RUNNER UP: TERRY SOMERVILLE

This image visually tells the story of risk being managed through readiness, which aligns directly with the message. Firefighters are actively controlling a hazardous situation with hose lines and coordinated response. There’s visible steam/smoke management, indicating suppression or mitigation in progress. Multiple personnel with PPE and structured positioning suggest preparedness, planning, and execution. 🔥




Integrated Emergency Response

Cross-trained Paramedic
Rescue Technicians

WE OFFER:

- ➔ CONFINED SPACE RESCUE
- ➔ HIGH ANGLE RESCUE
- ➔ PARAMEDIC SERVICES
- ➔ CONSULTING & TRAINING
- ➔ SUPPLIED AIR SERVICES

Connect with us to discuss how we can meet your specific needs.

☎ 1.866.855.2287 // www.iesscanada.ca
info@iesscanada.ca

We are members of:









**The key to
publishing
success!**



We offer outstanding personal service and quality in the areas of:

- Creative Design • Advertising Sales
- Trade Publications, Print & Digital
- Online Directories • Websites
- Qualified Editorial & Sales Team

Servicing your fire apparatus

By Glenn Jacques

When a fire apparatus fails on scene, the consequences extend far beyond repair costs – they directly impact firefighter safety, operational effectiveness, and public trust.

Fire apparatus maintenance has traditionally been divided between automotive/heavy-duty mechanics and Emergency Vehicle Technicians (EVTs). EVT's typically focus on pump testing and fire system components, while general mechanics maintain the chassis and drivetrain.

However, modern fire apparatus are highly integrated systems, and this division no longer reflects best practice.

THE IMPORTANCE OF QUALIFIED TECHNICIANS

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1911: Standard for the Inspection, Maintenance, Testing, and Retirement of In-Service Automotive Fire Apparatus clearly establishes that:

All inspection, maintenance, and testing activities – beyond basic operational checks – must be performed by qualified personnel.

NFPA 1911 – Personnel

Qualifications

- Personnel performing diagnostics, maintenance, or testing must meet:
 - NFPA 1071 (Emergency Vehicle Technician Professional Qualifications) or equivalent
- Daily/weekly checks may be performed by individuals designated by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)
- Pump and aerial testing must be performed by:

- Qualified EVT personnel or
- An accredited organization (ISO/IEC 17020)

WHY EVT TRAINING MATTERS

EVT-certified technicians are trained to view fire apparatus as complete, interdependent systems, rather than isolated mechanical components.

Without this specialized knowledge, critical performance and safety requirements can be overlooked.

Examples of System-Specific Requirements

• Engine Safety Overrides

Standard heavy-duty engines are programmed to shut down under critical faults. Fire apparatus must remain operational during emergency incidents, even at the risk of equipment damage – this is an NFPA requirement.

• Pump Performance Dependency

Any major engine or transmission repair may impact pump output. NFPA requires retesting to verify rated capacity.

• Electrical System Design

Fire apparatus batteries are selected for extended load capacity, not just cold-start performance.

• Brake System Standards

NFPA braking requirements exceed standard commercial vehicle testing thresholds. A system passing a DOT test may still fail an NFPA compliance test.

EVT CERTIFICATION PATHWAYS

Technicians can achieve EVT certification through two primary routes:

Option 1: EVT Certification Only

- Pass individual EVT exams by specialty area

Option 2: Combined Certification

- EVT certification combined with provincial heavy-duty mechanic qualifications
- Progression through:
 - Level I
 - Level II
 - Master EVT

FIRE APPARATUS TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION TRACK

This track applies to technicians servicing:

- Pumpers
- Aerial devices
- Tankers
- Wildland units
- Rescue and support apparatus

Certification focuses on:

- NFPA design and performance standards
- Specialized fire apparatus systems
- Industry best practices

THE CRITICAL GAP IN TECHNICIAN TRAINING

The fire service has long emphasized rigorous training and certification for firefighters and officers, guided by NFPA standards.

However, the same level of emphasis is not always placed on those responsible for maintaining the apparatus itself.

Fire apparatus are complex, mission-critical systems. Equipment failure during an emergency can have serious safety and operational consequences.

Ensuring technicians are:

- Properly trained
- Certified
- Continuously educated

...is essential to maintaining operational readiness.

RECERTIFICATION AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Vehicle technologies continue to evolve rapidly. To maintain competency:

- EVT certifications must be renewed every five years
- Ongoing education ensures familiarity with:
 - New technologies
 - Updated standards
 - Emerging best practices

ABOUT THE EVT CERTIFICATION COMMISSION

The Emergency Vehicle Technician Certification Commission (EVT) is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving emergency vehicle maintenance across North America.

It is governed by representatives from:

- Fire service agencies
- Maintenance organizations
- Educational institutions

BEYOND THE APPARATUS: SUPPORTING EQUIPMENT

Other critical equipment also requires certified servicing:

- SCBA systems
- Air compressors
- Hydraulic rescue tools
- Ground ladder testing

Most manufacturers require:

- Factory-trained technicians
- Adherence to certified service procedures

Certified technicians also maintain access to:

- Recall notices
- Updated service bulletins
- Warranty compliance requirements

CONCLUSION

A comprehensive maintenance program aligned with NFPA standards – and supported by qualified EVT-certified

personnel – helps ensure:

- Reliable apparatus performance
- Reduced downtime
- Improved firefighter safety

Departments should consider both certification and demonstrated competency when selecting service providers.

Because when it matters most, your apparatus must perform exactly as expected – no exceptions.

ABOUT ROCKY MOUNTAIN PHOENIX

Rocky Mountain Phoenix provides NFPA-compliant inspection, maintenance, and testing services delivered by EVT-certified technicians.

With a team ranging from Level I to Master EVT and mobile service capability, we support departments in maintaining safe, operationally ready apparatus. 🔥

LEADERS IN QUALITY FIRE, SAFETY, RESCUE & MEDICAL SERVICES

- FIRE SYSTEM INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE
- FIRE EXTINGUISHERS & ALARMS
- CARBON FIBER RECERTIFICATION
- PLANT TURNAROUNDS
- SAFETY CONSULTING
- TRAINING
- MEDICAL
- HYDROTESTING
- STANDBY RESCUE



TOTALGROUP⁺
FIRE | RESCUE | MEDICAL | HSE

1-888-RESCUE+
(737-2830)
info@totalgroup.ca



Strengthening industrial emergency preparedness through regional coordination: The Sarnia-Lambton model

Located in the heart of Canada's petrochemical sector, Sarnia-Lambton, Ontario is home to one of the country's most coordinated industrial emergency preparedness systems. For decades, industry, municipalities, emergency services, and community partners have worked together to build a regional approach that strengthens preparedness, supports effective incident response, and helps protect workers, residents, and the environment.

BASES (Bluewater Association for Safety, Environment, and Sustainability) plays a central role in this system. Through its Emergency Preparedness Division, BASES supports 24 member companies by coordinating regional emergency planning, standardized notification protocols, shared response resources, joint training, and public preparedness initiatives. Working in close partnership with the City of Sarnia, St. Clair Township, and the Village of Point

Edward fire departments, BASES contributes to a coordinated emergency response network where organizations train together, communicate through standardized procedures, and are prepared to support one another during emergencies.

A REGIONAL APPROACH TO EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Every BASES member maintains emergency response plans specific to its operations and hazards while participating in a coordinated regional response framework. When an incident occurs, standardized notification protocols activate through Police Dispatch, allowing emergency information to be shared rapidly with industrial responders, municipal emergency management officials, and partner agencies.

Depending on the nature of the event, response teams may be notified, placed on standby, or deployed under a Unified Command structure. Dedicated radio channels and modern digital notification systems operate simultaneously to provide real-time situational awareness and ensure all responding organizations have a common operating picture.

SHARED RESOURCES AND STANDARDIZED COMMUNICATIONS

One of the strengths of the Sarnia-Lambton model is the ability to coordinate specialized personnel and equipment across the region. Member companies maintain shared emergency resources that can be requested by Incident Command, including:

- Firefighting foam trailers
- Spill containment and rescue equipment
- Specialized fire, medical, and hazardous materials resources
- Environmental air and water monitoring capabilities

Regional coordination is further supported through a standardized industrial coding system used by industry, emergency management coordinators, dispatch services, and responders. The coding system allows incidents to be categorized quickly so that the appropriate resources can be mobilized efficiently. While these codes support responder communications, public messaging is provided in plain

language through a shared community notification system.

TRAINING, EXERCISES, AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Preparedness depends on more than plans; it requires regular practice. For more than 20 years, BASES members and municipal partners have conducted annual regional emergency response exercises involving fire services, police,



Lakeland College's Emergency Training Centre offers hands-on training with the most comprehensive, state-of-the-art training grounds in Canada.

Level up your training with courses in:

- NFPA 1006 Standard for Technical Rescue (Rope Rescue & Confined Space Rescue)
- NFPA 1021 Standard for Fire Officer (Levels I & II)
- NFPA 1041 Standard for Fire and Emergency Services Instructor (Levels I & II)
- NFPA 470 Standard for Hazardous Materials (Awareness, Operations & Technician Levels)
- NFPA 1081 Standard for Facility Fire Brigade Member (Incipient - Leader Levels)
- Emergency Management Exercises
- Customized Company Specific Training

To learn more visit:
lakelandcollege.ca/fire-ems



Together, these programs help ensure residents receive timely, accurate information and understand the protective actions they may need to take during an emergency.

paramedics, emergency management organizations, and industrial response teams. These exercises validate emergency plans, strengthen interagency coordination, identify opportunities for improvement, and reinforce relationships that are essential during actual emergencies.

As George Hatfield, a long-time leader in Sarnia-Lambton's industrial emergency preparedness community, often said, "Make your friends before you need them." That philosophy continues to guide emergency preparedness throughout the region.

SUPPORTING PUBLIC SAFETY

While industrial responders focus on managing incidents at their source, municipalities lead public protective actions, including shelter-in-place instructions, evacuation advisories, and emergency communications. BASES supports these efforts through several regional initiatives, including:

- Sarnia-Lambton Alerts, a regional notification system that delivers emergency information directly to residents through multiple communication channels.
- A network of community emergency

sirens across Sarnia, Point Edward, and Aamjiwnaang First Nation that warn the public of hazardous situations.

- An Industry Hotline providing recorded updates on industrial notifications.
- Emergency Preparedness Day, held annually during Emergency Preparedness Week, brings together response partners to showcase emergency preparedness through interactive exhibits, demonstrations, and family-friendly activities. The event helps residents understand local risks, emergency procedures, and the actions they can take before, during, and after an emergency.
- Emergency traffic control boxes that enable rapid road closures when required.
- Community outreach initiatives that promote emergency preparedness and awareness.

Together, these programs help ensure residents receive timely, accurate information and understand the protective actions they may need to take during an emergency.

A MODEL BUILT ON PARTNERSHIP

The Sarnia-Lambton approach demonstrates that effective emergency management is built on long-term relationships, common procedures, and a commitment to continuous improvement. By bringing together industry, municipalities, emergency responders, and community partners, BASES has helped create a coordinated regional system that continues to evolve alongside changing risks and community expectations.

While every jurisdiction faces unique challenges, the principles behind the Sarnia-Lambton model-shared planning, standardized communications, regular training, and strong partnerships-provide a foundation that can strengthen preparedness in any industrial community. 🔥



FIRE WATER PUMP HOUSE (FWPH)

REMAIN COMPLIANT WITH REGULATORS AND WORK SITE HSE PROGRAMS WITH A TURN-KEY FIRE PROTECTION SOLUTION.



Terra Water continues to build new Fire Water Pump Houses (FWPH) for our valued clients. These systems are skid mounted, relocatable fire pump systems that work in any camp setting. The system can be fed from an onsite water storage reservoir, pressurized feed water or can be supplied with built-in storage reservoirs to ensure users meet their fire protection requirements. Pump ratings from 100 GPM - 1,000 GPM split case with diesel drives. Meets NFPA requirements.



4208 118th Avenue SE
Calgary, Alberta T2Z 4A4
403-203-2796



info@terra-water.com
www.terra-water.com



@terrawatersystemsinc

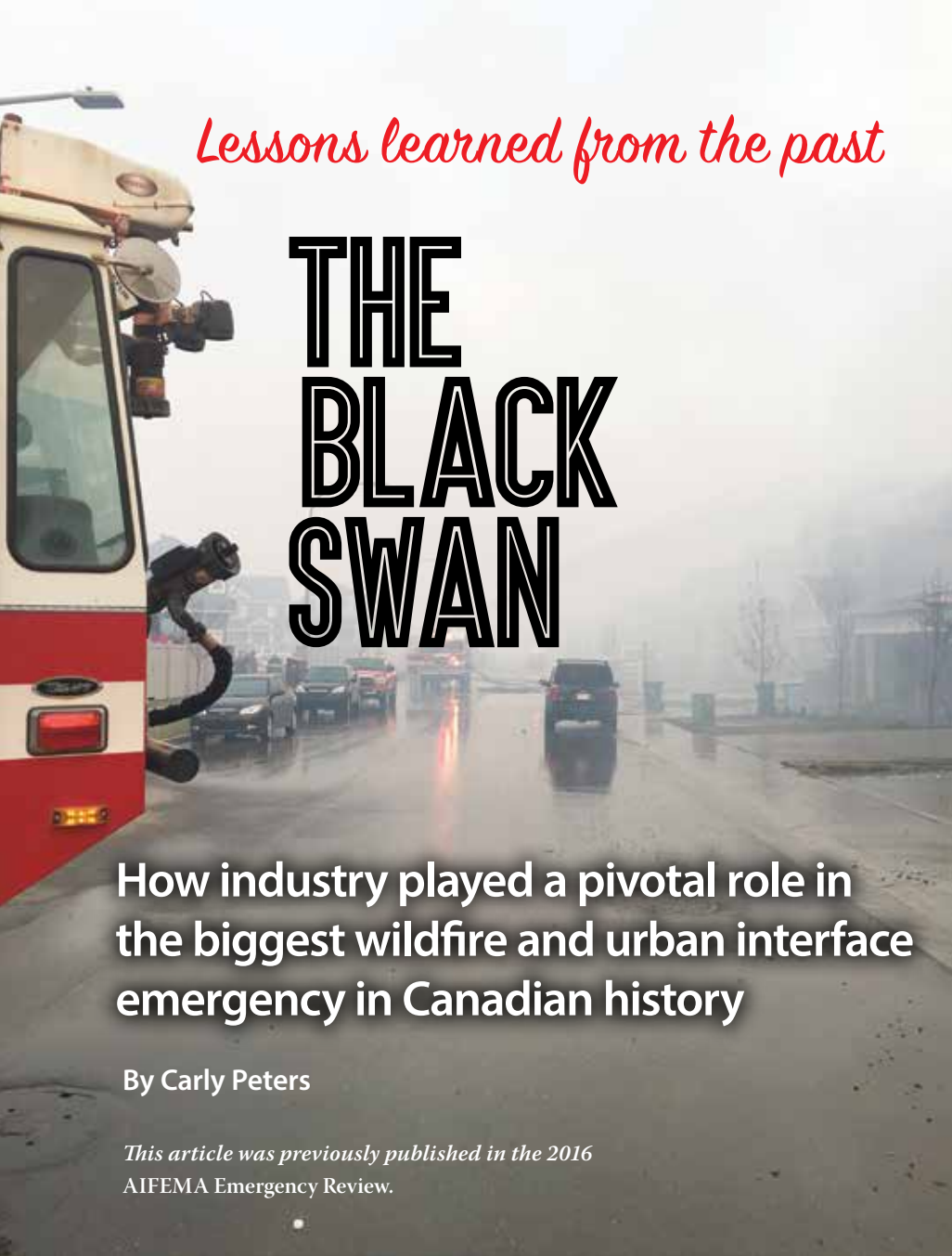




Peace of mind. A good night's sleep takes more than a comfortable bed, it takes knowing that your family is safe. That's why, for 24 years and counting, the Enbridge Safe Community First Responder Grant Program has granted more than \$32.6 million to local first responders in neighbourhoods across North America. We are proud to support these dedicated individuals who put their own lives on the line to ensure that ours are protected today and tomorrow.

Tomorrow is on.™





Lessons learned from the past

THE BLACK SWAN

How industry played a pivotal role in the biggest wildfire and urban interface emergency in Canadian history

By Carly Peters

This article was previously published in the 2016 AIFEMA Emergency Review.

Clark Esler, President of AIFEMA and Manager of Regional Emergency Management (Fire Chief) for Suncor Energy Inc., was participating in a training exercise on the north side of Fort McMurray when colleagues began receiving alarming text messages from family members: “MANDATORY EVACUATION.”

Until that moment, the wildfires burning at the edge of the city had already been deemed serious enough to place several neighbourhoods on a 30-minute evacuation alert. However, on Tuesday, May 3, 2016, Fort McMurray was thrust into crisis when strong winds

drove the wildfire beyond containment, forcing approximately 80,000 residents to flee both north and south.

As traffic began moving along Alberta Highway 63, Chief Esler’s first concern was ensuring the safety of his wife and three children. Fortunately, they had already packed essential belongings into two vehicles and were making their way north. His next priority was returning to Suncor’s operations, where a Stage 3 Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) had been activated to assess impacts to oil sands operations and coordinate support for thousands of displaced residents seeking

refuge in industrial camps.

As traffic slowed to a crawl, Chief Esler observed mutual aid partners—including Suncor, Horizon Oil Sands, Shell Albian Sands, and Syncrude—heading toward the city to support the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo Fire Department.

According to the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, the emergency services mutual aid partnership operating throughout the region is rooted in a simple principle: neighbours helping neighbours. In remote northern communities, where the nearest major population centre may be hours away, collaboration is essential.

When significant fires, hazardous material incidents, or major motor vehicle collisions threaten lives, property, or critical infrastructure, mutual aid partners activate their resources and work together to reduce harm and mitigate risk. On this day, however, the scale of the threat was unlike anything the region had ever experienced.

Jason Loy, Manager of Emergency Services Operations (Deputy Fire Chief) for Suncor, had already become acutely aware of the unfolding situation. Located on the south side of the city, he was seated in the Regional Emergency Operations Centre (REOC) as Suncor’s representative. Under the mutual aid agreement, industry partners maintain a seat at the REOC table to support coordinated decision-making during emergencies.

Conditions in the southern portions of the city were deteriorating rapidly. Fire had already reached several neighbourhoods, and smoke conditions were unlike anything Deputy Chief Loy had witnessed before.

His family lived in Thickwood, one of Fort McMurray’s largest residential areas. Like him, his wife Carrie, a Support Clerk with Regional Emergency Services, was actively engaged in the emergency response effort. Their four children and three grandchildren were

“It is not a return to normal life and it’s not yet a celebration. There’s still a lot of work to recover and rebuild Wood Buffalo. This will be the work of years, not weeks.” — Alberta Premier Rachel Notley



left to prepare three separate households for evacuation.

With three vehicles departing the city, the family was split apart. One daughter, one son, and a grandchild travelled north, while another daughter and two grandchildren headed south. His son-in-law, son, and family dog also evacuated south.

At the same time, Deputy Chief Loy was desperately trying to contact his elderly father, who lived in the Lower Townsite and was not answering his phone. When radio reception inside the house deteriorated, his father had gone outside to listen to news broadcasts from his truck while watching the approaching fire. Carrie eventually located him and brought him back to the fire hall, which was already becoming a gathering point for Regional Emergency Services families.

By the end of May 3, mutual aid partners had assumed responsibility for various sectors throughout the city. Their efforts focused on protecting communities and preventing the spread of fire into populated areas, while Alberta Agriculture and Forestry remained responsible for combating the wildfire itself.

Industry partners supplied critical equipment that proved invaluable in the

urban-interface firefight. Among the most effective resources were Suncor’s eight-wheeled Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) vehicles. Equipped with 3,000-gallon water tanks and powerful roof-mounted monitors, these specialized units could spray water while moving – an advantage not available to conventional fire apparatus. In total, six ARFF vehicles from mutual aid partners were deployed during the response.

Meanwhile, Brian Cornforth, Fire Chief for Parkland County, had been conducting a debrief on local brushfire operations when his department received a request for assistance. Equipped with a Type 6 engine, tanker truck, and eight firefighters, the Parkland County team joined members of the Stony Plain Fire Department for the five-hour journey north, arriving at the REOC shortly before 10:00 p.m.

Upon arrival, crews were tasked with establishing a staging area at MacDonald Island Park alongside Wood Buffalo personnel.

Despite facing circumstances beyond anything they had previously trained for, Chief Cornforth noted that responders relied on the fundamentals of the Incident Command System (ICS). Thanks to experienced staging managers, apparatus were registered,

fuelled, assigned, and deployed with remarkable efficiency.

What followed were three exhausting days of near-continuous operations. Firefighters, police officers, emergency managers, healthcare workers, and countless support personnel worked around the clock. At the same time, staff at the Northern Lights Regional Health Centre successfully evacuated 105 patients as part of the mandatory evacuation effort.

Throughout the night, fire swept through Beacon Hill, Waterways, Abasand, and Wood Buffalo. By dawn, an estimated 1,600 structures had already been destroyed.

On Wednesday morning, Chief Cornforth conducted an aerial reconnaissance flight to determine how resources should be allocated. The city was divided into north and south operational sectors, with Cornforth assigned responsibility for coordinating the northern division. Priority areas included Timberlea, Thickwood, and industrial facilities located along Highway 63.

At the height of operations, approximately 80 fire apparatus and 300 firefighters were deployed throughout the city.

Equally important were the support



services established behind the front lines. Staging areas evolved into fully functioning support centres complete with volunteer-operated kitchens, fuelling stations, and maintenance facilities staffed by mechanics trained on firefighting equipment.

As Chief Cornforth observed, “an army marches on its stomach.” Meal delivery systems were implemented to ensure frontline crews could briefly rotate out of operations for food and rest before returning to the fight.

The camaraderie among responders was evident. Firefighters from Wood Buffalo were defending their own community while many worried about their families and homes. Yet they never hesitated. The arrival of mutual aid partners strengthened their resolve and reinforced the collective commitment to protecting Fort McMurray.

By the third day, additional resources continued arriving from across Alberta. Despite these reinforcements, the fire remained relentless and continued threatening new areas of the city.

The REOC itself eventually came under threat, forcing officials to relocate from Fire Hall No. 5 to Nexen’s industrial facility south of the city. Operations resumed in a large conference room, but concerns about limited evacuation routes soon prompted a second relocation. Ultimately, the REOC was moved again, this time to Lac La Biche.

Meanwhile, north of Fort McMurray, oil sands operators were caring for approximately 25,000 evacuees housed in work camps. Some residents remained there for up to three days before transportation became available.

Recognizing the growing need for evacuation flights, Suncor partnered with WestJet to move residents out of the region. Several oil sands facilities possessed private airstrips capable of accommodating commercial jet aircraft.

Chief Esler recalls the operation functioning like a well-oiled assembly line. Aircraft lined up on the tarmac while buses transported evacuees, pets, and luggage directly to waiting planes. As soon as one aircraft was loaded and departed, another moved into position.

He still smiles at the memory of some of the more unusual passengers. While media outlets highlighted images of family dogs travelling in first class, Chief Esler recalls hearing stories of everything from lizards to tarantulas making their journey south aboard evacuation flights.

As conditions improved, Deputy Chief Loy returned to Fire Hall No. 5. The drive back through the city felt surreal. Smouldering vegetation lined the roads, and abandoned vehicles remained scattered along evacuation routes.

The devastation was difficult to comprehend, yet there was little time to dwell on it.

Many REOC personnel and firefighters witnessed the destruction of friends’ homes, family residences, and, in some cases, their own properties. One particularly heartbreaking incident involved a firefighter who was unable to save his twin brother’s house despite every effort. Nevertheless, responders continued their work, knowing the future of the community depended on it.

Much-needed relief arrived with the deployment of the Canadian Task Force. The team quickly established a Unified Command structure that integrated provincial agencies, local emergency management officials, and Alberta Agriculture and Forestry representatives.

Deputy Chief Loy describes their arrival as a blessing. Many local responders had been operating for three or four days with little rest. Some had already learned they had lost their homes, while others still did not know where their evacuated family members had ended up.

Chief Cornforth and his team departed Fort McMurray on Sunday, May 8. Although nobody wanted to leave, everyone understood that fresh personnel and rested minds were necessary to sustain operations.

As they waited at the airport, light rain finally began to fall – an encouraging sign that conditions might soon improve.

At its peak, the wildfire consumed

more than 500,000 hectares – an area larger than Prince Edward Island. It destroyed approximately 2,400 structures, nearly 10 percent of the community.

For returning residents, recovery would prove to be another immense challenge. Homes required extensive cleaning and restoration, while families faced the emotional and financial toll of rebuilding their lives. Early estimates suggested insured losses could exceed \$9 billion.

Reflecting on the disaster, Chief Esler notes that no emergency plan can fully anticipate an event of this magnitude.

It was, in every sense, a Black Swan event.

Yet the wildfire also demonstrated the value of preparedness, partnerships, and mutual aid. Emergency plans were tested, communications systems were strained, and response organizations were pushed beyond anything they had previously experienced. Despite these challenges, no lives were lost directly to the wildfire, critical infrastructure remained intact, and large portions of the city were successfully protected.

Ultimately, the response embodied the northern tradition of neighbours helping neighbours. Municipal responders, industry partners, provincial agencies, volunteers, and communities across Alberta came together with a shared purpose – to protect lives, support one another, and preserve a community facing its greatest challenge.

This piece revisits the original 2016 article, maintaining the same format and photographs. We are republishing it to mark the 10-year anniversary of the original article, and because its insights remain highly relevant in today's context of wildfire planning, response, mutual aid, and mitigation. The lessons identified a decade ago continue to resonate and provide valuable guidance for current and future challenges.

Clark Esler is currently the President and CEO of Behr Integrated Solutions Inc. 🔥



Proven in the wild: What makes forestry fire hose different?

For civilians, their summer of hot dogs and parades and apple pie is in full swing. But before Independence Day, we're recognizing Wildland Firefighter Day (July 2) and putting our summer spotlight on forestry firefighting.

Today, we take a moment to honor those taking on the ever-growing threat of wildfires and remember those wildland firefighters who died in the line of duty.

For wildland firefighters, summer means peak wildfire season. Since the 1970s, the season in North America has extended from five months to over seven months in length. On average, the US sees over 60,000 fires burn through 7.2 million acres yearly, which last year included devastating wildfires like in Maui where at least 115 people died.

This year's is looking like it might be even worse than last year, which was the most destructive fire season ever recorded in Canada. Natural Resources

Canada reported that by September 5, more than 6,132 fires had torched a staggering 16.5 million hectares of land – an area larger than Greece and more than double the previous 1989 record.

Fighting wildfires has always been a dangerous occupation, but in the past decade it has become staggering in its demands.

There are currently 42 large wildfires burning across the US being managed by approximately 6,400 wildland firefighters and support personnel. In Canada, there have been 1,773 so far this year, about 93 still active. And we're just entering the peak months of the season!

So we're putting the spotlight on wildland firefighting throughout July and August – first and foremost by recognizing all the hotshots, smoke divers, and hand crews out there battling the beast all season in dangerous, grueling conditions. Thank you. Stay safe out there.

And since this is Know Your Hose,

let's dive into forestry hose starting with the basics.

GETTING WATER ON THE FIRE IN THE WILD HAS UNIQUE CHALLENGES

Generally speaking, forestry fire hose takes different kinds of abuse than municipal hose due to the steep or rough terrain with lots of chances to snag a line. Wildland hose has to be flexible, lightweight, and pack extremely well for crews to carry to a fire – often over long hours and even longer distances.

Probably the biggest difference comes thanks to the water source itself. Unless using tanks on brush trucks or skid units, wildland firefighters use portable fire pumps to leverage available water sources like lakes, rivers, ponds, etc. Where municipal firefighting uses a pressurized source, wildlands firefighters draft water from unpressurized open water sources like ponds and rivers that are lower than the pump itself. In addition to the suction hose needed to get the water from the source to the pump, they may also need to pump that supply long distances into portable tanks.

Using pumped water also means they are limited in the pressure and volume available – which also means they generally use smaller diameter attack hoses and nozzles than municipal firefighting, especially if they are needing to cover long distances. Even tandem pumping can only offer so much pressure on the end of a 1,000-foot line up a mountain.

Beyond that, there are of course significant differences in the applications – wildland firefighting often isn't trying to extinguish as much as control larger fires. Many urban interface departments will have experienced knocking down brush fires using their standard municipal lines, but wildland

HYPER SIGHT
HYPER SIGHT HS-640PT
ULTRA-RUGGED PAN
TILT VEHICLE MOUNTED
THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA

EXPLORE
FEATURES

1-866-341-6167
sales@electrogas.ca

ELECTROGAS
Safety • Service • Reliability

firefighters may have to lay down lines over long distances from the water source to the fire. This necessitates differences in hose packs and self laying hose bags for rapid deployment – which also leads to different hose features, like quarter-turn quick connect couplings for versatility, speed and ease.

Forestry fire hose is specifically designed to meet the demands and fit the applications of firefighting in the wild. Let's look at the five different kinds of hose commonly used in forestry firefighting.

Five types of fire hose used in forestry firefighting:

1. STANDARD UNTREATED FORESTRY ATTACK HOSE [USDA TYPE I / ULC-S518.1.11 / ULC-S519.1 (PERCOLATING)]

Standard white, all-synthetic single jacket hose that is untreated/uncoated to keep it flexible and ultra-lightweight. This hose is available in both percolating (weeping) or non-percolating. USDA Type I forestry hose is non-percolating standard forestry hose.

Percolating fire hose is designed to self-protect against wildfire by intentionally weeping water. Many brands use a needle prick method to poke tiny holes in the lining. Mercedes uses a patented Hydro-Wick® process that allows its percolating hoses like FireBreak II® or PercoLite® to achieve wet-out three

times faster with minimal pressure loss.

2. TREATED FORESTRY ATTACK HOSE [USDA TYPE 2]

Standard strobe yellow, more rugged, all-synthetic single jacket hose treated for abrasion and puncture resistance. These lines are more robust and rugged to withstand moving across rough terrain. Beyond attack, these lines may often be combined as the first line off the pump before switching to weeping hose to avoid creating a muddy mess at the water source. We see our FireBoss® used this way often.

NOTE: While wildland attack is usually 1" or 1.5" diameters, both of the above forestry models, percolating and non-percolating, are available in 2.5" size. This size is used as supply lines to carry water long distances from the pump often to a portable tank. Mercedes even makes exclusive 2.5" Merlite quarter-turn couplings to accommodate this application.

3. HARD SUCTION / NON-COLLAPSING SUPPLY HOSE

Hard suction hose is designed to draft water from a source below the pump, which requires vacuum, rather than pressure. These lines should be as short as possible to get the job done and solid enough to resist collapsing. Some hard suction lines are made with PVC and often wire-reinforced. Mercedes also

offers a lightweight yet heavy-duty, all-synthetic single jacket woven option with DraftLite®.

4. MOP UP / GARDEN HOSE

Mop up hose is small diameter (½" to ¾") single jacket collapsing line used for forestry mop up, sprinklers, cottage/home protection, marine units and decon/wash down.

These lines are often fitted with garden hose couplings for flexibility of use – though Mercedes also offers a QC (quick connect) option on their Myti-Flo®: extremely lightweight and portable, circular-woven all synthetic hose designed for packing into remote areas, mop-up, hoseline and fire pump location base protections.

5. BOOSTER REEL HOSE

Booster Reel Hose is small diameter non-collapsing fire hose designed for rapid deployment to fight small fires for both municipal and wildland applications. In forestry, booster reels are usually found on brush trucks or skid units for ranged attacks.

There are EDM rubber lines available, as well as lighter synthetic, single-jacket options like our BoostLite®.

So there you have it: a brief overview of five hoses commonly used for forestry applications – one of the many ways wildland firefighting differs from structural firefighting. 🔥



BullDog Hose Company is proud to be a leading fire hose manufacturer in North America.

High performance, durability and safety are our focus in our quality products such as Red Chief, Hi-Vol® and Mainline.

BullDogHose.com

Mike Calderone
(416) 436.4910
mike.calderone@puck.com

BullDog is a proud product of **PUCK™**

AMERICAN MADE TOUGH.

BullDog
HOSE COMPANY



Building resilience through innovation

How Lakeland College Emergency Training Centre is preparing emergency services for the next generation of challenges

By Wayne Rose

A NEW ERA OF INTEGRATED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Emergency services across Canada are evolving at an unprecedented pace. Wildfires are increasing in size and intensity, industrial operations are becoming more complex, emerging energy technologies are introducing new hazards, and communities expect a coordinated, professional response regardless of the incident.

Preparing responders for this changing environment requires more than teaching technical skills. It requires developing leaders who can think critically, adapt quickly, communicate effectively, and work seamlessly across agencies and disciplines.

At the Lakeland College Emergency Training Centre (ETC), these challenges are viewed as opportunities to innovate. The Centre has continued to evolve its programs and training environments to reflect the realities faced by today's fire service, industrial emergency response teams, municipal emergency management organizations, and technical rescue professionals.

From industrial firefighting and technical rescue to wildland fire operations and applied research, ETC provides realistic, hands-on training that prepares responders for the complex emergencies of tomorrow.

"The future of emergency management belongs to organizations that can integrate people, technology, leadership, and operational coordination into a single mission-focused approach."

LEADERSHIP IS AN OPERATIONAL SKILL

Traditionally, emergency services training focused primarily on technical competence. Firefighters learned how to advance hose lines, perform search and rescue, operate pumps, conduct vehicle extrication, or mitigate hazardous materials incidents.

While these skills remain fundamental, today's emergency service leaders require a much broader skill set.

Communication, conflict resolution, employee engagement, organizational resilience, change management, and collaborative leadership have become

operational competencies rather than administrative responsibilities.

Modern incidents demand leaders who can manage multiple agencies, coordinate resources, maintain situational awareness, and foster trust under rapidly changing conditions.

The strongest emergency service organizations are rarely defined solely by their equipment or facilities. They are distinguished by their culture – organizations where communication is open, accountability is shared, and continuous improvement is embedded in daily operations.

Leadership development has therefore become an essential component of preparing responders for increasingly complex operational environments.

BUILDING RESILIENCE THROUGH CROSS-TRAINING

One of the most significant trends influencing emergency service organizations today is the growing emphasis on organizational resilience.

Retirements, recruitment challenges, workforce mobility, and increasingly

Emerging leadership trends in emergency services

- Collaborative leadership • Organizational resilience • Crisis communication
- Workforce engagement • Strategic planning • Change management
- Interagency coordination • Continuous improvement through After Action Reviews

specialized disciplines have highlighted the importance of developing operational depth rather than relying on individual subject matter experts.

Cross-training strengthens organizations by broadening the skills of personnel, improving flexibility, and ensuring operational continuity during periods of transition or unexpected absences.

At Lakeland College Emergency Training Centre, cross-disciplinary learning is encouraged through integrated training opportunities that expose students to industrial fire suppression, technical rescue, emergency management principles, and wildland operations.

This approach reflects a fundamental principle of resilient organizations:

No critical function should rely on a single individual.

Cross-training not only improves operational capability but also enhances communication and understanding between disciplines. Responders gain a

greater appreciation of each other's roles and responsibilities, resulting in stronger teamwork during emergency incidents.

APPLIED RESEARCH: WHERE TRAINING MEETS INNOVATION

Emergency training centres are no longer solely educational institutions. Increasingly, they are becoming centres for applied research, technology evaluation, and industry collaboration.

Lakeland College Emergency Training Centre has expanded its role by supporting projects that explore emerging technologies and evolving operational challenges within Canada's industrial and emergency management sectors.

Recent collaborations have included pipeline integrity testing, industrial emergency response research, drone operations, and evaluations supporting new energy infrastructure and carbon capture technologies.

These partnerships provide researchers, industry leaders, and

emergency responders with opportunities to evaluate technologies in realistic operational environments while ensuring that responders gain experience with the systems and hazards, they are likely to encounter in the future.

This integration of education, research, and operational testing creates value for both industry and emergency services while ensuring that training remains current, relevant, and evidence based.

PREPARING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF HAZARDS

The hazards facing emergency responders continue to evolve.

Future incidents may involve hydrogen production facilities, carbon dioxide transportation systems, battery energy storage systems, renewable energy infrastructure, automated industrial facilities, or increasingly severe climate-driven disasters.

Preparing for these risks requires more than updated equipment – it





requires adaptive training programs, collaborative partnerships, and instructors who remain connected to operational practice.

At Lakeland College Emergency Training Centre, curriculum development is informed by industry trends, operational lessons learned, and ongoing collaboration with

municipal fire departments, industrial emergency response teams, government agencies, and emergency management professionals.

This commitment ensures that graduates leave not only with technical competence but with the confidence and adaptability required to respond safely and effectively to emerging challenges.

“Resilient organizations are built through trust, collaboration, shared accountability, and realistic training.”

LOOKING AHEAD

Emergency services have always adapted to meet society’s changing needs.

Today’s environment demands responders who can operate across disciplines, embrace new technologies, and lead with professionalism, integrity, and resilience.

At Lakeland College Emergency Training Centre, the commitment to practical training, applied research, industry collaboration, and leadership development continues to prepare emergency service professionals for the realities of modern response.

By investing in realistic training environments, fostering partnerships with industry and government, and emphasizing operational excellence, ETC is helping shape the next generation of emergency service leaders.

As emergency management continues to evolve, so too must the institutions responsible for preparing those who answer the call.

The future of emergency services will be built on innovation, collaboration, and resilience – and that future is being developed every day at Lakeland College Emergency Training Centre. 🔥

WHEN YOU NEED THE PROFESSIONALS!



**Technical Rescue
Training and Standby
Rescue Teams**

- Standby Rescue
- Turnaround Support
- Confined Space • High/Low Angle
- Water & Trench Rescue
- Fall Protection
- Fire & Emergency Team Support

Pro Rescue Services believes in creating strong relationships with its customers and their other contractors to enable the safest work experiences possible.

A PROUD MEMBER OF




Edmonton 780-289-2762

Calgary 587-999-4915

www.prorescueservices.com







PROTECTING PEOPLE. EQUIPMENT. OPERATIONS.

TENNACOR delivers reliable products, expert service, and complete solutions for **fire protection**, **industrial supply**, and **project management**.

EXPERIENCE. SOLUTIONS. TRUST.
Certified to ISO 9001:2015



FIRE EQUIPMENT

A complete range of fire protection equipment and systems from trusted manufacturers.



INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY

One source for industrial products, replacement parts, critical spares, competitive price and delivery, and specialty procurement services.



PROJECT MANAGEMENT

End-to-end project support to keep your operations running safely and efficiently.



TENNACOR

EDMONTON, ALBERTA
PH: 780-463-3515
WWW.TENNACOR.COM

PROUDLY SUPPORTING
**FIRE & EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT**
PROFESSIONALS

Why remote-site fire apparatus requires a different approach

A large fire is burning in the background, with thick white smoke rising. In the foreground, a fire truck's aerial bucket is extended, with two firefighters in orange protective gear inside. They are spraying a powerful stream of water from a hose onto the fire.

Remote-site fire apparatus is expected to perform in environments where downtime is not an option

For many industrial fire departments across Western Canada, mud, dust, ice roads, extreme cold, and remote access are not occasional challenges – they're part of daily operations.

Pump capacity, foam systems, and water volume often dominate specification discussions. However, experienced departments understand that long-term reliability depends on far more than what appears on a brochure.

In severe-duty environments, even small design weaknesses are exposed quickly.

THE REAL TEST STARTS AFTER DELIVERY

Fire apparatus may look impressive on the showroom floor, but harsh industrial conditions tell the real story over time.

Fine dust works its way into electrical systems and moving components. Rough roads punish suspension systems and chassis integrity. Extreme cold affects pumps, seals, hoses, and onboard systems.

Over time, these conditions create wear that directly impacts operational readiness. Departments operating in these environments aren't looking for flashy features. They're looking for apparatus that continue performing year after year with minimal downtime.

WHY RELIABILITY MATTERS MORE IN REMOTE OPERATIONS

Remote industrial departments often have limited access to service and support. A truck that requires constant repairs or specialized servicing quickly becomes a liability when the nearest support centre may be hours away.

For that reason, many departments prioritize:

- Severe-duty chassis construction
- Simplified maintenance access
- Corrosion protection
- Reinforced components
- Climate protection systems
- Proven drivetrains and integrated systems

In these environments, practical engineering decisions often matter more than optional features.

THE ROLE OF INDUSTRIAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS HAS CHANGED

Operational demands have changed significantly in recent years.

Remote-site departments are now expected to respond to:

- Technical rescues
- Medical emergencies

- HAZMAT incidents
- Wildland fire threats
- Industrial fire suppression events, and more

This broader scope requires apparatus that are versatile, intuitive, and dependable under pressure. Departments need equipment capable of adapting quickly while still maintaining reliability in severe operating conditions.

BUILT FOR SEVERE-DUTY CONDITIONS

Manufacturers such as Pierce Manufacturing and Oshkosh Airport Products, supported in Western Canada by Commercial Emergency Equipment, continue to focus on apparatus engineered specifically for demanding industrial applications.

Key considerations include:

- Application-specific engineering
- Reinforced chassis systems
- Long-term serviceability
- Integrated onboard systems
- Proven component reliability
- Support designed for remote operations

The result is apparatus built not just to perform on day one, but to continue performing after years in harsh environments.

PERFORMANCE IS MEASURED OVER TIME

The effectiveness of a remote-site apparatus is not defined

by size alone or the number of features listed on a spec sheet. It's measured by how well the truck performs after years of exposure to dust, rough terrain, cold temperatures, and demanding operational use.

When conditions change rapidly and support may be far away, dependable equipment becomes critical. For crews protecting industrial operations across Western Canada, these apparatus are more than response vehicles. They are essential assets relied upon when conditions are at their worst.

LOOKING AT NEW APPARATUS FOR YOUR OPERATION?

Choosing the right fire apparatus for remote or industrial applications requires more than comparing specifications on paper. It requires understanding how equipment will perform years down the road in real-world operating conditions.

Commercial Emergency Equipment works alongside departments across Western Canada to help develop apparatus solutions built specifically for severe-duty industrial environments. From custom configurations to long-term support, the focus remains on reliability, serviceability, and operational performance where it matters most.

To learn more about severe-duty fire apparatus solutions from Pierce Manufacturing and Oshkosh Airport Products, connect with the team at Commercial Emergency Equipment to discuss the operational needs of your department. 🔥

Fast Deployment Quality Craftsmanship Superior Service

PORTABLE FOLDING FRAME WATER TANKS

HUSKY
Portable Containment
"THE LEADER OF THE PACK"

US Patent # 8,746,478 & 10,518,967

HuskyPortable.com | 800-260-9950

LIFETIME WARRANTY
ON ALL WELDS
AND WELDED SEAMS

QR Code

2026 AIFEMA *Events*



AIFEMA Annual Meeting

September 15, 16, & 17

The Ranch Golf and Country Club – September 16

Fantasyland Hotel – September 15, 16, 17

Contact Kerri at info@aifema.ca for more information

2026 Alberta Fire Training Conference

October 15, 16 & 17

Lethbridge, AB



IMPROVE INSPECTION REPORTING SAVE TIME & MONEY

Reduce overhead with accurate, trusted, device specific data collection for Fire and Life Safety inspections. Technicians' results are automatically formatted into Canadian Standard specific reports that can be accessed online 24/7. Invest in better quality information and leave the administration to Building Reports Canada tools.

SCANSERIES™ APPLICATIONS FOR FIRE ALARM, SPRINKLER, SUPPRESSION, PORTABLE & SAFETY EQUIPMENT, SECURITY.



www.BuildingReports.ca

To contact the largest building inspection network: info@BuildingReports.ca 416.483.2895

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES 2026



ALBERTA INDUSTRIAL FIRE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

Keynote Sponsor: \$2,500 (1 available)

- Keynote Speaker introduction
- 30-minute presentation
- Conference exhibit space
- One-year advertising space on AIFEMA website
- Sponsorship recognition on AIFEMA website

Lunch Sponsor: \$1,200 (2 available)

- Networking Lunch Sponsor
- 15-minute presentation
- Conference exhibit space
- Sponsorship recognition on AIFEMA website

Coffee Sponsor: \$600 (4 available)

- Networking Coffee Sponsor
- Conference exhibit space ***NEW***
- Sponsorship recognition on AIFEMA website

Golf Reception Sponsor: \$2,500 (1 available)

- Golf Reception Sponsor and distribution of complimentary drink ticket
- 15-minute presentation
- Conference exhibit space
- Four golf registrations (*includes display/event on your designated hole*)
- Sponsorship recognition on AIFEMA website

Golf Hole Sponsor: \$300 (17 available)

- Opportunity to set up display/event on your designated hole
- Sponsorship recognition on AIFEMA website

Building a safer, more sustainable future for fire protection



In a world where fire services face increasingly complex challenges, Global Fire Rescue Service (GFRS) has established itself as a leader in firefighting, emergency response training, and sustainable fire protection solutions. With more than 120 years of combined experience, the GFRS team delivers professional services, innovative products, and high-quality training across Canada and internationally. Its mission extends beyond fighting fires: GFRS is committed to helping communities become safer, better prepared, and more resilient.

At the centre of GFRS's work is deep expertise in structural firefighting, wildland firefighting, and the wildland-urban interface. This experience gives the organization a strong understanding

of fire behaviour, emergency operations, and the realities faced by responders in high-pressure environments. GFRS uses that knowledge to support clients with practical, reliable solutions tailored to their specific risks and needs.

Education is a key part of that commitment. GFRS offers specialized training for emergency responders, helping individuals and departments strengthen their skills and confidence. Its online blended firefighting training program, developed to National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards and receiving Pro Board accreditation, reflects the organization's forward-thinking approach to firefighter education. By combining accessible online learning with practical training expectations, GFRS helps responders

prepare for the demands of today's emergency services while maintaining recognized professional standards.

Innovation and sustainability also guide GFRS's operations. The company uses advanced, eco-friendly fire suppression products designed to protect people and property while reducing environmental impact. This approach reflects the belief that effective fire protection should also be responsible. By focusing on sustainable solutions, GFRS addresses immediate fire risks while helping reduce long-term consequences for land, water, and communities. Collaboration is another cornerstone of the GFRS model. The company works with Indigenous and First Nations communities to strengthen local firefighting capacity and support culturally respectful emergency response. These partnerships help build trust, share knowledge, and improve readiness at the community level. By working alongside local leaders and responders, GFRS supports stronger emergency systems while respecting the experience and traditions already present within each community.

Safety and professionalism remain central to every service GFRS provides. The organization prioritizes the protection of clients, communities, and staff through high standards, rigorous training, and a commitment to efficient, respectful service. Clients can rely on GFRS for knowledgeable guidance, dependable support, and solutions delivered with care for both life and

The organization prioritizes the protection of clients, communities, and staff through high standards, rigorous training, and a commitment to efficient, respectful service

property. GFRS also maintains a client-centred approach. Recognizing that no two communities or fire risks are the same, the company tailors its services to fit each situation.

Whether supporting wildfire preparedness in a rural area, providing suppression products, or helping departments improve training capacity, GFRS focuses on practical outcomes and long-term value. Beyond response, GFRS emphasizes prevention and education.

“The 2025–2026 year has enabled GFRS to build new working partnerships with OroraTech (satellite fire information) CitroTech and Disasterfield Services. We are proud to introduce Citro Tech’s environmentally friendly, plant-based fire inhibitor, recognized by the EPA Safer Choice program, which is designed to help prevent wildfires, treat lumber, and protect property. Combined with Disasterfield Services’ drone capabilities, this technology will enhance safety and visibility for our fire suppression team while helping protect your property. Live feeds and real-time content will provide a clearer view of what is happening on the ground.”

Through FireSmart strategies, outreach, and ongoing training, the company helps communities understand fire risk and take proactive steps to reduce it. This combination of prevention, response, education, and innovation positions Global Fire Rescue Service as a trusted partner in building a safer and more sustainable future for fire protection. 🔥



Closing the detection gap: Integrating satellite, aerial, and ground intelligence in wildfire response

By Al Harvey, FastTrack Wildfire MGT

Wildfires across Alberta and Western Canada continue to increase in frequency, scale, and operational complexity. While significant advances have been made in detection technologies, a critical challenge remains: translating early detection into timely, actionable operational awareness.

For emergency management teams, utilities, and industrial operators, the issue is no longer whether a fire can be detected. It is how early, how reliably, and how effectively that information can support initial attack, when fires are still small and manageable.

THE DETECTION GAP

Many wildfires ignite in remote or difficult-to-monitor areas, often going undetected until they are visible through public reporting channels or already impacting operations. Smoke, terrain, and nighttime conditions further complicate visibility. Even where detection tools are in place, delays between ignition, confirmation, and response can limit the effectiveness of early intervention.

While significant investment has been made in suppression capacity, including aerial firefighting assets, there remains an opportunity to strengthen the front end of the response cycle, particularly in detecting and confirming incidents early enough to support rapid initial attack.

This gap – between initial detection and operational response – is where risk accumulates.

A LAYERED APPROACH TO DETECTION

Addressing this challenge can require moving beyond single-technology solutions toward a layered, integrated model of wildfire intelligence.

Satellite-based thermal detection systems provide continuous, wide-area monitoring, enabling early identification of heat anomalies across vast and remote regions. This persistent coverage creates an unprecedented foundation for early awareness at scale.

Once a potential fire is detected, it can be monitored in near real time via satellite and aerial systems can also provide targeted confirmation and high-resolution intelligence. Aircraft equipped with thermal imaging sensors can validate detections, map fire perimeters, and deliver detailed, persistent situational awareness to operational teams.

At the ground level, emerging technologies such as fixed sensors, AI-driven analytics, and localized monitoring systems can add further context, supporting early warning and ongoing intel.

FROM DETECTION TO INITIAL ATTACK

In operational terms, an integrated approach can follow a simple progression: satellite detection — aerial confirmation — air and ground response.

Satellite systems provide early indication of potential incidents across large areas. Aerial assets can then be tasked to confirm and map the situation quickly, while incident command leaders and their response teams receive validated, location-specific information. The result isn't just earlier awareness, but faster, more confident initial attack decisions, when fires are still small and more easily contained.

As organizations continue evaluating integrated wildfire intelligence, operational deployments are beginning to demonstrate how layered detection

and response workflows can improve decision-making across the wildfire lifecycle.

INTEGRATION DRIVES OPERATIONAL VALUE

While each of these technologies delivers value independently, the greatest impact comes from integration across all three layers.

An integrated workflow can now link detection, confirmation, and response. This enables a more complete and timelier operational picture. Early detections can be rapidly validated, reducing uncertainty and accelerating response timelines.

For operators managing large infrastructure footprints, this approach supports earlier visibility into emerging risks, improved situational awareness, and more coordinated response across teams and jurisdictions.

LOOKING AHEAD

As wildfire risk continues to evolve, agencies and operators across Alberta and Western Canada are increasingly evaluating how to strengthen early detection capabilities within their broader response frameworks. The focus is shifting from individual tools to integrated operational workflows that connect detection to initial attack effectiveness.

By aligning satellite, aerial, and ground-based capabilities into cohesive operational workflows, it becomes possible to close the detection gap and improve outcomes across the wildfire lifecycle.

FastTrack Wildfire MGT is a division of Al Harvey Enterprises, Inc., an Alberta-incorporated company since 2002. 🔥

Sprinkler Kits & Sprinkler Trailers

Wildland Fire Fighting Equipment

Rent - Lease - Purchase



Featuring the ***Elevated Sprinkler Mount***



Outside Access - More Useable Space - Several Models

Industrial Worksite Fire Control Equipment Rental



The Elevated Sprinkler Mount System



ESM-8 Sprinkler Kit



Creating value by reducing risk

When the unthinkable happens, the difference between a crisis and a controlled response comes down to preparation. PMO Global Services (www.pmoglobal.com) has spent more than 20 years on the front line of that preparation, and our Emergency Management division brings over 100 years of combined experience to organizations that cannot afford to be caught unready. We believe an emergency response plan should never end up as a dusty binder on a shelf, so we audit, design, and implement full Emergency Management and Crisis Management programs that are risk-informed, practical, and genuinely usable – built on best-in-class risk assessments that pinpoint the credible scenarios your operation actually faces. From comprehensive ERPs and threat-specific procedures to full functional and tabletop exercises, preparedness audits, and ICS 100–400 and C-Suite leadership training, we cover the full spectrum

from prevention and preparedness through response and recovery – across mining, energy, renewables, government, infrastructure, and power, in more than 10 countries and the harshest conditions imaginable.

What sets PMO apart is that emergency management never stands alone. We are one of Canada's most trusted integrated HSSE and Process Safety consultancies, and our 80+ senior subject matter experts collaborate across eight divisions to give clients a complete picture of risk. Our Process Safety Engineers build entire PSM programs, facilitate PHAs, write and review standards, lead incident investigations, and deliver the technical core of HazOp, SIL, LOPA, and consequence modeling. Our Health & Safety team assesses organizational and project risk and develops, implements, and audits management systems, while our Environmental Risk specialists provide boots-on-the-ground supervision, reporting, contractor management, and

impact assessments on major projects worldwide.

The breadth continues across the rest of our team. Our Regulatory experts navigate compliance, governance, and permitting from BCER to BC OGC; our Security division delivers physical security design, risk assessments, and contractor and camp security management; and our Certified Industrial Hygienists handle exposure control plans, NORMs, and targeted assessments such as silica evaluations. Rounding out the offering, our Ability Management team drives safe, cost-effective return-to-work strategies, and our Claims Management, ESG, and Training divisions round out a truly one-stop approach. Most challenges don't fit neatly into a single box – so we draw on exactly the right experts for every engagement.

With more than 1,000 projects completed across 30+ countries, that integrated expertise is increasingly delivered through InsightsView, our



proprietary, mobile-first platform for digitizing HSE, regulatory, and permitting compliance. Whether you need a single tabletop exercise or a fully integrated risk program, our promise is the same: specialized expertise deployed on demand, integrated seamlessly into your operations, and delivered fast with the assurance of experienced oversight.

That's the PMO difference. We help you prepare for the unthinkable – so you're ready for anything. 🔥

PMO

GLOBAL SERVICES

Suite 910, 250 - 6th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2P 3H7
403-366-5704 info@pmogs.com
www.pmogs.com

YEARS OF EXPERTISE, INTEGRITY, & RESULTS

20

Years

PROJECTS EXECUTED

1,000+

Celebrating 20+ years as your trusted experts in:

- Emergency management plans and training • Industrial hygiene
- Disability and claims management • Process safety engineering
- Full-time and fractional HSE staffing • Health, safety, security and environmental support

From AFFF to F3: Why foam transition demands smarter testing



TOTALGROUP⁺
FIRE | RESCUE | MEDICAL | HSE

Across the fire protection industry, the transition from traditional aqueous film-forming foams, commonly known as AFFFs, to fluorine-free foams, or F3s, is no longer a distant discussion. It's an operational reality. For decades, AFFF was valued because of its ability to rapidly form a film over hydrocarbon fuels, suppress vapours, and deliver proven extinguishment performance. However, many Class B fluorinated foams contain per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, better known as PFAS,

which are persistent in the environment and have created significant regulatory, environmental, and liability concerns for facility owners and emergency responders.

F3 technology represents an important step forward. These products do not rely on intentionally added fluorinated surfactants and are increasingly being adopted by industrial facilities, airports, municipalities, and other high-risk operations. Still, the move from AFFF to F3 is not as simple as replacing one drum of concentrate

with another. Foam systems are engineered around specific concentrates, proportioning equipment, discharge devices, fuels, hazards, and application rates. A responsible transition requires planning, cleaning or replacement where required, compatibility review, commissioning, and ongoing verification.

One of the most important parts of that verification process is proportioning testing. Historically, testing a foam-water system often meant flowing actual foam concentrate through the system

PLANITSAFE

The Environmentally Friendly Way to Test Your Foam Systems



and discharging foam solution. That approach can be costly, disruptive, and environmentally challenging. Once foam is discharged, owners may be responsible for containment, collection, analysis, transport, and disposal. With legacy AFFF, those costs and liabilities can become substantial.

This is where surrogate liquid testing provides a practical and forward-looking solution. The PlanitSafe program uses a non-foaming surrogate liquid in place of actual foam concentrate to evaluate proportioning system performance. This testing program is FM Global certified and NFPA 11 recognized, and it is designed to deliver accurate, reproducible results while reducing the environmental and public-health concerns associated with foam solution discharge.

For facility owners, this approach offers three major benefits. First, it supports compliance and confidence by confirming whether the system is proportioning properly without unnecessarily releasing foam concentrate. Second, it helps reduce environmental exposure by avoiding the discharge of AFFF or other foam solutions during routine testing. Third, it can significantly reduce project costs by limiting the need for foam capture and disposal, particularly in large systems where a full-flow discharge test could generate thousands of litres of contaminated solution.

As Canada's exclusive provider of PlanitSafe surrogate liquid firefighting foam testing, Total Group is positioned to help organizations manage this transition responsibly. Our role is not simply to test a system; it's to help clients understand the condition of their foam infrastructure, reduce unnecessary environmental impact, and make

informed decisions as they move toward fluorine-free alternatives.

The transition from AFFF to F3 is ultimately about more than changing foam. It's about modernizing fire protection practices to meet today's expectations for performance, environmental stewardship, and operational due diligence. Surrogate liquid testing gives owners a cleaner,

smarter, and technically credible way to verify system readiness. In a changing regulatory and risk environment, that isn't just a testing advantage – it is a responsible path forward.

Please reach out for additional information or to schedule a foam system inspection. 🔥

LEADERS IN QUALITY FIRE, SAFETY, RESCUE & MEDICAL SERVICES

- FIRE SYSTEM INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE
- FIRE EXTINGUISHERS & ALARMS
- CARBON FIBER RECERTIFICATION
- PLANT TURNAROUNDS
- SAFETY CONSULTING
- TRAINING
- MEDICAL
- HYDROTESTING
- STANDBY RESCUE



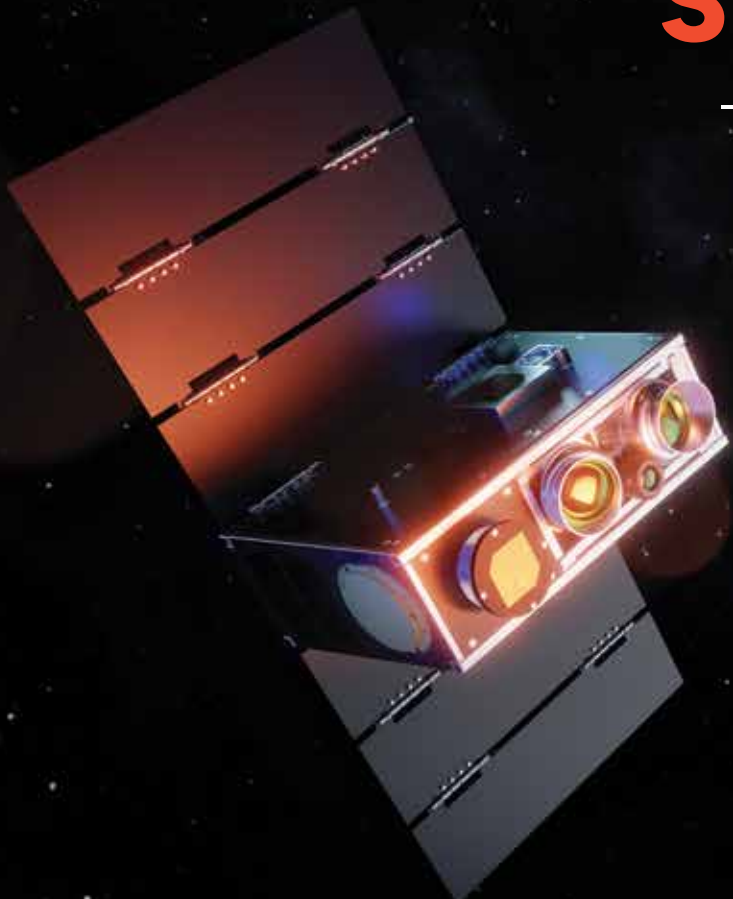
TOTALGROUP⁺
FIRE | RESCUE | MEDICAL | HSE

1-888-RESCUE+
(737-2830)
info@totalgroup.ca

Index to advertisers

A.S. Roach Fire Services.....	45	Lakeland College.....	25
BEHR Integrated Solutions.....	6	PMO Global Services Inc.	47
Building Reports Canada	40	Primco Dene Group of Companies	13
Bulldog Hose Company.....	33	ProRescue Services.....	36
Commercial Truck Equipment Co.	3	Rocky Mountain Phoenix	IFC
ElectroGas Monitors Ltd.....	32	Rotaflow Fire & Utility Systems	7
Emergency Decon Solutions	10	Safetek Profire	17
Enbridge Inc.	27	Tennacor Canada Inc.....	37
FastTrack Wildfire MGT.....	IBC	Terra Water Systems	26
Firemaster Oilfield Services	11	Total Fire Group of Companies.....	23
Fort Garry Fire Trucks.....	OBC	Vereburn Medical Supply Ltd.	12
Global Fire Rescue Service.....	15	WFR Wholesale Fire & Rescue Ltd.....	9
Husky Portable Containment.....	39	Williams Fire & Hazard Control.....	5
Integrated Emergency & Safety Services Inc.	21		

*Please support the advertisers
who help make this
publication possible.*



SEE IT FIRST

— and size it up fast.

Integrated wildfire intelligence
for detection, initial attack
and sustained response.



Contact FastTrack Wildfire MGT, OroraTech Partner

403-461-2214 | alharvey.w@gmail.com

Integrate: satellite | aerial | ground

FORT GARRY **FIRE TRUCKS**



Fort Garry Fire Trucks is the largest fire apparatus manufacturer in Canada and are proud builders of fire trucks, custom-built pumpers, aerial ladders, and related fire-fighting equipment. Our customers emanate from cities, towns, and municipalities throughout Canada, the U.S., and abroad with the harshest weather, climates, and terrain.

Every aspect of design and construction is handled by Fort Garry employees, from painting to pump

assembly. As we have grown over the years, so too have our product lines. Fort Garry Fire Trucks manufactures a wide range of vehicles, including rescue trucks, pumper trucks, tankers, and even aerial ladder platforms, thanks to our exclusive partnership as the Canadian distributor for Sutphen Corporation. In fact, Fort Garry now offers 130 product lines and over 12,000 options for customers to choose from for the most extreme conditions in the world—which is why we design “One Tough Truck.”

TAYLOR YOUNG

**Alberta Regional
Sales Manager**

**CALL US FOR MORE INFORMATION
AND FULL SPECIFICATIONS
ON ANY OF OUR VEHICLES.**

1-800-565-3473



ONE TOUGH TRUCK

WWW.FGFT.COM TOLL FREE: 1-800-565-3473
 RR#2 53 BERGEN CUTOFF RD. WINNIPEG, MB. - CANADA - R3C 2E6

