



AUGUST 2023

Cold Lake Fire-Rescue

Fire Calls, Accomplishments and Events

Fire Calls – 51 in total

During the month of August there were fifty-one (51) fire calls that Cold Lake Fire-Rescue (CLFR) responded to. CLFR responded to one (1) structure fire in the City of Cold Lake. Fire crews arrived to find two fully involved sheds and the fence area behind them. Fire crews were able to get a quick knockdown to limit any additional damage and then ensure there were no hot spots. The fire was deemed suspicious. CLFR responded to two (2) vehicle fires with one in the City of Cold Lake and one in the MD of Bonnyville. The city fire was for an interior fire in the front seat of a pickup truck. Upon arrival the owner had extinguished the fire with a dry chemical extinguisher and water. The second fire in the MD was an engine fire where damage was contained to the engine and was also extinguished by a dry chemical extinguisher. In both cases the thermal imaging camera (TIC) was used to ensure extinguishment. Both fires were deemed non-suspicious. CLFR responded to five (5) motor vehicle collisions (mvc) during the month with none requiring extrication, and all requiring varying degrees of scene safety, traffic control, patient care, packaging and removal. Three were quad rollovers, one was a vehicle hitting a building and one was a vehicle hitting a jersey barrier. Of the twelve (12) alarm calls CLFR attended, all were deemed to be false alarms. Ten alarms were residential fire alarms and two were commercial/institutional fire alarms. The fire alarms which were activated included: two from cooking smoke, one due to a faulty system, one due to maintenance work, one due to cleaning a screen, one due to changing batteries, one due to shower steam, one with nothing found and four where fire crews were stood down responding by dispatch with no reason given for alarm. CLFR responded to one (1) wildland fire which was a grass/brush fire at an encampment site. CLFR responded to four (4) contents/rubbish fires. All of these fires were at locations where encampments were located and included two warming fires. CLFR responded to twenty-one (21) agency/public assistance calls. Five calls were to assist ambulance crews which included three lift assists and two for unresponsive patients. CLFR was called by RCMP to assist with a river rescue and while crews were mustering the people were retrieved so CLFR was stood down. Fifteen calls were public assistance calls which included nine smoke/fire investigations. Included in these calls were: four warming/cooking fires, two with nothing found, one a controlled burn, one called in as bonfire and actually a fire pit and one an improvised torch for light at an encampment. Also included in the public assistance calls were: three odor investigations where two nothing was found and one was attributed to a burnt wire, two cell phone collision notifications where no collisions were found in area dispatched to and one called in as a trapped child at a playground which turned out to be a child hung up on a chain bridge. Fire crews were able to simply lift her off the chain and back onto the ground. CLFR responded to one (1) hazmat incident where a gas tank was drilled. Crews were able to contain the spill and clean up the mess. Finally, CLFR responded to four (4) rescue calls; two elevator rescues and two water rescues on Cold Lake.

During the month CLFR responded thirty-five (35) times within City limits and sixteen (16) times in the MD of Bonnyville. Evening responses [1600-2400] (24) were the highest response times at 47.06% followed by daytime responses [0800-1600] (19) at 37.25%, with overnight responses [0000-0800] (8) being at 15.69%.

Accomplishments and Events

- Regional DEM Meetings. Cold Lake, Bonnyville, St. Paul – Aug 1st, 8th, 14th, 22nd & 28th.
- Tours; Happy House Daycare-75 children-Aug 9th, Portage College-9 adults-Aug 22nd.
- COCL staff attended EM Position Specific ICS training in Lloydminster - Aug 14th-18th.
- Fire Services met with MLA Scott Cyr to discuss fire training grant & Bill 5 - Aug 28th.