

For Immediate Release

Cambridge Fire Recognized Citizen Actions Commended

Cambridge, Ontario. February 6, 2009...Important actions of citizens who helped to evacuate residents on the scene, volunteers for special educational campaigns, and tributes to long service employees of the Cambridge Fire Department (CDF) who face emergencies everyday was the theme of tonight's CDF second annual event.

Held in the Cambridge City Hall, the night recognized nineteen people including four citizens who alerted the fire department and facilitate the speedy evacuation of citizens.

"Without the very important and timely actions of these citizen honourees tonight, the outcome at the emergency scenes could have been very different," says CFD Chief Allen.

The evening also recognized twelve people on the CFD team who were either promoted or received federal or provincial long service metals. The following is complete outline honourees:

Department Promotions - presented by Deputy Chief Doug Tennant

Mike Pauzé Captain Suppression March 16, 2008
Martin Mills Captain Suppression April 11, 2008
Steve Wyse Captain Suppression November 29, 2008

Federal Medals - presented by Member of Parliament Gary Goodyear, Mayor Doug Craig and Chief Terry Allen

Karen Hodgson 30 Year
Dave Greenhough 20 Year
John Jetter 20 Year
Chris Johnson 20 Year
Dave Atkinson 20 Year

Provincial Medals - presented by Mayor Doug Craig and Chief Terry Allen

Arnold Cook 25 Year
Larry Shepley 30 Year
Mike Gaetan 30 Year
Mike Marjerrison 35 Year

Citizen Awards

Marzena Wajda & Maggie Minns

On October 12, 2008 at 7:53 am, Maggie and Marzena were passing by 714 Sherring Street and noticed a fire in progress. They immediately called 9-1-1 and threw stones at windows and knocked on doors in an attempt to awaken the residents. When fire fighters arrived on scene, all residents were out of the building (seven adults, one child). Without the actions of Maggie and Marzena, the outcome could have been much different.

Steve Dolson

On May 27, 2008 at 2:15 am, Steve was travelling down Franklin Boulevard and saw a fire in progress in a townhouse on Morning Calm. He called 9-1-1 and proceeded towards the townhouse. He knocked on the door and alerted the residents who safely evacuated the building (husband, wife, four children, and a child under supervision).

Elizabeth Harmen

On October 10, 2008 at 7:53 am, Elizabeth heard smoke alarms from her housing unit at Garden Street. She checked the hallway and saw smoke from another unit. She entered the smoke filled unit and called for the tenants, woke them up and assisted them to get out (three adults - who were treated for smoke inhalation). She also knocked on other units to get everyone out, activated the pull station on her way out and called 9-1-1. Elizabeth's quick actions allowed residents to escape and facilitated the containment of the fire to the unit of origin.

Conestoga College Volunteer Awards

Doug Richard and Marty Long (Class President, full-time)

Dinah Schwartzentruber (Program Representative, part-time)

This award pays tribute to some exceptional individuals for ongoing support in the areas of Fire Prevention and Public Education. Every year in September both the part-time and full-time students give their time volunteering at the CFD Fire Awareness Day. Their assistance is vital to the success of the program.

Cambridge Fire Department also partner with Conestoga College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning and the Pre-Service Program which results in many new ideas on fire safety for the community educational initiatives. The students at the College also lend their time to the "boot drive" funding raising campaign for Muscular Dystrophy every fall.

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About the Medals

Fire Services Exemplary Service Medal - Federal Government

Recipients must complete 20 years of fire service and will be awarded a bar in respect of each additional ten year period of service. The design of the medal incorporates crossed axes, a hydrant and stylized Maltese Cross which is an internationally recognized symbol of the fire prevention community. Both are superimposed on a maple leaf, the standard background symbol of Canadian

honours. The red of the ribbon represents fire, the gold (common to all Exemplary Service Medals) represents the quality of the service honoured.

Fire Services Long Service Medal - Provincial Government

Awarded since 1971, 'The Fire Services Long Service Medal' is an expression of public appreciation for the dedication and hard work after 25 years of service by an Ontario Firefighter. It is officially recognized by the Province and is included in the Fire Protection & Prevention Act, 1997. Service bars for additional 5 years of service are also awarded. Suspended from a red, white and green ribbon, the medal bears the Maltese cross, with the coat of arms of Ontario superimposed, and the inscription, 'Fire Services Ontario'. The inscription, 'For Long Service the Fire Protection and Prevention Act', appears on the reverse.

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The City of Cambridge is one of the fastest growing areas in the country. It is strategically located astride highway 401 in Southwestern Ontario, part of Canada's Technology Triangle. In 2008, the population reached over 125,000 people. With a multicultural mix and a strong foundation of support services, Cambridge has a diverse economic base with leading industries in manufacturing, automotive, high technology, pharmaceutical, business and financial services and hospitality/retail. The Corporation of the City of Cambridge is an employer with a work environment that offers the opportunity to provide service to the community through creativity and innovation, and with opportunities for career growth and advancement. Based on the 2007 BMA Management Consulting Inc Municipal Study, the City of Cambridge is one of only four municipalities in the province that is debt free.

For more information on the area or the corporation visit www.cambridge.ca
The City of Cambridge press room is located at <http://www.cambridge.ca/article.php?sid=176>
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