



"So those were the good old days eh boys?"

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire Department's come a long way since the days of the hand-pulled hose cart. This photo, taken during Stouffville's Centennial Parade in 1977, kindled a few mem-

ories. The hose-haulers are two former village firefighters, Fred Crossen (left) and Don 'Beanie' Lehman.

Major concern Chemicals a hazard says Chief

A firefighters greatest concern is a blaze involving hazardous materials.

"It can be an overturned tractor-trailer or a derailed tank car. The risk involved is great. We often approach such situations blind," Chief Walter Smith explained, "not knowing the content of the container."

With respect to a tanker truck, the weigh bill in the cab describes the kind of load carried, brigade captain Bill Brown said. If the driver's not injured, he can identify the contents also. Problem is, if a fire has erupted, the weigh bill is usually des-

troyed and the driver may be dead or in hospital. This leaves the firefighter facing an "unknown."

"Water is the best coolant available," Capt. Brown said. The Stouffville brigade also carries foam that comes in handy under certain situations.

Stouffville firemen have attended several accidents of this kind, Chief Smith said. One occurred recently on Woodbine Avenue and another on the Bloomington Road.

Chief Smith noted that "transportation of dangerous goods" was a main topic of discussion at the recent Fire Chiefs

Convention in Vancouver. He said he learned much, both in attending seminars and talking to other department personnel.

Gas-operated barbecues are another potential hazard, Chief Smith stated. "Instead of turning the knob and shutting off the supply, most just run," he said. He advises against inside storage, calling the practice "deadly." "Leave them out in the snow," he concluded, "it won't do them any harm."

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Editor's Mail Appreciate service

Dear Editor:

Almost everyone has a constant awareness of the possibility of fire, and most of us experience some degree of fear that some day we will be victims of injury, property damage and even death because of an uncontrolled blaze.

Those of us who live or work at Parkview Home are no exception in terms of fear of fire. In spite of sophisticated alarm equipment, installed and serviced according to strict Ontario Government regulations; staff who are trained in fire prevention and protection procedures; and an efficient Fire Department in our town, there is always the possibility of a disastrous fire in an institutional setting.

At Parkview, we are sincerely grateful for the protection of our Fire Department and the dedicated men who work with Fire Chief Walter Smith.

In this, Fire Prevention Week, we wish to say a heartfelt "thank you" for the protection offered by the Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire Department to the Residents and Tenants of Parkview.

Sincerely,
J.M. Nighswander,
For everyone
at Parkview Home

Mt. Albert brigade On standby

It costs Whitchurch-Stouffville \$6,304.36 to have the Mount Albert Fire Department retained on standby to protect the Town's northern boundary. The area extends from St. John's Sideroad north to Davis Drive.

In addition to the standby figure, Mount Albert receives an hourly rate for all fires attended.

Fire Chief Walter Smith sees no likelihood of Whitchurch-Stouffville expanding its service until a permanent station is established at Ballantrae-Musselman's Lake. A pumper truck is also required, he says.

"The cost is minimal when one considers the expense involved in additional facilities," Chief Smith

explained. There's no guarantee sufficient volunteers would be available to provide the service, he said. He feels the arrangement is working out well.

The Town's No. 1 and No. 2 Stations respond to all calls

on Faulkner Avenue, north of the Aurora Road. This is because there's no right-of-way through to Hwy. 48 and Mount Albert would have to travel south to Ballantrae then go north on the 7th Concession, (McCowan Road).

All have equal rights

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire Department has 28 firemen, including a chief.

But there are no firewomen. How come?

"I've received no applications," Chief Walter Smith said. "If some applied, I'd give them careful consideration."

He noted that one of Markham's firefighters is a woman.

"She would have to be a special kind of person," Chief Smith admitted, noting that "eating smoke" and hauling hoses are no easy tasks.

He explained, however, that under the Code of Human Rights, firefighters, male or female, have equal status.

Warning is out New laws for public buildings

A revision to the Ontario Fire Code requires all churches and public buildings to be upgraded according to provincial regulations.

The worship area is excluded. Chief Walter Smith has sent notices to several church boards in Town. Municipally-owned buildings are also included such as Community Centres at Vandorf, Lemonville and Stouffville; the Masonic Hall, the Arena and the Museum. In some instances, upgrading will prove costly, Chief Smith said. A two-year extension on the deadline date can be requested.

These, and other requirements, have increased Chief Smith's work load to the point where a second full-time person is required. He or she will serve as a Fire Prevention Officer, completing inspections and other duties. Chief Smith has an individual in mind and plans to include sufficient money in his 1985 budget to cover the cost.

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October

FIRE PRE
WE



Take a few minutes to look over these fire safety tips. This ad might save your life.

<p>FEEL DOORS FOR HEAT Feel the door as high as you can reach. If it's warm use an alternate escape route.</p>	<p>SMOKE DETECTORS Install smoke detectors on every level of your home including the basement and garage.</p>
<p>USING FIRE EXTINGUISHER I know exactly how each type of extinguisher should be used, and what types work for all levels types of fires.</p>	<p>MEETING PLACE OUTSIDE Choose a place outdoors for everyone to meet for roll call and don't go back inside for anything until the fire is completely out.</p>
<p>KNOW LOCATION OF FIRE EXTINGUISHER</p>	<p>ESCAPE ROUTES Diagram two routes from all rooms to the outside, especially from bedrooms.</p>

Response

What is a satisfactory complement of firefighters for the No. 1 Station (Stouffville); the No. 2 Station (Ballantrae-Musselman's Lake) and who sets the figure?

If the turnout of volunteers is satisfactory and the trucks are properly manned, then the numbers are sufficient, Chief Walter Smith told The Tribune. At present, Station No. 1 has eighteen volunteers and No. 2 Station has nine.

The Fire Chief establishes the enrolment.

The response good, Chief Smith said, at a 4:30 a.m. call in Stouffville showed up.

To be properly manned, Chief Smith said, the trucks and the driver and the Chief Smith's

The No. 1 Station is staffed by the Walter Smith, George Wilson, Brown, Captain Secretary-Tr

THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN
COMMUNITY-MIN

HELP
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