



**FIRE-RESCUE  
SECOURS-INCENDIE  
CANADA**

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS  
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES CHEFS DE POMPIERS

**SEPTEMBER 17-20  
17 AU 20 SEPTEMBRE 2023**

WESTIN HOTEL  
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA



**Program and Registration is now live!**  
Le programme et l'inscription sont maintenant en ligne!

## Saturday, September 16

12:00 PM  
5:00 PM Board Meeting

6:00 PM  
10:00 PM Motorola Sponsored VIP Dinner



**MOTOROLA**  
SOLUTIONS

*Sponsored by*

## Sunday, September 17

9:00 AM  
4:00 PM Sponsor and Exhibitor Setup

8:30 AM  
3:30 PM Women Chiefs and Company Officers Meeting

1. Breakfast
2. Welcome & Introductions
3. Icebreaker & Scholarship Recipients

**Policy, Politics & The Media: an inspiring call-to-action combined with media training: the power of voice in advancing fire and emergency sector policy**

Elissa Freeman, Communications Strategist and PR & Pop Culture Media Expert, Toronto, Ontario

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Policy development: Development of a model policy for “TBC”</li> <li>2. Next steps: prepare to debrief with FRC Cross Country Check Up</li> </ol>
12:30 PM 4:30 PM	CAFC Board and National Advisory Council Meeting
5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Registration Opens
5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Tradeshow Floor Opens
7:00 PM 8:00 PM	FRC 2023 Begins - Opening Ceremonies
8:00 PM 9:00 PM	<p>Welcome Reception</p>  <p><i>Sponsored by</i></p>
9:00 PM 11:00 PM	Hospitality Suite

## Monday, September 18

7:00 AM	Morning Breakfast Session GR Week Boot Camp
8:30 AM	<p><b>Policy, Politics &amp; The Media: An Inspiring Call-to-Action Combined with Media Training: The Power of Voice in Advancing Fire and Emergency Sector Policy</b></p> <p><i>Overview: Media training allowing all participants to understand the power of their voice in advancing Fire and Emergency Sector policy</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Elissa Freeman, Communications Strategist and PR &amp; Pop Culture Media Expert, Toronto, Ontario</li> </ol> <p>Or Breakfast with the Exhibitors</p>
8:30 AM 10:00 AM	Companion Meet & Greet Breakfast

8:30 AM Opening Session

10:00 AM **Cross Country Check Up**

*Overview: Join members of the National Advisory Council all provincial, territorial and national affiliate organizations for a cross country check-up of the top issues in fire and emergency 2023.*

### **Canada's Search and Rescue Program: A Path Forward**

*Overview: A session providing an update on Canada's HUSAR program. These six teams, providing specialized response capability across Canada, have entered a new chapter and a new path forward.*

1. Simon Bradley, MA, Team Manager - Canada Task Force 2, Alberta

### **Residential Fire Prevention: Interventions in Vulnerable Indigenous Communities**

*Overview: Indigenous Communities - An Evidence Informed Systematic Review The NIFSC strives to generate evidence-based data that quantifies household fire safety and risk from a technical perspective, then translate analysis of fire safety hazards in the built environment and to inform future fire safety programming, education and performance applications to reduce risk in communities.*

1. Blaine Wiggins, Indigenous Fire Marshal Service, National Indigenous Fire

10:00 AM Meet the Exhibitors with Coffee and the President

10:30 AM

10:00 AM Plenary Session: Homelessness, Encampments, Underhoused and the Fire Service

11:30 AM **Front and Centre: Taking a Hard Stand**

*Overview: Homelessness, Unhoused & Encampments are a growing fire risk in communities across North America. In 2022, Vancouver was facing an untenable situation of an encampment on the infamous Hastings Street (the downtown eastside). When nobody else was stepping up to address in the increasing impacts and risks, Vancouver Fire led the charge.*

1. Fire Chief Karen Fry, Vancouver Fire Rescue Services

### **Community Safety and Well-being**

*Overview: Homelessness, encampments, substance use disorders and mental health are contributing factors that impact safety and well-being of communities across Canada. Fire services work together with community partners for a coordinated response and have a duty to act based on national fire and code, provincial acts, and municipal bylaws. Knowing these social issues are impacting communities, and it takes a whole community approach, fire services are a key partner in leading this important work.*

1. Assistant Chief Yvonne Raymer, Saskatoon Fire Department, Saskatoon, SK, Director of Legal Services
2. Jodi Manastyrski, City of Saskatoon Solicitor's, Saskatoon, SK

12:30 PM

1:30 PM

Lunch



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1:30 PM Plenary Session: Community Risk Reduction and Service Levels

2:30 PM **What calls are you answering?**

*Overview: What service level does your department provide and has Council set that level of service by bylaw and provided budget to perform that level of service (training and equipment).*

1. Mrs. Erica Thomas, MBA, Transitional Solutions Inc. Alberta
2. Chief Keven Lefebvre, Leduc County Fire Department, Alberta

**Community Risk Assessment and the Fire Service**

*Overview: Increasingly frequent extreme weather events, evolving legislative requirements and a variety of fire service change factors highlight the need to consider undertaking a Fire Department focussed risk assessment process that will assist fire chiefs in ensuring that resources and services are appropriate to community needs.*

1. Fire Commissioner (retired), Gordon Anderson, FIFireE ECFO, Tim Pley & Associates, British Columbi

**Brief Response: Street Level Community Risk Reduction**

*Overview: Beyond the numbers is the human side of CRR. Once the assessments provide the data, how can we action that at the street level. Learn how the WFPS is using a boots on the ground, collaborative approach with a wide range of stakeholders to reach vulnerable populations where they are.*

1. Assistant Chief, Community Risk Reduction, Scott Wilkinson, E.C.F.O, B.P.E., P.C.P.

3:00 PM  
4:00 PM

**Partnering for Meaningful Advocacy – IS Radios Case Study**

*Overview: A Panel discussion on a recent partnership among Canadian fire service leadership, other public safety associations, industry associations and members of industry to advocate in support of critical public safety operational needs (Intrinsically Safe Radios)*

1. Larry Thomas, Chief, Surrey Fire Service
2. Amy Herrmann, Director, Global Product Safety &

**Fighting Fire with Knowledge: Adult Education in the Fire Service**

*Overview: Beyond just knowing your stuff, you need to know your students. As a fire service instructor, do you understand adult learners and what motivates them to learn? Find out about the art of teaching adults with an introduction to andragogy.*

1. Fire Chief Michael Boyle, BIS, ECFO Kennebecasis Valley Fire Department, New Brunswick

**Modernizing traditional firefighting through knowledge, practice, science, and skill**

*Overview: High-fidelity live fire training has identified a gap between traditional and modern training doctrines resulting in quantifiable evidence supporting the need to adapt. Interior fire attack can be a low-frequency event. Regular training in live fire prepares firefighters for events where competency and resiliency is*

	<p>Regulatory Compliance, Motorola Solutions</p> <p>3. Wilf Mulder or Darcy Mazzerole, Kenwood</p> <p>4. Susan Winter, ED, CECA</p>	<p><b>Communication Pit Stop &amp; Personal Health Versus Leadership</b></p> <p><i>Overview: Part I: Every day is a race. With the ceaseless barrage of appointments, skipped lunch breaks, and the constant triaging of needs, who has time to carefully evaluate yourself to consider what unintentional messages you're sending to others? Spoiler alert: Your leadership capacity is limited by your discipline to do just that.</i></p> <p><i>Part II: In high-stakes and fast paced leadership, battling personal crisis is not uncommon. Just because we know better doesn't mean we do better. The session encourages us to look in the mirror, consider what we see, and suggests proven pathways to give ourselves what we, and our team, needs and deserves.</i></p> <p>1. Fire Chief, Justin McGuigan, North York Fire Department and New Brunswick Association of Fire Chiefs, New Brunswick</p>	<p><i>critical for safety and success.</i></p> <p>1. District Chief of Fire Rescue Operations, Jack Robertson, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, Manitoba</p> <p>2. Senior Fire Training Officer, Jared Blair, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, Manitoba</p> <p><b>Creating Diversity Impact in the Fire Service</b></p> <p><i>Overview: Building diversity in the Fire Service takes a solid plan that goes beyond having words on a policy statement. Learn how WFPS took actionable steps towards building diversity through the award recognized Diversity and Equity Fire Training (DEFT) program. Review what lessons were learned building the program.</i></p> <p>1. Corinne Pierce, Manager of Human Resources, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Services. Winnipeg Manitoba, Scott Wilkinson, Assistant Chief</p>
<p>2:30 PM 3:00 PM</p>	<p>Break in Tradeshow</p>		
<p>3:00 PM 4:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Workforce planning/challenges - Fire service mentorship in the 21st century</b></p> <p><i>Overview: Telling your workforce story in a real and meaningful way to</i></p>	<p>TBC</p>	<p><b>Canadian Safety and Security Programme: Overview of the First Responder Line of Effort</b></p>

*resonate with decision makers and stakeholders. Preparing the next generation of Fire Officers is an important but challenging prospect. Strathcona County Emergency Services has laid out the steps in mentorship from Qualified Officer to Assistant Platoon Chief. Join us to learn what this program looks like!*

1. Deputy Fire Chief Devin Capcara Strathcona County Emergency Services Alberta

**Officer Development: Our lessons, program evolution, tips & tools.**

*Overview: Sharing ten years of Officer Development lessons learned from a mid-sized integrated department in Alberta committed to leadership development. Beyond the lessons, participants will leave with program examples, a sample supporting SOP and collective agreement contract wording.*

1. Division Chief, Planning & Training, Kelly Lehr, BPSA, CRSP, Strathcona County Emergency Services, AB

*Overview: Does your fire department have a capability gap that innovative science or technology could be used to bridge? The Canadian Safety and Security Program (CSSP) is a federally-funded program that supports all levels of government in the development of innovative science and technology advancements that contribute to the safety of Canadians.*

1. Mr. Shaye Friesen, Defence Research and Development Canada, Centre for Security Science, Ottawa ON

6:00 PM  
9:00 PM Fun Night

9:00 PM  
11:00 PM Hospitality Suite

**Tuesday, September 19**

7:30 AM Breakfast with the Exhibitors

8:30 AM *Sponsored*



by

8:30 AM  
9:30 AM

Companions Breakfast and Workshop with Dr. Heidi Cramm

8:30 AM  
9:30 AM

CAFC Annual General Meeting

1. Resolutions
2. Town Hall
3. Committee Chair Presentations

### **2021 Atmospheric Rivers - The Story of Hope**

*Overview: A presentation that includes a 25 minute preproduced video, in news story format, combined with an in-person account of the issues behind the scenes, what the public didn't know and the incredible stories and challenges our team faced during a 1 in 200 year rainstorm event.*

1. Fire Chief (ret) Tom DeSorcy, ECFO Hope Fire Department, BC

8:30 AM  
11:00 AM

Companions Breakfast and Workshop with Dr. Heidi Cramm

9:30 AM  
10:00 AM

Break in Tradeshow

10:00 AM  
11:00 AM

### **Comparison of Mental Health Programs and Update of Resilient Minds**

*Overview: This panel session will share research on mental health training options available to firefighters, including experiences of firefighters, trainers, and stakeholders who have delivered or taken different mental health training programs; similarities, differences, benefits, and challenges of these programs; and the current status of the Resilient Minds™ adaptations and implementation*

1. Dr. Joy MacDermid, PT, PhD, Professor, School of Physical Therapy, Western University, Ontario

### **Evaluating the implementation of PeerOnCall app within the fire sector**

*Overview: Presentation and discussion of the preliminary findings from the implementation research project conducted with fire services in Ontario and Newfoundland to evaluate the implementation, use, and impact of PeerOnCall, a peer support app designed by and for public safety personnel.*

1. Dr. Joy MacDermid, PT, PhD, Professor, School of Physical Therapy, Western University, Ontario

### **A success story: Peer Support Program in a POC world**

*Overview: A review of how our peer team program started, then evolved to support the needs of our members in a paid on call environment. How can you do the same?*

1. Deputy Fire Chief Ivana Irwin, Leduc County Fire Services, AB

11:00 AM  
12:00 PM

**What about the families? A virtual wellbeing hub for families**

*Overview: PSPNET Families is an online wellbeing hub developed to support the diverse challenges faced by families of public safety personnel, including first responders. Public safety organizations and families have few family-centred, trauma-informed mental health prevention resources that have been developed with the culturally competent lenses of occupational risk and requirement.*

1. Heidi Cramm, PhD, OT Reg (Ont), Associate Professor, School of Rehabilitation Therapy, Queen's University

12:00 PM  
1:00 PM

Lunch

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1:00 PM  
2:30 PM

**Suicide at the Station**

1. TBC

2:30 PM  
3:00 PM

Break in Tradeshow

3:00 PM  
4:00 PM

**Social media as an occupational stressor for firefighters**

*Overview: The presentation will highlight the findings from the Sound the Siren research study, which provides evidence that social media is a significant source of stress for firefighters impacting both mental health and occupational performance*

1. Robin Campbell, PhD(c), MRM, BSW, School of Occupational Therapy, Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia

**A Proven Map to Increased Diversity**

*Overview: Learn how to increase your number of underrepresented personnel by applying our results-driven program of engaging, empowering, and educating youth through experiential learning opportunities and our relationship-building system through our post-mentorship program. See how to apply our life-changing program to positively affect your youth, emergency services and community.*

1. Ms. Andr ea Speranza, Operations Captain & Founder/Executive Director of Camp Courage

**Can Gender Equity become the norm In Canada's Fire Services?**

**The Economic Impact of Fire Prevention and Emergency Operations**

*Overview: The presentation will describe through different case studies, how a research methodology has showed that a Fire Department is an active economic contributor, by it's activities in Fire prevention, EMS*

*Overview: Understanding and reducing barriers for women and other underrepresented groups in the fire service. The session will bring together the ground-breaking research and information gathered over a three year period which culminated in the development of the first toolkit of its kind in Canada that offers practical modules and templates to help Chiefs and their fire departments reach their equity, diversity and inclusion goals.*

1. Fire Service Women Ontario (FSWO) President Pike Krpan

*and fire suppression capacities.*

1. Assistant Chief Dave Waterhouse, MBA Service de sécurité incendie de Montréal (Montreal Fire Department), Québec

5:00 PM  
9:00 PM

Gala

9:00 PM  
10:00 PM

Hospitality Suite

**Wednesday, September 29**

7:30 AM  
8:30 AM

Breakfast with the Committees

8:30 AM  
9:30 AM

**Firefighters Preventing Cancer**

*Overview: The IARC has determined that firefighters are at high risk for cancer. Equipment and decontamination are the major ways for firefighters to prevent cancer. Our research, funded by the Canadian Cancer Society and the CIHR is examining how firefighters can change what they do to prevent carcinogenic exposures and cancer.*

1. Patrick McGrath, OC, PhD, IWK Health/ Dalhousie University, NS
2. Ivana Irwin, Deputy Fire Chief, Leduc County Fire Services Alberta.
3. Jim Petrik, Fire Chief, Guelf Amorosa/Cancer Researcher
4. Graham Pawlett, Past President, Volunteer Firefighters of Canada, Chair CAFC Cancer Committee

9:30 AM  
10:30 AM

**Taking care of our people and taking care of ourselves... (beyond the words)**

*Overview: A guided discussion on emotional Intelligence, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Messaging, and Implementation; concluded with a discussion on how Appreciative Inquiry can strengthen the internal Fire Service narrative about DEI.*

1. Captain Rashawn Fulcher –Sacramento Metropolitan Fire protection District, Sacramento Ca. USA Rashawn Fulcher LLC. (Owner)

10:30 AM

10:45 AM

Break

10:45 AM

**Good Sleep Requires Shiny(er) Shoes: A Year Later**

12:00 PM

*Overview: At FRC 2022, Chief Pegg presented “Good Sleep Requires Shiny Shoes” which shared some of the lessons learned during his tenure as COVID-19 Incident Commander. This presentation builds on where that presentation left off – sharing more candid life and leadership lessons learned as Toronto’s Fire Chief and COVID-19 Incident Commander.*

1. Chief Matthew Pegg, Fire Chief & General Manager, Toronto Fire Services, City of Toronto,

12:00 PM

1:00 PM

Farewell Luncheon

1:00 PM

2:00 PM

Metro Chiefs Meeting