

Memo



To: Regular Meeting
From: **Emergency Services / Grand Forks Fire Rescue**
Date: 2023-03-27
Subject: Smoke Alarm Campaign Statistics

Purpose:

Provide Council with Statistics regarding the recent Smoke Alarm Campaign.

Background:

Grand Forks Fire Rescue - Smoke Alarm Campaign

Between February 13 and 24, 2023, Grand Forks Fire Rescue visited almost 200 homes to educate the public and test smoke detectors throughout Grand Forks.

- 50% of the homes had expired smoke detectors (older than 10 years).
- 75% did not have alarm installed in bedroom(s).
- 25% could not remember when they changed the batteries.
- 75% did not test alarms monthly.
- ONLY 1 home had NO working smoke alarms.

Compared to statistics from the Office of the Fire Commissioner for BC (see attached statistics), our results are much better than the BC stats for 2022 of which 24% of reported fires had NO smoke alarm installed and 7% no battery or failure.

Public Education

We also set up Smoke Alarm Public Education booths at both Home Hardware stores as well as Tim Horton's on 3 Saturdays over the months of February and March 2023. We gave away 25 free combination detectors to the public who correctly answered 5 (smoke alarm) skill testing questions. Both hardware stores noticed significant sales in Fire Safety Products due to the campaign. Home Hardware provided an instore discount to the homeowners we visited during our campaign.

A few residents did not want us in their homes but were very willing to take our education and information package. Home occupants were very receptive and thankful for our service. Overall, this was a successful campaign.

Next Steps

We plan on doing this campaign again in the Spring as well as continued smoke alarm education throughout the year.

We also plan to continuously reach out to partners for funding and support. The current campaign was funded from the Fire Department operating budget at roughly \$1,500.

Attachments

1. BC Statistics from the Office of the Fire Commissioner

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	230327 - Smoke Alarm Campaign Statistics.docx
Attachments:	- BC Stats.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Mar 20, 2023

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

James Runciman

Daniel Drexler

Duncan Redfearn