

Date: Wednesday, January 1, 2025

To: Elizabeth Tracy, Chief Administrative Officer

From: Cameron Adams, Fire Chief

Subject: Pemberton Fire Rescue 2024 Fourth Quarter Report

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a summary of the activities of Pemberton Fire Rescue in the fourth quarter of 2024.

BACKGROUND

Pemberton Fire Rescue (PFR) is a volunteer department that provides service to the residents of the Village of Pemberton (Village of Pemberton Bylaw No. 807, 2016) and, under the fire service agreement with the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD), provides fire protection services to Pemberton Meadows (SLRD Bylaw No. 1082, 2008), Pemberton Heights (SLRD Bylaw No. 1083, 2008) and the Pemberton fire protection specified area defined within the fire service agreement. PFR provides fire service to Lil'wat Nation through a separately negotiated fire service agreement established in 2017.

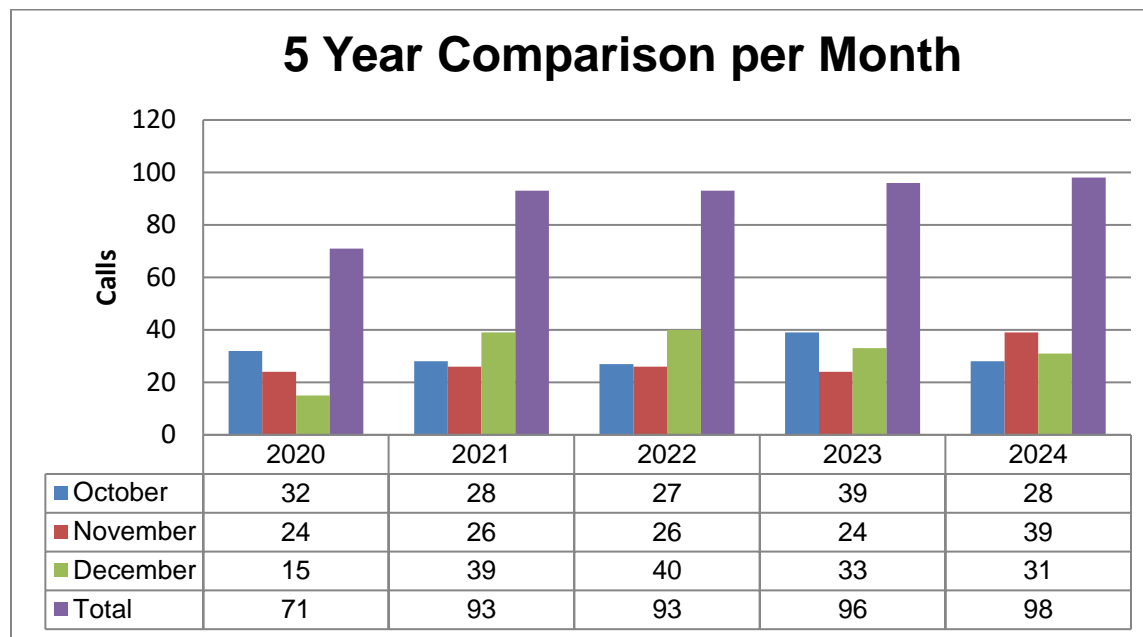
PFR also provides road rescue service to the entire SLRD Electoral Area C, covering 5,570 square kilometers, pursuant to SLRD Pemberton Fire Rescue Contribution Service Conversion and Establishment Bylaw No. 715-2001.

DISCUSSION & COMMENTS

Incidents

In the fourth quarter, PFR responded to 98 incidents. In comparison to the 2023 fourth quarter, call volumes are up for the fourth quarter by 1% (2 calls). There was a total of 436 incidents in 2024.

Chart 1. Five-year comparison of incidents by month



In the table below, the highlighted green squares indicate number of incidents greater than number of days in a month.

Month	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
January	29	25	30	25	33
February	29	24	18	21	37
March	40	17	33	24	28
April	25	27	23	31	39
May	24	35	24	26	42
June	16	33	25	47	40
July	36	29	41	35	44
August	36	50	34	28	45
September	32	33	34	43	30
October	32	28	27	39	28
November	24	26	26	24	39
December	25	39	40	33	31
Totals	348	366	355	376	436

Table 2. Number of Incidents per day YTD

In the fourth quarter of 2024, of the 98 calls, 62% took place on evenings and weekends with the remaining 37% occurring during weekday working hours.

Day	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
1	0	3	2	4	2	3	0	2	1	0	1	0	18
2	0	1	0	0	4	0	1	3	3	0	0	3	15
3	1	1	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	10
4	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	10
5	1	1	2	2	0	2	0	3	0	1	2	1	15
6	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	3	1	0	1	1	11
7	1	2	1	0	1	0	7	0	0	1	0	0	13
8	4	1	2	1	1	2	1	0	2	2	1	1	18
9	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	8
10	2	4	2	1	0	3	0	3	0	2	3	0	20
11	2	0	1	0	4	1	2	0	0	1	3	0	14
12	1	2	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	0	1	0	17
13	1	0	0	1	0	3	2	1	1	2	0	1	12
14	3	2	0	2	1	0	3	2	1	0	1	1	16
15	1	1	2	1	4	1	2	1	0	1	1	0	15
16	2	2	0	0	4	2	1	1	1	2	1	0	16
17	1	2	1	4	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	13
18	1	1	1	1	1	3	4	3	1	2	2	2	22
19	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	5	3	17
20	1	2	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	2	1	3	14
21	1	1	0	1	0	3	2	2	5	0	1	2	18
22	0	2	0	1	2	0	2	2	2	0	3	2	16
23	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	2	3	1	10
24	0	1	1	5	1	0	3	4	1	0	0	0	16
25	0	0	0	2	3	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	11
26	2	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	12
27	0	2	0	4	0	2	2	2	1	0	2	1	16
28	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	7
29	1	1	4	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	2	13
30	4	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	13
31	0	0	1	0	2	0	3	2	0	0	0	2	10

Totals	33	37	28	39	42	40	44	45	30	28	39	31	436
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Days Month	31	29	31	30	31	30	31	31	30	31	30	31
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Table 3 provides a breakdown of the average number of firefighters attending incidents and the average number of those attending response types. This information is helpful to highlight the challenges PFR encounters due to being a small department and because many firefighters hold fulltime jobs outside the community which impacts their ability to attend daytime calls. The fourth quarter of 2024 saw a slight decrease in the average number of responders to call outs compared to 2023.

Table 3. Average number of firefighters attending Incidents since 2020.

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total # Incidents	348	366	355	376	436
Average # responders	6.72	7.01	6.49	6.29	6.18
Total Members Per Year	31	35	37	34	37
Percentage of members responded	22%	20%	18%	18%	17%

Table 4 shows the average number of firefighters that attended each response type over a 5-year period compared to the minimum personnel requirements set out in the NFPA Standards. The NFPA Standards set out the number of members required to do each job.

Table 4. Five-year comparison of fire fighter attendance by incident type

	Minimum Personnel Requirements	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Medical Aid	4	5.64	5.83	6.49	5.76	5.86
Motor Vehicle Accident	8	7.08	7.32	8.51	7.52	6.83
Alarms	*16	5.35	6.63	6.11	6.65	5.93
Wires Down	8	7.33	7.00	4.60	5.80	6.89
Burn Complaint	8	7.67	6.70	8.25	4.87	6.73
Chimney Fire	16	9.00	9.08	10.75	8.08	7.00
Smoke Sighting	8	7.64	10.50	8.40	7.00	3.00
Structure Fire	16	11.58	10.67	15.25	7.89	13.40
Vehicle Fire	8	8.83	13.00	9.25	6.88	7.20
Wildland Fire	16	7.20	8.67	6.50	7.00	8.00
Grass Fire	16	7.90	10.36	12.40	8.50	7.27

*Only one truck with crew would be sent; however remaining crew would be on standby at hall until confirmed.

Incidents by Area and Type

As set out in the Fire Department Establishment Bylaw No. 807, 2016, PFR responds to several different types of incidents and locations as identified in the service agreements with the SLRD and Lil'wat Nation.

Charts 2 shows the incidents by area and type YTD.

Chart 2 Incidents by Area and Type for the fourth quarter

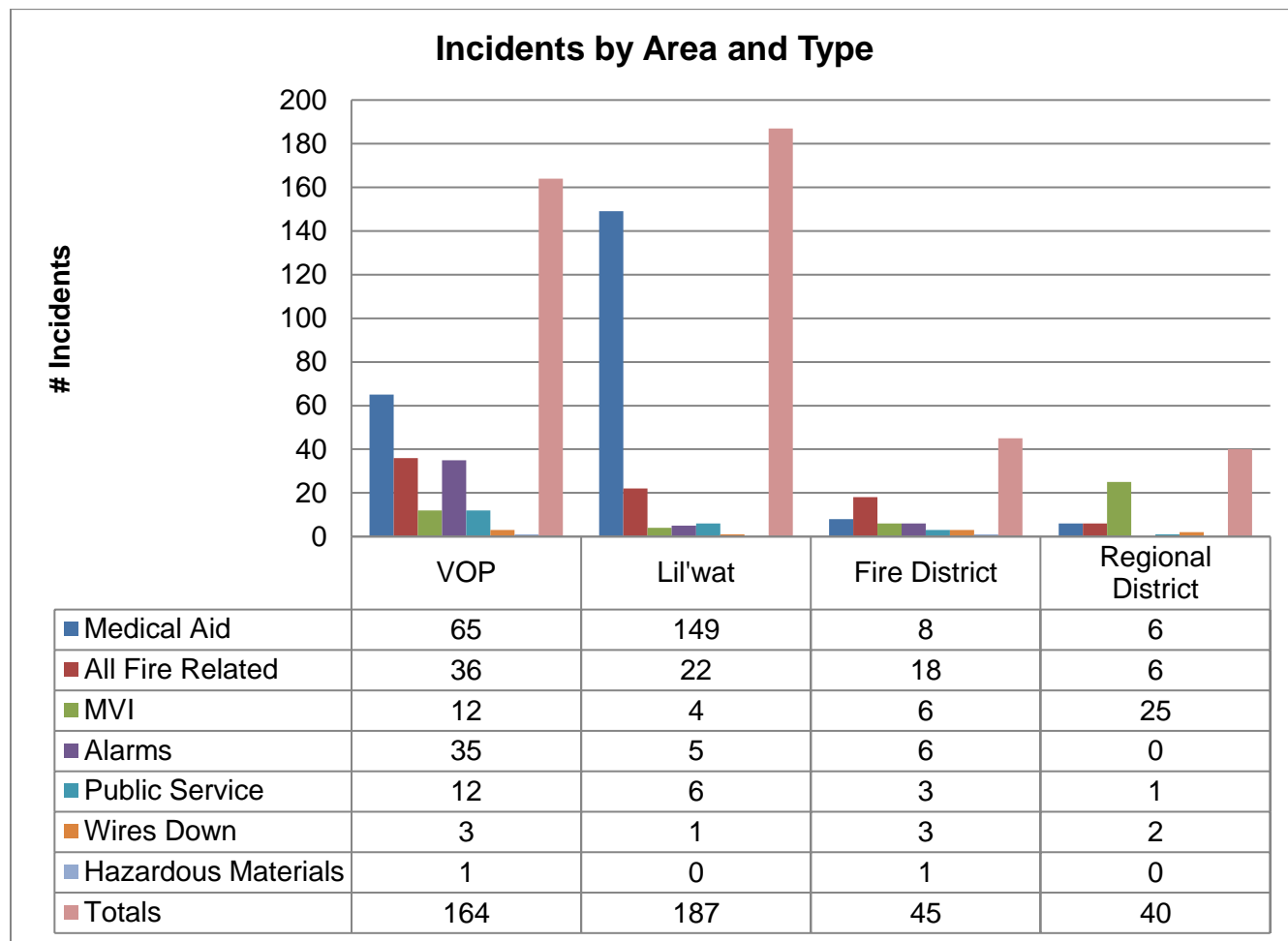
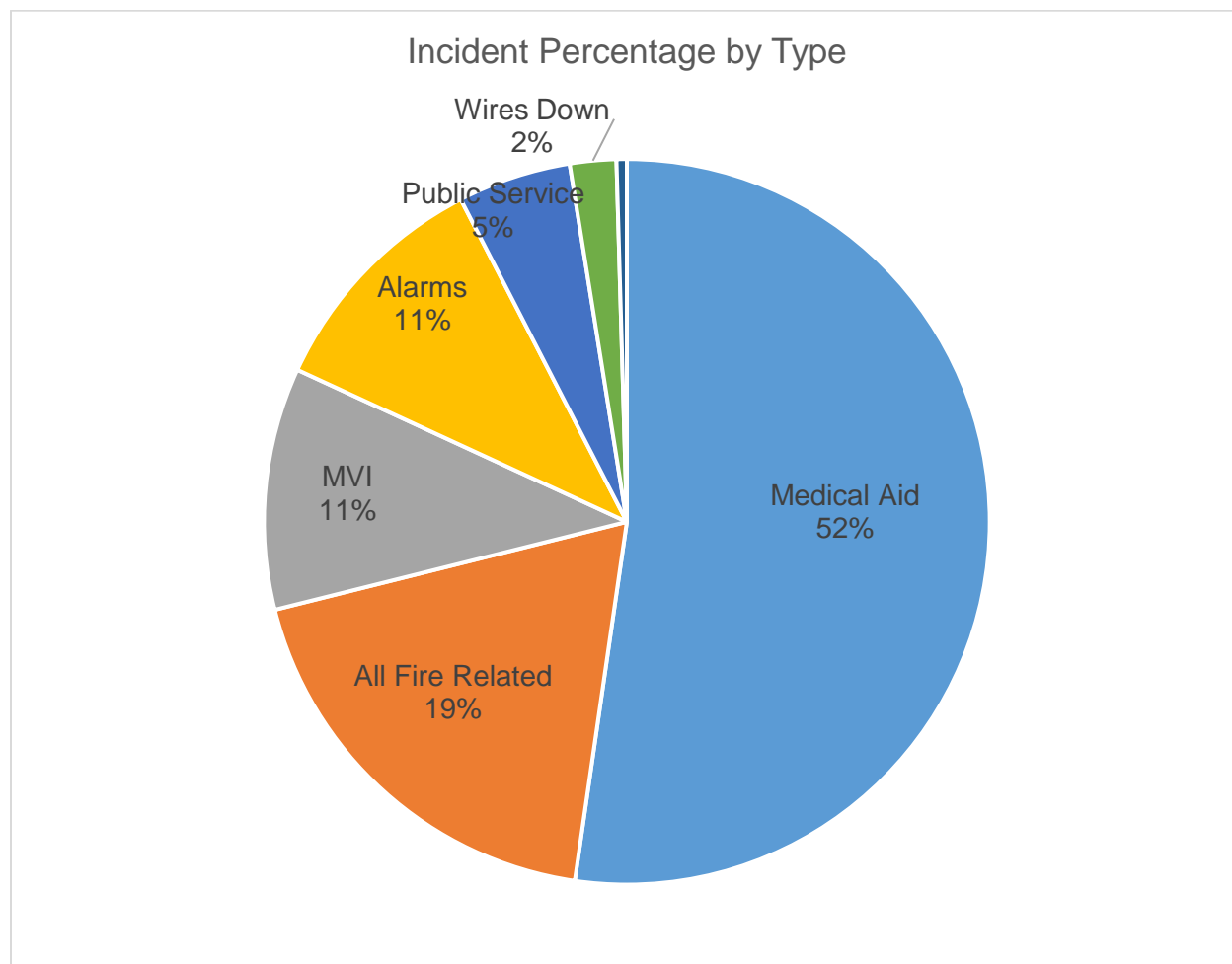


Chart 3 summarizes the number of callouts per type of incident attended year to date (YTD).

Chart 3 Summary of Calls by Incident Type YTD



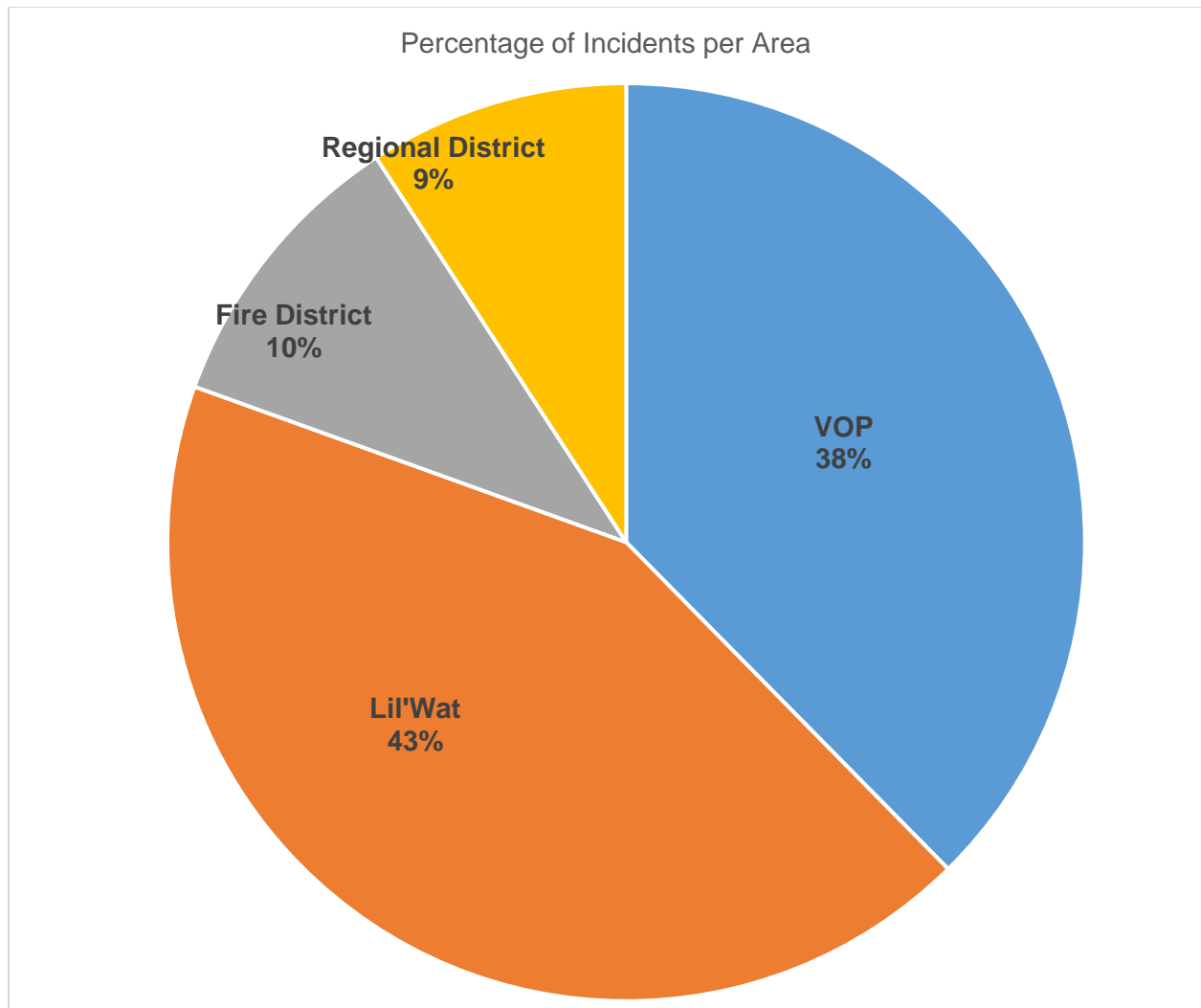
Incidents by Area

The breakdown of the incident reports is categorized into the following regions:

- Village of Pemberton Boundaries
- Lil'wat Nation
- Fire District Service Areas; and
- Regional District (or outside the Fire District zones including north of Mount Currie, north of The Heights and south of the Village Boundaries)

Chart 4 shows the percentage breakdown of Incidents by area year to date.

Chart 4 Breakdown of Incidents per Area, year to date



Membership

At the end of the fourth quarter, membership stood at forty-one (41), consisting of three (3) full-time members and thirty-eight (38) paid-on-call volunteer members. In November 2024, we were pleased to welcome five (5) new paid-on-call recruits to our team. The membership was further supported by one (1) full-time administrative assistant and two (2) term FireSmart staff (a coordinator and a laborer). In November 2024, Pemberton Fire Rescue underwent a change in administrative staff, with Gabrielle Stauber transitioning to a new role with the Village of Pemberton. Grace Clark has since taken over as the full-time Administrative Assistant for Pemberton Fire Rescue.

Training

Members trained on a weekly basis to ensure compliance with the Office of the Fire Commissioner, WorkSafeBC and department training requirements.

Fourth Quarter Commitments

Table 5 shows all events, incidents, and the staff hours committed to each in the fourth quarter.

Table 5. Events and staff hours

Commitment Type	Total Number	Total Staff Hours
Training	20	1219h 50m
Public Events	10	221h
Meetings	1	20h
Incidents Total	98	742h 05m
Regional / Fire District	16	197h 15m
VOP	36	202 h 57m
Lil'wat	46	342h 43m

Fire Prevention, Inspections & Public Events

In the fourth quarter, Pemberton Fire Rescue members completed two (2) new business application and 3 complaint based fire inspections and attended the following fire prevention, education, and public service initiatives: Blackcomb Heli Staff Extinguisher training, Pemberton Fire Rescue Open House during Fire Prevention Week, Pemberton Secondary School staff & grade 11 Fire Extinguisher training, Blackwater Creek Elementary School visit, Lil'wat Health & Healing Fire Extinguisher training, Halloween Safety at Signal Hill, Halloween Safety patrol in the Glen, attended and conducted traffic control for the Remembrance Day parade, and delivered Santa to the Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Community Barn.

PFR members were able to attend the following additional courses in the fourth quarter: Rope Rescue Operation course, Engine Boss training and Live Fire Instructor training.

Capital Projects

No Capital projects were completed during the fourth quarter.

FireSmart

The Pemberton FireSmart team has successfully concluded the fourth quarter of 2024 Strengthening Wildfire Resiliency within The Village of Pemberton (LGPS-10662) Grant. The following is a summary of FireSmart accomplishments in the fourth quarter for 2024.

1. **Fire Prevention Week + PFR Open House:** Engaged over 50 participants (October 12, 2024)
2. **PSS Student Project at Lion's Villas:** Supported elderly residents in wildfire risk mitigation through 3 classroom sessions, 3 field sessions, 5 debris-hauling trips to Sea to Sky Soils with the VOP trailer, and the removal of 1,630 kg of debris (October/November 2024)
3. **Participation at the CFRC Meeting** (hosted by SLRD FireSmart) – (November 27, 2024)
4. **Pemberton Bazaar:** FireSmart community engagement (December 7, 2024)
5. **FireSmart Neighborhood Recognition Program:** Assisted 6 neighborhoods in submitting their applications for recognition of their 2024 FireSmart activities (December 2024)
6. **2024/2025 CRI Grant:** Financial review completed of the first half of CRI grant (December 2024)

COMMUNICATIONS

There are no communications elements associated with the Pemberton Fire Rescue 2024 Fourth Quarter Report.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no legal, legislative, or regulatory considerations.

BUDGET & STAFFING

Preparation of this report falls within the regular duties of the department and has no impact on budget or staffing.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL IMPACT

Preparation of this report has no impact on other departments.

COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

This report has no impact on the Community Climate Action Plan strategies.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

This initiative aligns with the following strategic priorities:

- Plan and manage growth; as our community grows we train to meet the current and future demands that we face along with building our equipment and apparatus needs in order to best serve our communities.
- Be prepared; We ensure to provide the highest quality training and equipment to our members to best protect our communities from any emergencies we may face.
- Protect our environment; By implementing best FireSmart practices we help protect our forest and PFR uses best environmental practices available throughout our daily routines.
- Cultivate trust; We work with our neighbors to ensure the implementation of best practices and strengthen relationships.
- Operate with excellence. We strive to excel in our service delivery in each aspect of our service we provide.

IMPACT ON THE REGION

The activities of Pemberton Fire Rescue, including increased fire prevention awareness activities, firefighter recruitment and training support to improve upon the current level of service to the Village and the Fire Service District Service Area, are a benefit to the community, the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District and Lil'wat Nation.

Prepared by:	Grace Clark, Administrative Assistant
Manager approval:	Cameron Adams, Fire Chief
CAO approval:	Elizabeth Tracy, Chief Administrative Officer

