



MARITIME FIRE CHIEF ASSOCIATION

AGM MINUTES

JULY 8-9, 2022

HALIFAX, NS

July 8, 2022

8:30am

50 persons present

Call to order

Acting President called the meeting to order at 8:35am and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Greetings from Associations

Acting President Chief MacKenzie gave greetings on behalf of the MFCA.

Charles Kavanaugh brought greetings on behalf of the NB Fire Chiefs Association

Greg Jones brought greetings on behalf of NS

Gary Harnum brought greetings on behalf of NF & Labrador

Gerald McMahon brought greetings on behalf of PEI

Acting President MacKenzie welcomed new members and asked them to introduce themselves.

Opening Remarks / President/1st Vice Report

Acting President MacKenzie gave opening remarks on behalf of the MFCA. The executive is pleased to have the opportunity to host the in-person conference. The MFCA is pleased to see the direction of the association to support fire services leadership and enhance the services available to the Atlantic provinces.

Acting President MacKenzie provided an update on the MFCA over the last three years. The association continued to move forward with its business despite the pandemic.

Approval of Minutes

- a. October 26, 2019 Regular Meeting
- b. October 26, 2019 "In-Camera"
- c. April 18, 2020 Regular Meeting
- d. June 25, 2020 Regular Meeting

- e. October 22, 2022 Regular Meeting
- f. April 14, 2021 Regular Meeting
- g. July 14, 2021 Regular Meeting
- h. October 23, 2021 Regular Meeting
- i. April 2, 2022 Regular Meeting

Moved by Al Duchesne, seconded by Scott Hamilton that the minute of October 26, 2019 (Regular Meeting), October 26, 2019 (“In-Camera”), April 18, 2020 (Regular Meeting), June 25, 2020 (Regular Meeting), October 22, 2022 (Regular Meeting), April 14, 2021 (Regular Meeting), July 14, 2021 (Regular Meeting), October 23, 2021 (Regular Meeting), and April 2, 2022 (Regular Meeting) be approved as presented. Motion carried

- j. July 2019 AGM Minutes

Moved by Andy Yarrow, seconded by Mike Green that the minutes of the July 13, 2019 (AGM) be approved as presented. Motion carried.

2nd Vice Report

Table to next session.

By-Law Report

Chief Rod Nielsen provided an update on the By-Laws since the last conference in 2019. There were no significant updates since 2019. A copy of the by-laws is on the MFCA website for review. Membership changes updated which included other leadership roles. As the association is changing to a leadership direction, the executive is looking for suggestion to support that. No resolutions brought forward.

Moved by Rod Nielsen, seconded by Andy Yarrow. Motion carried.

Intro of Leadership Committee

The Association formed a Leadership/Training Committee. Tory Rushton and Greg Jones provided an update on the committee. This was something discussed in the past to focus on the training and leadership requirements needed for our future leaders. Terms of reference were created in November 2020 and members were selected to move forward with the direction of its intent.

Greg Jones provided an update and overview of the committee and introduced the committee members. Greg Jones encouraged members to connect with the committee members and offer input. The committee has been working diligently to create a vision on the opportunities for the future leaders. Chief Jones reviewed the objectives of the committee.

Acting President, Vince Mackenzie, provided an update on the online training opportunities that took place over the past three years.

Nomination Committee

Past President, Tory Rushton introduced the nomination committee. A report was provided, and members are encouraged to bring names forward for consideration. Mr. Rushton noted that three of the four provinces must be represented in accordance with the MFCA by-laws. The following is a list of name brought forward by the nomination committee:

President – Vince MacKenzie

1st Vice – Greg Jones

2nd Vice – vacant

Sergant at Arms – Sherri Dean

Moved by Tory Rushton, seconded by Ken Steubing that the names brought forward by the nomination committee be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Acting President, Chief MacKenzie thanked the nomination committee for their work.

Adjournment

Scott Hamilton moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

July 9, 2022

8:30am

47 persons present

Call to order

Acting President called the meeting to order at 8:37 am.

Nomination Report

Tory Rushton, Chair of the Nomination Committee/Past President, called for nominations for each of the executive positions.

President – Vince Mackenzie's name was put forward by nomination committee; Chair called for nominations three times. No further nominations were brought forward. Vince Mackenzie was appointed and accepted the position of President.

1st Vice – Greg Jones's name was put forward by nomination committee; Chair called for nominations from the floor three times. No further nominations were brought forward. Greg Jones was appointed and accepted the position of 1st Vice.

2nd Vice – Chair called for nominations from the floor for the position of 2nd Vice., Charles Kavanaugh nominated Leon Ross from Tracadie Fire Dept. The Chair called for

nominations three times. No further nominations were brought forward. Leon Ross was appointed and accepted the position of 2nd Vice.

Sergeant of Arms – Sherry Dean’s name was put forward by nomination committee; Chair called for nominations from the floor three times. No further names were put forward. Sherry Dean was appointed and accepted the position of Sergeant of Arms.

Moved by Tory Rushton, seconded by Nick Power that nominations cease. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report

Treasurer presented the financials for the year of 2021 (Profit & Loss, Balance Sheet).

Moved by Sherri Dean, seconded by Greg Shaw that the Treasurer Report is approved as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer presented the Profit & Loss Budget for 2022.

Moved by Joey Bisson, seconded by Scott Hamilton that the Profit & Loss Budget for 2022 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Directors Report

NS - Greg Jones (FSANS)

- AGM took place in May and Greg Jones took the position of President
- Executive and board have been busy moving agenda items forward such as forming a Health & Wellness committee. In September there will be a first responders mental health conference in Halifax.
- Reminder to bring forward any issues/concerns to director to advise FSANS
- Currently searching for an admin assistant, RFP circulated and in the process of screening applicants
- Queen of Jubilee medal program for fire services in the province taking place, info can be found on social media accounts
- During last director meeting, an adhoc communication planning committee was formed to work on a communication plan for the province

Moved by Greg Jones, seconded by Jim Prince that the provincial report for the province of NS be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

PEI – Gerard Mahon

- Lost chief instructor in December 2021 after 30 years in the association; Shannon Dumville replaced the instructor who is working on various initiatives to enhance the training opportunities for the province.
- 46 Level 1 and 21 Level 2 students were put through training in 2021.
- 2 Full-time employees at the Fire School who are busy.

Moved by Gerard Mahon, seconded by Al Duchesne that the provincial report for the province of PEI be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

NB – Charles Kavanaugh

- There haven’t been any conferences for the last three years.

- Most training took place virtually.
- AGM took place in person this year
- Elections were postponed last year and the new officers were selected this year. Scott Poupard is the new Fire Chief
- Purchased the mobile burn unit, training was on hold due COVID, now on the road and hoping to tour the province twice this year
- Met with government and got an increased rate for DNR calls and standby rates for NB Power calls
- Working on staffing for NBU, would like to have a few full-time staff to conduct work and facilitate training. Hoping to increase staffing at the fire marshal offices
- Over 300 entities in province and with new regionalization, it will be reduced to 74.
- Looking to complete regional dispatch, 5 of the 6 are complete and looking to include 6th regional by the end of the year

Moved by Charlie Kavanuah, second by Leon Ross that the provincial report for the province of NB be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

NF/Labrador Gary Harnum

- Brings regrets for the president.
- Many challenges over the past years but things are progressing in a positive manner.
- NF/Labrador conference taking place next weekend, looking forward to connecting with the members
- Training over the last couple years was pivoted to online platform. In person training has resumed.
- Fire Commission retired in June 2022. A new Fire Commissioner has been appointed this week. Association will be meeting with the commissioner to discuss some key topics (training, 911, geographic challenges, etc)
- The Association started a program to reach out to the fire departments to revamp the contact lists of each department. Many changes took place over the last couple years, therefore, hired a student to update that contact list
- Critical Stress management training in place for support when needed.
- New Training and Education Committee in place.

Moved by Gary Harnum, seconded by David Pierson that that provincial report for the province of NL/Labrador be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

CFAC – Vince MacKenzie

- Did not reoffer to sit on the executive due to wanting to focus on MFCA
- Active DEI Committee
- Canadian Firefighter Survey circulated again this year, deadline was June 2022 but they are still accepting data and encourage all departments to update and complete the survey as it captures great information
- Volunteer Firefighter tax credit – bill put forward to have it increased to \$10,000. CFAC is working very hard to have that bill accepted. Second reading will be done in October 2022.

Training Committee

1st Vice, Greg Jones introduced the Leadership Committee. Kevin Dean and Shannon Dummville presented a brief overview of the work being worked by the committee which includes:

- Formation of the committee and the selection of the committee members
- Identified gaps present in the current training and educational offerings
- Identified how to support professional development of current and future leaders
- Captured brainstorming results
- Gaining input from the provincial associations
- Next Steps
- Considerations that were put forward

Greg Jones thanked the committee for their presentation and indicated that there is more work to done.

Adjournment

Acting President thanks everyone for their presentations.

Moved by Al Duchense to adjourn the meeting at 9:33am.

July 9, 2022

12:30pm

40 persons present

Call to order

President called to order at 12:30pm

Election

Tory Rushton cast the ballot to the ED with the list of names.

President-Vince MacKenzie

1st Vice – Greg Jones

2nd Vice – Leon Ross

Sergeant at Arms – Sherry Dean

New executive chosen by acclamation.

Conference Committee

Conrad Landry provided an update. It will be in Halifax for 2023 with a venue to be determined.

142 delegates, exhibitors 95 booths sold, 45 different companies, no partner program due to unknowns with restrictions, next year Fri/Sat/Sun with a Thurs/Fri preconference training and committee meeting sessions.

Welcome comments and suggestion for future conferences. Similar dates will be selected.

Honors Committee

Al Duchense provided an honors committee report and indicated that the following names will be honored:

Honours Committee Report 2022

27 year membership certificate

Retired Fire Chief Bill Hogan
Charlottetown Fire Department

Division Captain Fred Layton (Dues not yet received in 2022)
Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency Service

Fire Chief David Lundie (Dues not yet received in 2022)
Great Village Fire Department

Fire Chief Ricky MacNaughton
Campbellton Fire Department

Retired Deputy Chief Ronald Rafuse (Dues not yet received in 2022)
Waterville Fire Department

District Chief Gordon West
Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency Service

26 year membership certificate

Fire Chief Mike Conway
Plymouth Fire Department (Dues not yet received in 2021 or 2022)

Fire Chief Joe MacDonald
Barney's River Fire Department

Retired District Chief Noel Palmer
Charlottetown Fire Department, District 2

Deputy Chief Tom Steele
Westville Fire Department

25 year membership certificate

Fire Chief Ken Dunn
Westville Fire Department

Fire Chief David Witzell
Sydney River Fire Department

Al/Joe Bison (Bible Hill) motion carried.

Resolution Committee

Rod Nielsen indicated that no new resolutions have been brought forward, but encouraged to those in attendance if there are any items that need changes to bring a resolution forward.

Moved Rod Nielsen, seconded by Bernie Turpin that the resolution committee report be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Old Bus

Tory Rushton noted the following:

- Approximately 5 years ago and at last conference it was discussed where are we going as an association? This was brought to the last conference and the idea of creating a leadership committee to determine how we are going to get to where we are going to be and whether or not it requires a name change.
- With COVID, we met more frequently, virtually, to ensure work was still being done and staying on par with other organizations.
- As the association evolved, we did not want to take away from other partnering association and as a result, a focus on leadership was agreed upon. Last two years we had three virtual training session which set the stage that the membership wants

to see leadership training. The Executive and Leadership Committee are very focused to support its' membership with training opportunities for all those involved.

President thanked Tory for the update.

President noted that he is looking forward to working with the executive to move initiatives forward.

Noted that communication is key. Encourage all members to keep us aware of changes.

New Business

Asked for new business comments from the floor. Welcome feedback.

Deputy Chief Gilbert MacIntyre, CBRM, next year (and each consecutive year) to have a breakout room to put on a seminar/session that runs through the national government relations week and what takes place. This will give members an idea of how things work and whether or not there would be interest to attend.

Charles Kavanaugh, NB – shared his experience when attending government relations week. The more people in attendance the more effective it will be.

Daniel NL – asked to get the message out to NL, only three members in attendance. It would be nicer to have more present.

Chief Ken Steubin, HRM – congratulate the executive on a successful conference and commend them on the direction to focus on leadership. HUSAR team has been resurrected which will provide service to all of Atlantic Canada. Their goal is to build relationships in the Atlantic Region. In order for the HUSAR team to be able to move forward, they need to be able to be fully independent for several weeks. This group could use the support of the MFCA to help bring awareness and support for this team.

Adjournment

Al Duchesne moved the adjournment of the business session. 1:12pm