

**"PRIDE IN SERVICE"**

**SINCE 1960**



**2023**



**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF



## A YEAR OF SIGNIFICANT GROWTH

I am honoured to present the 2023 Annual Report on behalf of the members of Picture Butte Emergency Services. It has been a privilege to lead the extraordinary organization for another year. We made significant gains and saw meaningful growth in our department in 2023.

This past year saw the completion of Phase 1 of our Fire Station expansion, which expanded our apparatus bays and in-station training areas by 3200 square feet. This new space has brought a safer work environment for our firefighters and paramedics and allows our team to complete more training in the fire station. We also hosted 2 successful recruit intakes and brought 10 new firefighters and 6 new paramedics into our team. These new members have made an immediate impact on the organization and have risen to the task of serving our community.

As we look to the year ahead, we are still faced with the consistent challenges of keeping up with increased service demand, especially in our EMS Division. However, I am confident our firefighters and paramedics have the courage and strength to continue to answer the call to service. We look forward to continue working with our partners to support our members and ensure our community remains a safe, protected, and welcoming community to call home.

On behalf of the firefighters, paramedics, and officers of Picture Butte Emergency Services, please enjoy a look at the efforts of 2023.

Sincerely,

*Fire Chief Frank West*

Director of Emergency Services



FIRE CHIEF  
FRANK WEST



DEPUTY CHIEF  
CASEY WEST

*Honour, Pride, Brotherhood, Dedication*

2023

# A YEAR IN REVIEW

FOR THE 7TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR IN A ROW, PICTURE BUTTE EMERGENCY SERVICES HAS RESPONDED TO A RECORD NUMBER OF EMERGENCY EVENTS. 2023 SAW AN INCREASE IN CALL VOLUME BY 9% COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS YEAR. THIS IS THE THIRD TIME IN DEPARTMENT HISTORY THAT THE CALL VOLUME HAS SURPASSED 1000 EVENTS.

 **31**  
Motor Vehicle Collisions

 **12**  
Structure Fires

 **8**  
Vehicle Fires

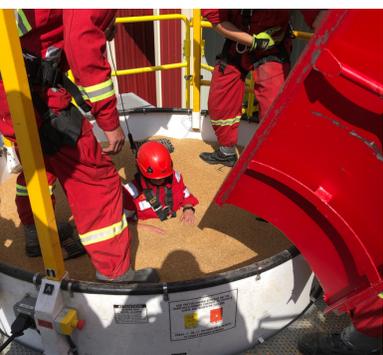
 **13**  
Wildland/Outdoor Fires

 **3**  
Technical Rescues

 **63**  
Tender Responses

 **1220**  
Ambulance Responses

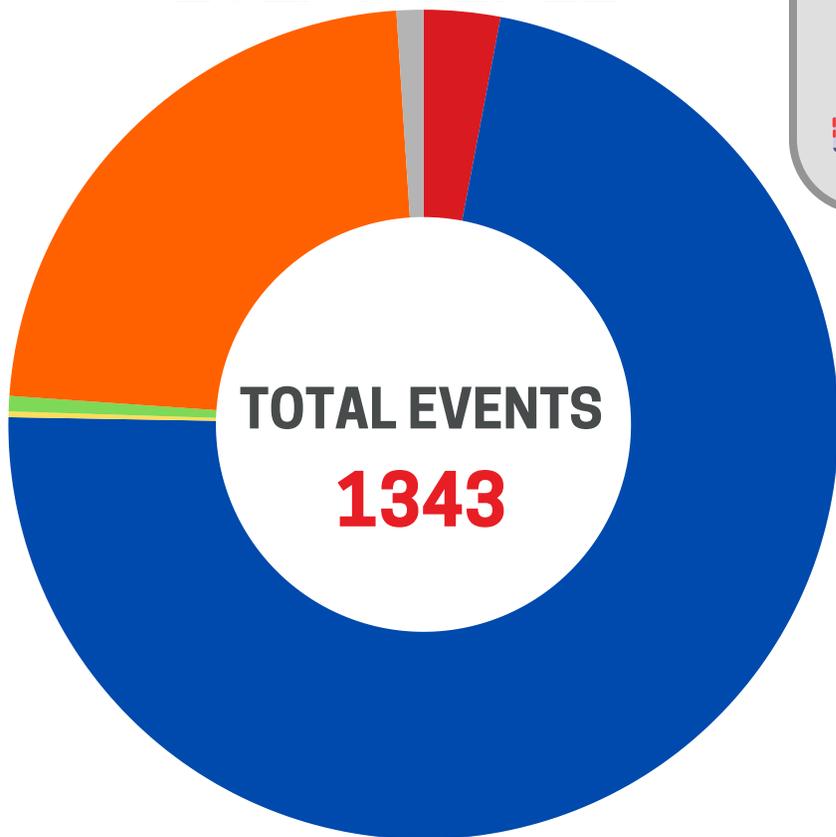
 **161**  
Fire Medical Responses





# CALLS TO SERVICE

## EVENT TYPES



**1343 EVENTS**

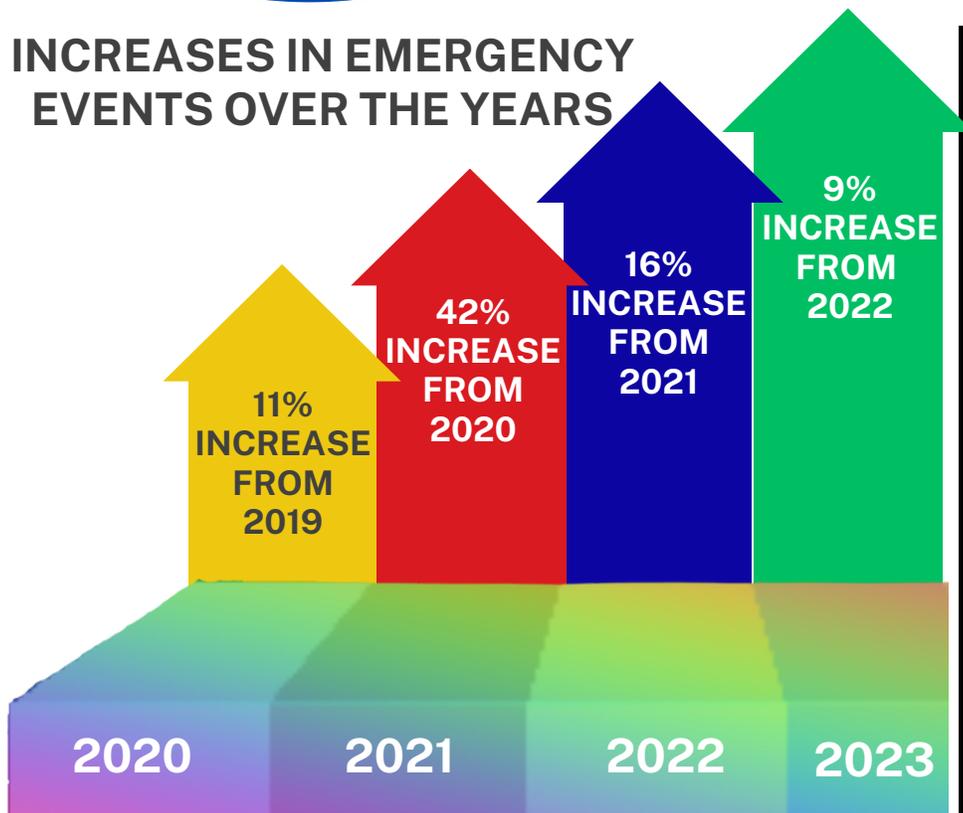


**1651**

**UNIT RESPONSES**

- - FIRES: 40 (2.98%)
- - GOOD INTENT CALLS: 307 (22.9%)
- - RESCUE & EMS INCIDENTS: 971 (72.4%)
- - SERVICE CALLS: 8 (0.6%)
- - HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS (NO FIRE): 3 (0.22%)
- - FALSE ALARMS: 14 (1.04%)

## INCREASES IN EMERGENCY EVENTS OVER THE YEARS



## INCREASE IN CALLS FROM YEAR TO YEAR

2020

➔ 62 CALLS

2021

➔ 304 CALLS

2022

➔ 194 CALLS

2023

➔ 119 CALLS

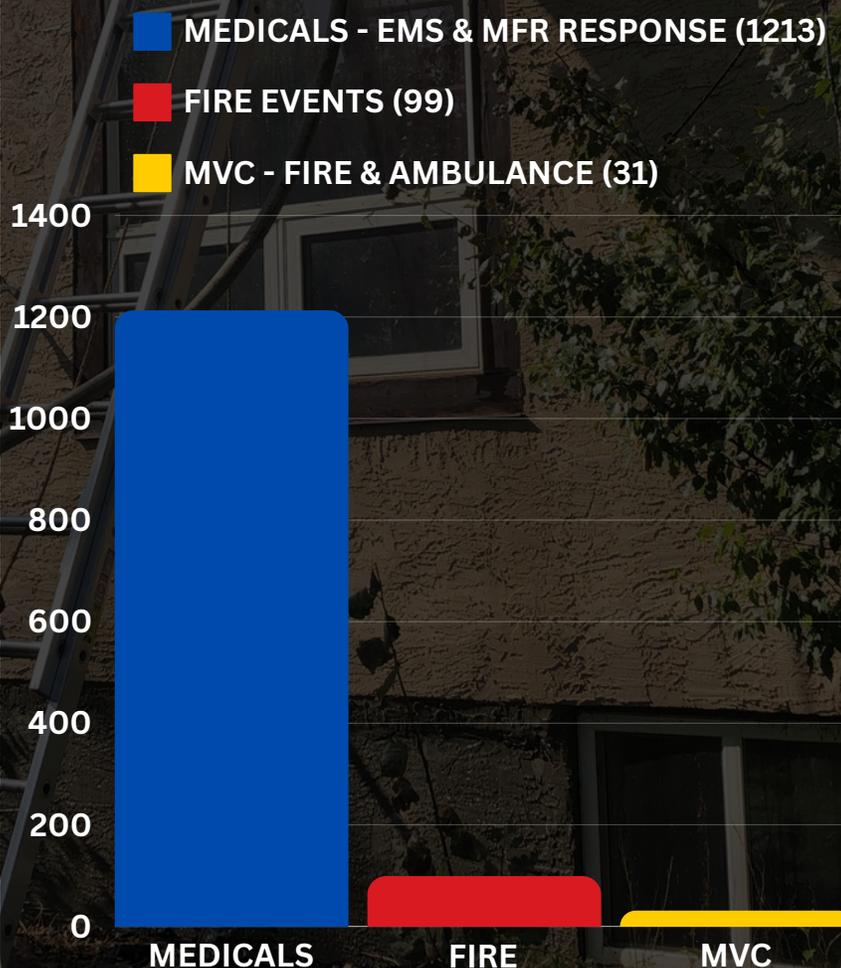


# CALLS TO SERVICE

## FIRE MUTUAL AID PROVIDED

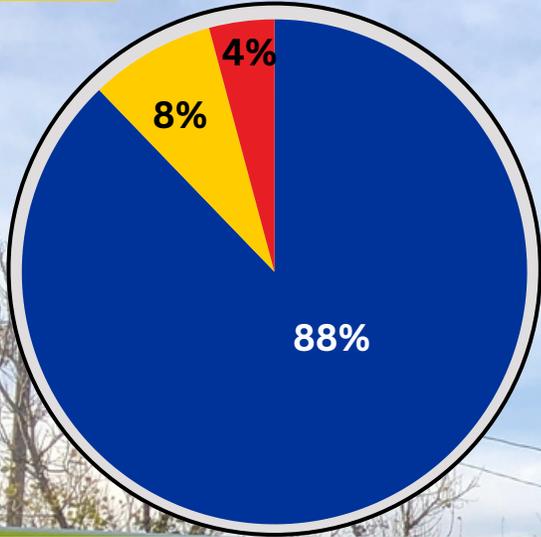


## PICTURE BUTTE EMERGENCY SERVICES 2023 EVENT STATISTICS





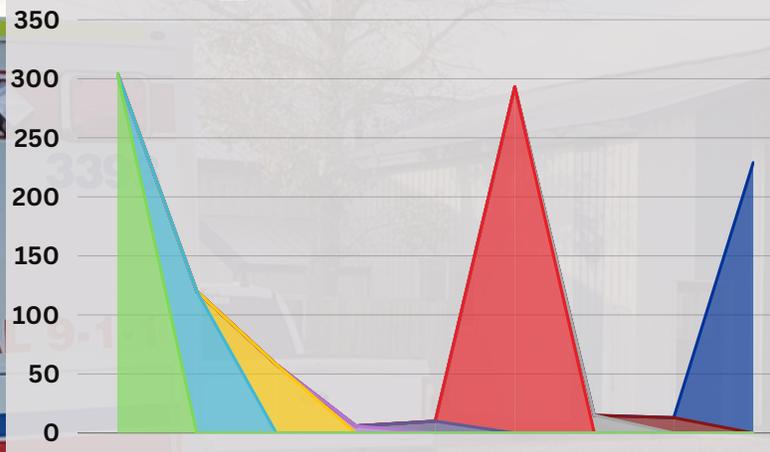
# CALLS TO SERVICE



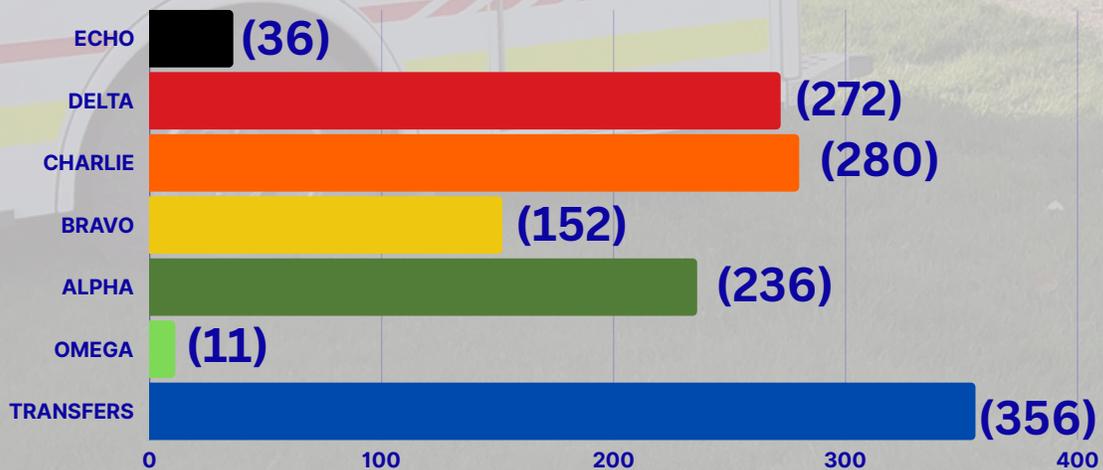
- AMBULANCE ONLY (1158)
- CO-RESPONSE FIRE/EMS (106)
- FIRE FIRST RESPONSE (55)

## COMMUNITIES SERVED BY PICTURE BUTTE AMBULANCE

- PB CALLS (305)
- LETH. COUNTY CALLS (120)
- NOBLEFORD CALLS (58)
- BARONS CALLS (6)
- COALHURST CALLS (10)
- CITY OF LETH. E-CALLS (293)
- COALDALE CALLS (15)
- VULCAN COUNTY CALLS (13)
- CITY OF LETH. TRANSFERS (229)



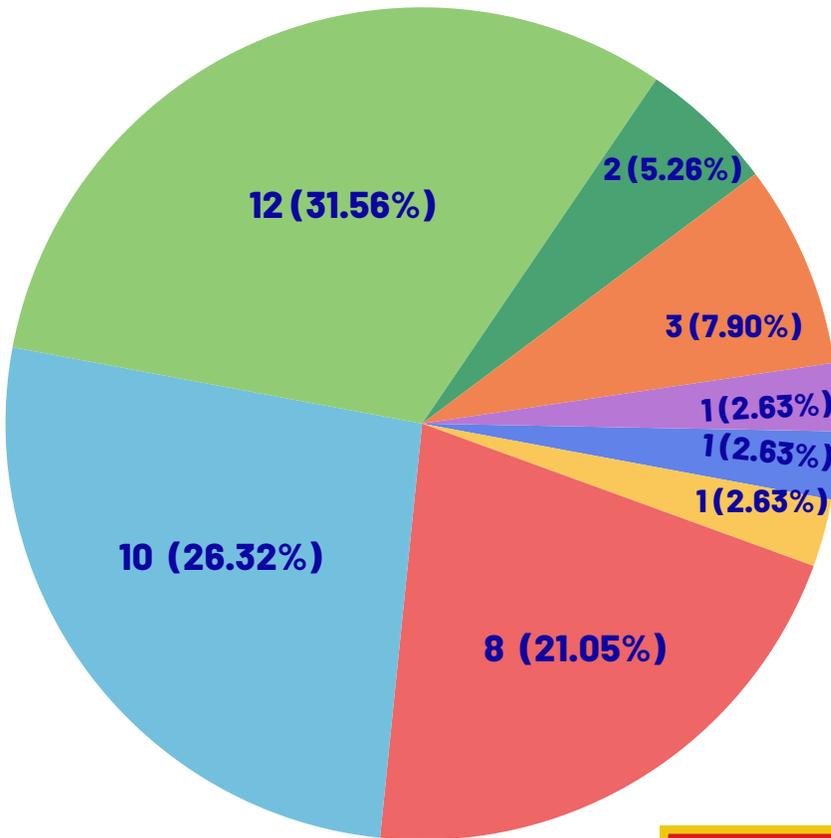
## 2023 EVENT PRIORITY





# FIRE EVENTS

## TOTAL FIRE INCIDENTS (38)



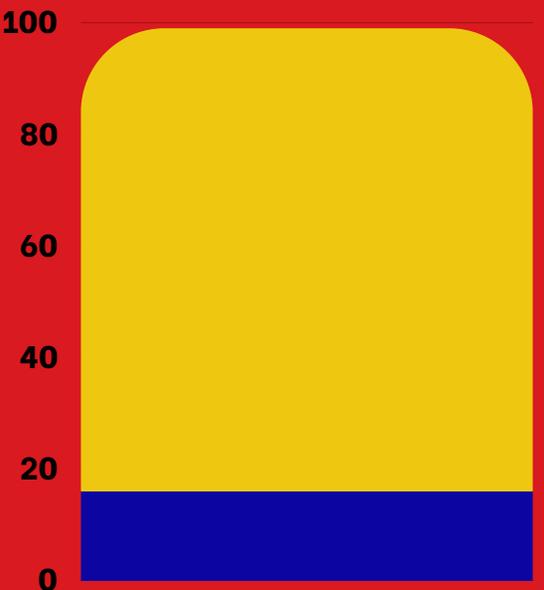
### INCIDENT TYPE

- - FIRE, OTHER
- - STRUCTURE FIRES
- - FIRE IN MOBILE PROPERTY USED AS A FIXED STRUCTURE
- - MOBILE PROPERTY (VEHICLE) FIRE
- - NATURAL VEGETATION FIRE
- - OUTSIDE RUBBISH FIRE
- - SPECIAL OUTSIDE FIRE
- - CULTIVATED VEGETATION, CROP FIRE



### FIRE & HAZMAT INCIDENTS IN THE TOWN OF PICTURE BUTTE VS. LETHBRIDGE COUNTY

- TOWN - 16
- COUNTY - 83





# FIRE EVENTS

## ANNUAL FIRE LOSS



STRUCTURE TYPE	NUMBER OF FIRES	DEATHS	INJURIES	ESTIMATED PROPERTY DAMAGE AND CONTENTS
Private Dwellings (1 or 2 family), Including mobile homes	3	0	0	\$368 160
Apartments (3 or more families)	0	0	0	0
Hotels and Motels	0	0	0	0
All Other Residential (dormitories, boarding houses, tents, etc.)	1	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL RESIDENTIAL FIRES</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$368 160</b>
Public Assembly (church, restaurant, clubs, etc.)	0	0	0	0
Schools And Colleges	0	0	0	0
Health Care And Penal Institutions (hospitals, nursing homes, prisons, etc.)	0	0	0	0
Stores And Offices	0	0	0	0
Industry, Utility, Defense, Laboratories, Manufacturing	2	0	0	\$288 000
Storage In Structures (barns, vehicle storage garages, general storage, etc.)	0	0	0	0
Other Structures (outbuildings, bridges, etc.)	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS FOR STRUCTURE FIRES</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$656 160</b>
Fires In Highway Vehicles (autos, trucks, buses, etc.)	0	0	0	0
Fires In Other Vehicles (planes, trains, ships, construction or farm vehicles, etc.)	1	0	0	\$35 000
Fires outside of Structures with Value involved, but Not Vehicles (outside storage, crops, timber, etc.)	2	0	0	\$265 000
Fires in Brush, Grass, Wildland (excluding crops and timber), with no value involved	3	0	0	
Fires in Rubbish, Including Dumpsters (outside of structures), with no value involved	0	0	0	
All Other Fires	2	0	0	\$12 000
<b>TOTALS FOR FIRES</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$968 160</b>

# A PILOT PROJECT

PBES ENTERED INTO A PILOT PROJECT WITH ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES TO STAFF AN ADDITIONAL AMBULANCE TO ASSIST WITH INTER-FACILITY TRANSFERS (IFT) AND PATIENT MOVEMENT IN SOUTHERN ALBERTA. THE INAUGURAL SHIFT FOR PICT-6B101 WAS ON MONDAY, APRIL 17TH, 2023. FROM APRIL 17TH TO DECEMBER 31ST, 2023, PICT-6B101 COMPLETED 290 SCHEDULED, NON-EMERGENT TRANSFERS. OUR IFT UNIT HAS COMPLETED TRANSFERS TO NUMEROUS SITES THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN ALBERTA INCLUDING, MEDICINE HAT, TABER, RAYMOND, COALDALE, LETHBRIDGE, FORT MACLEOD, PINCHER CREEK, CARDSTON, BLAIRMORE, CLARESHOLM, HIGH RIVER AND CALGARY. THE IFT UNIT VISITS HOSPITALS, CLINICS, CARE HOMES, PRIVATE RESIDENCES, AIRPORTS, OR WHEREVER PATIENTS NEED TO BE TRANSPORTED TO.





# YOUR PICTURE BUTTE FIREFIGHTERS ARE ALWAYS HARD AT WORK!



**11 NEW  
RECRUITS**

**26 FIRE/EMS  
PERSONNEL**

**3 504  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS  
LOGGED**

**72 TRAINING  
SESSIONS**

**6  
CERTIFICATION  
COURSES**





# 2023 RECRUITS



**NAME:** RENEE BERNER  
**HOMETOWN:** Lethbridge  
**OCCUPATION:** S&R Technician



**NAME:** WAYNE BOSCH  
**HOMETOWN:** Lethbridge  
**OCCUPATION:** Entrepreneur



**NAME:** NATHAN DE KOK  
**HOMETOWN:** Picture Butte  
**OCCUPATION:** Carpenter



**NAME:** NICK DE KOK  
**HOMETOWN:** Picture Butte  
**OCCUPATION:** Carpenter



**NAME:** MICHA FLOKSTRA  
**HOMETOWN:** Picture Butte  
**OCCUPATION:** Foreman



**NAME:** ANTHONY GRISAK  
**HOMETOWN:** Picture Butte  
**OCCUPATION:** Class 1 Driver



**NAME:** NATHAN LIEFTING  
**HOMETOWN:** Picture Butte  
**OCCUPATION:** Equipment Operator



**NAME:** CHANTAL SCHREVEN  
**HOMETOWN:** Arcen, Netherlands  
**OCCUPATION:** Sales Clerk



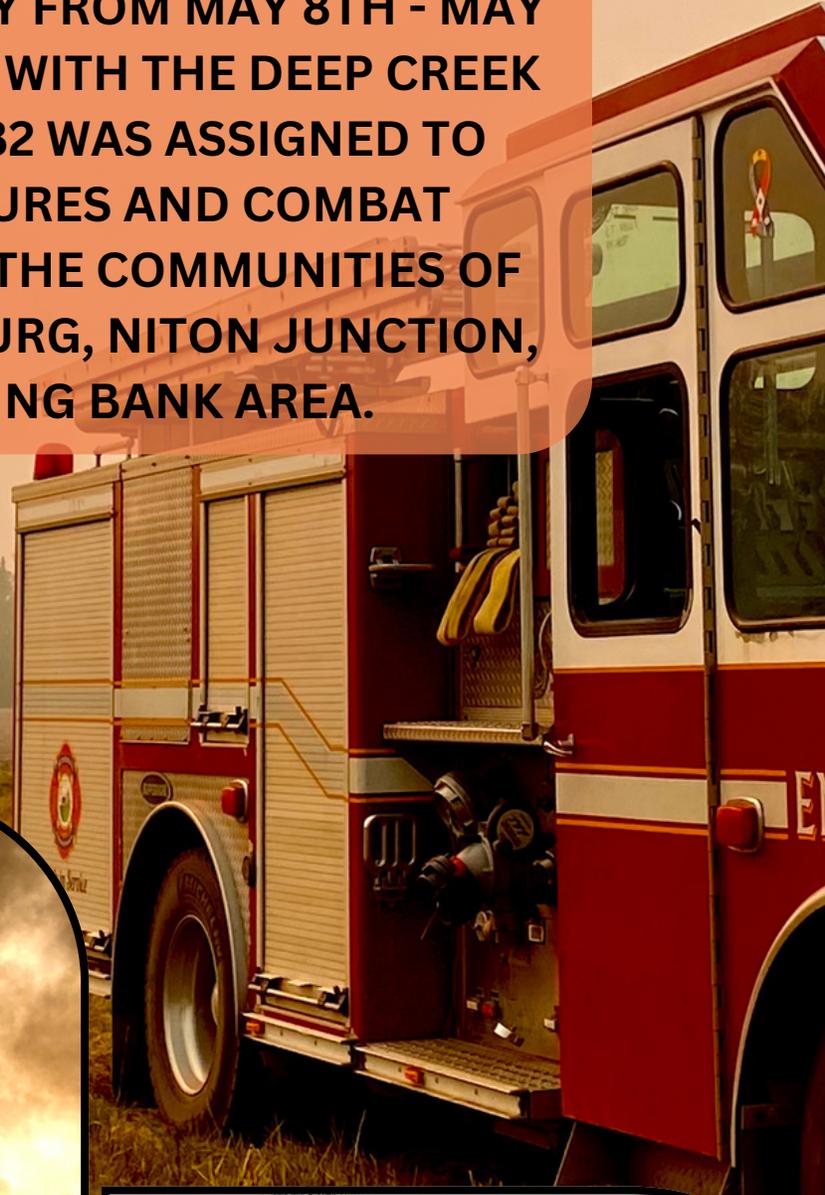
**NAME:** GERRIT SOET  
**HOMETOWN:** Picture Butte  
**OCCUPATION:** Finish Carpenter



**NAME:** JASPER VAN DER SMIT  
**HOMETOWN:** Picture Butte  
**OCCUPATION:** Labourer/Feed Tech

# DEEP CREEK WILDFIRE DEPLOYMENT 2023

PICTURE BUTTE EMERGENCY SERVICES  
DEPLOYED ENGINE 32 AND 12 MEMBERS TO  
YELLOWHEAD COUNTY FROM MAY 8TH - MAY  
29TH, 2023 TO ASSIST WITH THE DEEP CREEK  
WILDFIRE. ENGINE 32 WAS ASSIGNED TO  
PROTECT STRUCTURES AND COMBAT  
WILDFIRES AROUND THE COMMUNITIES OF  
WILDWOOD, EVANSBURG, NITON JUNCTION,  
AND THE SHINING BANK AREA.





# COMMUNITY SAFETY



**11**

Fire Code  
Compliance  
Inspections



**12**

Public  
Education  
Sessions



**17**

Fire  
Investigations



**246**

Bylaw  
Enforcement  
Files



**118**

Development  
Files



## DOG CONTROL BYLAW 885-19

### TIPS FOR RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP:

- DOGS MUST BE KEPT ON A LEASH AT ALL TIMES WHILE OUTSIDE WITH 2 EXCEPTIONS:
  - DOG IS CONTAINED ON YOUR PROPERTY IN A FENCED-IN YARD
  - DOG IS BEING EXERCISED AT THE OFF-LEASH DOG PARK
- DOGS MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO BARK OR HOWL EXCESSIVELY AND MUST BE BROUGHT INDOORS IF THEY DO
- ANY DOG WASTE DEPOSITED OFF OF YOUR OWN PROPERTY MUST BE IMMEDIATELY COLLECTED AND DISPOSED OF
- ALL DOGS WITHIN TOWN LIMITS, INCLUDING WHILE USING THE OFF-LEASH DOG PARK, MUST BE LICENSED WITH THE TOWN OF PICTURE BUTTE. TAGS CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE TOWN OFFICE.

WE CAN ALL DO OUR PART TO ENSURE PICTURE BUTTE IS KEPT A SAFE AND DOG-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY!

## **COOKING SAFETY STARTS WITH YOU!**

THIS YEAR'S FIRE PREVENTION THEME WAS "COOKING SAFETY STARTS WITH YOU!"

### PREVENT KITCHEN FIRES BY:

- NEVER LEAVE ANYTHING COOKING UNATTENDED
- HAVE A LID READY TO COVER YOUR POT WHEN COOKING WITH OIL IN CASE OF A GREASE FIRE.
- HAVE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER READY IN THE KITCHEN & KNOW HOW TO USE IT
- ENSURE YOUR HOME HAS WORKING SMOKE DETECTORS

PAY ATTENTION TO FIRE PREVENTION!

# OPEN HOUSE

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2023

# Cooking safety starts with YOU.

Pay attention to fire prevention.™



# PICTURE BUTTE EMERGENCY SERVICES



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