

THE NATURE OF OUR BUSINESS

Two basic purposes of the public fire service are first to prevent fire or emergencies from occurring, and Secondly, to prepare ourselves to control fire or emergencies should prevention not prevail. This is done through training, education, pre-incident planning, more training, state of the art equipment and even more training.

Our first lines of defense are preventing fires and emergencies for occurring in the first place. Fire prevention educators and officers are unsung heroes of the department. Their efforts in providing fire prevention, including smoke alarm surveys, are not as visible as the big red trucks with flashing lights responding to a call, but having the public know what to do when a fire occurs, and getting everyone out safely before the fire department arrives is one of the best sights our fire fighters can have, knowing they do not have to place their life in jeopardy trying to rescue occupants from a burning building.

Firefighting is one of the most diverse and challenging professions known today. It is this diversity that inspires most men and women to become volunteers. Imagine having to train to prepare yourself to cope with situations, which range from structure fires, hazardous chemical spills, automobile crashes and almost any imaginable emergency situation in between. This diversity coupled with the fact that your skills may be needed at any time of day or night, seven days a week, in any kind of weather, and very often under potentially stressful and emotional circumstances makes your contribution very rewarding.

For those involved in emergency response this type of work or job is not for everyone. You need more than just a desire to help people. You also need courage and dedication, assertiveness, and a willingness to learn new skills and face new challenges. The Fire Department is not for the meek or timid or for those who lose control of their emotions during times of crisis. Our service is one which calls on its member to perform hot, sweaty, dirty, strenuous work, often in uncertain and hazardous environments. With that there is also exposure to very traumatic circumstances where the fragile balance of life has been determined by circumstances that have inflicted great harm upon a person. In our occupation we see the worst of what life can deal to a person.

The personal rewards and satisfaction received from being involved in a Fire Department are often beyond description. There is a sense of accomplishment after controlling a building fire, compassion for accident victims, and fulfillment in teaching fire safety. The list could go on and on. The bottom line in our business is measured by the prevention and reduction of loss of life, pain and suffering, and property damage that we have in our service. We are here and prepared for one reason and that is to provide service to the residents of our communities.

If you feel you have what it takes to meet the challenges of our business, whether it's in providing fire education, responding to fires or all emergencies, we welcome you to apply to join us.

The Municipality of Temagami operates 2 separate Fire Departments, those being the Temagami and Marten River Fire Departments. To learn more about our Fire departments visit our emergency response page.