



# Uxbridge Fire Department



## 2020 Annual Report

Township of Uxbridge  
51 Toronto Street South  
Uxbridge, Ontario  
L9P 1T1

Mayor Barton and Members of Council:

It is my privilege to submit the 2020 Annual Report of the Uxbridge Fire Department. As it did for everyone else, 2020 turned out to be year like none other before. At a high level, our call volume resumed the long-term trend to a steady increase after a brief respite in 2019. However, the real story in 2020 was the operational impact that COVID-19 had on our emergency response procedures and training, fire prevention and public education programs. Some major initiatives planned for 2020 were adjusted to accommodate new public health directives or delayed by restrictions to equipment supply chains. Notwithstanding those challenges, our staff continued to deliver excellent programs to our community.

Three firefighters resigned from the Department in 2020, and we wish Stephanie Dovaston, Marcus Strom and Kris Gyivicsan continued success. Coupled with retirements from 2019, these changes required us to undertake a recruitment. That was no mean feat as all our recruitment resources were closed for some or all of 2020. After many delays, we welcomed five excellent recruits in November who will finish their basic training in March 2021.

Although our emergency call volume normalized overall in 2020, the frequency of incidents tended to decrease during periods when health restrictions were highest and rapidly increased when restrictions were eased. Personal protective equipment, specifically acquiring it, became a serious issue beginning in March, when the Provincial Government cancelled all orders for PPE and redirected supplies to the health care sector. While many products are now available again, N95 masks were still not available through the end of the year.

Regrettably, the Township suffered a fire death in May at an apartment fire on Perry Street. One resident of the unit who was rescued by firefighters later succumbed to their injuries. Quick action by firefighters contained the fire in a single unit and no other residents were displaced despite the tragic circumstances.

Our ability to deliver in-person public education programs was completely stifled in 2020. Beginning in March, our Fire Station was closed to the public and access to schools was severely limited. We maintained our print, radio, and social media presentations, but these mostly took a backseat to COVID-19 messaging. In December, the Department again partnered with 105.5 Hits FM for the Twelve Days of Christmas Fire Safety initiative. We ended the year preparing for virtual meetings with school classes as they remain closed to in-person visits.

Like every other Township Department, the Fire Department was faced with layoffs in administrative and fire prevention staff in response to the pandemic. Routine inspections were set aside as many occupancies were closed because of Public Health orders. Despite this, there was an increased demand for inspections related to the temporary licensed patio program, and occupancy and fire safety plan approvals for schools and emergency day care centres. Requests for open burning permits also increased. Because of reduced access to municipal facilities permits were only available in person at the fire station from March until year end. This gave us a chance to evaluate our permitting processes, ensure that all applications were compliant and roll-out an on-line permitting program in December for 2021 permits.

In April, in-person training abruptly stopped with the Provincial and Municipal Declaration of Emergency. By the end of May we were up and running with our training programs available on-line. For Q2 and Q3, we had reverted to practical crew training within the recommended health guidelines. Similarly, we were able to conclude our recruitment and the recruit class began training in small groups.

The Township completed the annual Emergency Preparedness compliance requirements in 2020, with the exception that the Provincial government granted an exemption from the required annual emergency exercise. In lieu of the exercise, the Province deemed the actual COVID-19 Emergency Declaration and Township response represented a facsimile of an emergency exercise.

2021 is poised to present continuing challenges as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. We have been fortunate to be able to adjust our programs and deliver valuable fire protective services to the community without interruption during this difficult time. As always, I am grateful for the dedication and professionalism of our staff, and the support from Municipal Council.

Stay safe!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Phil Alexander".

Phil Alexander  
Fire Chief/CEMC

## ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

The offices of the Uxbridge Fire Department are located at the new Fire Station location at 301 Brock Street West. Business hours for the administration are 08:30 to 16:30, Monday to Friday. From this location, you can obtain fire permits (including oversize), display fireworks permits and guidance on approvals for Special Occasion Liquor Permits and Fire Code compliance. In 2020, a total of 1583 burning permits were issued; 25 times during the year charges resulted from incidents involving burning outside the guidelines of the permit or burning with no permit at all. Once a permit has been issued, applicants are required to check the automated permission line each day before burning. An open burning ban was in place from March 27 through to May 4. The burning restriction was primarily to reflect changes that had to be made to response protocols and the closure of municipal facilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## FIRE PERMITS ISSUED

	Oversize	Open Air	Recreational	TOTAL
<b>2020</b>	53	603	927	1583
<b>2019</b>	51	594	640	1285
<b>2018</b>	54	570	659	1283
<b>2017</b>	58	541	577	1176
<b>2016</b>	57	516	515	1088
<b>2015</b>	54	520	451	1025

## NEW INITIATIVES

The Fire Department is always looking for new ways to engage our community in our prime messaging around the importance of smoke alarms and fire escape planning. In 2020, this necessity was thrust upon us by the Public Health guidance and Provincial Orders associated with the declared pandemic emergency. In late December, we soft-launched our new on-line open burning permit application process. Open Burning Permits and Recreational Fire Permits are no longer issued at the Municipal Offices or the Library branches.



Our Fire Prevention Officers were kept busy updating fire safety plans for vulnerable occupancies and schools which had numerous changes to their own governance during the school year. We were able to conduct some reviews virtually. Our FPOs also worked closely with Building and By-law inspectors to expedite new approvals for restaurants wishing to open patio space approved in the Provincial Orders

Large scale public events, such as the Uxbridge Fall Fair, Canada Day and our station Open House were curtailed for the whole year, and so our Public Education programs for schools went on-line. Similarly, our internal meetings and training programs were at times cancelled, on-line, or conducted in very small groups. This has provided an opportunity to review our processes and offer greater flexibility for conducting training. During the height of the pandemic restrictions, we were able to safely on-board five new recruit firefighters. We are grateful for the determination and diligence of all our staff to accomplish this under difficult circumstances.

In July, Council and staff participated in a training session on the Township's Emergency Plan and the role of Council and the Municipal Control Group during a declared emergency. Planning continued throughout the year for a major interjurisdictional emergency exercise in February 2021, however, due to the actual declared public health emergency, the exercise planning has been postponed and is not expected to proceed until 2022. The Township, like many other municipalities applied to the Province for, and was granted an exemption for the required annual emergency exercise in 2020.



Sadly, the community suffered our first fire death in many years during a residential fire in May. Every such death is preventable but this situation in particular underlines the importance of home escape planning and fire drills, as the victim was safely out of the residence and went inside to try and deal with the fire. Fire crews quickly located the victim and transferred them to EMS, however, they later succumbed to their injuries in hospital.

In August, The Region of Durham announced that it had concluded the review of the Emily Project and would be entering into funding agreements with the 8 local municipal governments to proceed with the implementation. Rural property owners can now register with the Development Services department to have an address assigned to property access points which are not a primary access point for their residence or business.



Although there were no major apparatus purchases in 2020, we did complete the procurement of our 2019 rescue truck with the sale of its' 2001 predecessor to the Northern Bight Fire Department of Random Sound West, NFLD.

## **FIREFIGHTING DIVISION**

In 2020, Uxbridge Fire Department responded to 346 incidents; an increase of 4.1% from 2019. Included in the total responses were 15 incidents into the Township of Scugog fire protection agreement area or for Mutual Aid. An additional 39 incidents in Uxbridge Township were attended to in the Fire Protection areas serviced by the Whitchurch-Stouffville and East Gwillimbury Fire Departments.

Eight (8) structure fires resulted in an estimated fire loss for 2020 of \$1,791,001. There were three (3) fire related injuries and one fatality recorded in 2020. Further, six (6) vehicle fires contributed to a loss of \$110,000.

During the course of the year there were 75 motor vehicle incidents of which six (6) involved significant patient extrications; the remainder required investigation to contain fluid spills or eliminate fire hazards associated with damaged vehicles. There was only one (1) trail rescue incident.

In 2020, 326\* Uxbridge incidents recorded the following:

Average personnel on scene:	8 firefighters
Average personnel responding:	16 firefighters
Average turnout time: (includes 9-1-1 call transfer to Oshawa Dispatch then acknowledged by UFD)	4 min 00 sec
Average travel time:	6 min 40 sec
Average response time: (from Dispatch receiving the call to FD arriving on location)	10 min 34 sec

\*Administration and cancelled incidents are not included in the above.

### **Fire Department Responses in Each Electoral Ward**

Ward 1	141**
Ward 2	77**
Ward 3	43
Ward 4	72
Ward 5	32

\*\*includes Whitchurch-Stouffville and East Gwillimbury responses



## RESIGNATIONS AND RECRUITMENT

Three newer members of our Department resigned in 2020 to pursue other commitments. We thank all three for their contribution to the Department in the time they were with us.



Firefighter Kris Gyivicsan resigned July 1, 2020.

Kris joined the Department March 6, 2018 and was in the process of completing the Second Class Firefighter examinations.



Firefighter Stephanie Dovaston resigned May 10, 2020.

Stephanie joined the Department July 4, 2017 and successfully completed her Second Class Firefighter examinations in July 2019, prior to requesting a leave of absence in September 2019.



Firefighter Marcus Strom resigned April 26, 2020.

Marcus joined the Department July 4, 2017 and successfully completed his Second Class Firefighter exams in July 2019.

## 2020 FIREFIGHTER RECRUITMENT

After a few delays in the recruitment process, while the Department adjusted to the changing Provincial Orders and Public Health guidance, we were able to complete the recruitment process which began in March. On November 3, all five recruits commenced the basic training program scheduled for completion in March 2021. We are pleased to welcome Mitchel Ferraro, Clinton Harper, Luke Hurlburt, Mikaela MacDonald, and Kevin Marden.



Fire Recruits (L to R) Luke Hurlburt, Clinton Harper and Mikaela MacDonald

## TRAINING DIVISION

The Uxbridge Fire Department is committed to providing high-quality services through development of technical skills and knowledge in the realm of fire protection. The Uxbridge Fire Department accomplishes this by providing training firefighters to perform specific tasks and functions as well as regular ongoing in-service training to maintain knowledge, skills, and abilities.

This past year obviously presented additional challenges to fire department training, which traditionally is very hands-on and relies on close personal contact. However, the Uxbridge Fire Department improvised and innovated to overcome these challenges with minimal impact to quality of training, and in some cases, created new opportunities to provide higher quality training moving forward.

While health and safety is always the primary concern during fire department training, COVID-19 presented a series of new challenges that required solutions. Although these challenges were thrust at our department suddenly, the Uxbridge Fire Department maintained training throughout the 2020 without interruption.

### Phase 1 – Theory Review

During the initial lockdown, very little information was available regarding transmission or safety precautions. Traditional in-person training sessions were cancelled and training resources were redeployed to support self-study of firefighting theory. While this is traditionally reviewed through in-person lectures over the course of an approximately 3-year training cycle, the training cycle was quickly reorganized, and firefighters spent this initial three months reviewing theory in a condensed manner.

This was completed by prioritizing and releasing the Uxbridge Fire Department Training Manual, which supplements international training manuals with information specific to Uxbridge Fire Department. While this manual was envisioned as a resource for recruit firefighters, releasing it to all personnel provided an opportunity for all staff to review a standardized curriculum, as well as provide comments and feedback for improvement. Verification was completed through a series of quizzes, which also provided critical feedback of the corresponding test bank which is being used for recruit and classification exams.



*The Uxbridge Fire Department Recruit Manual provides Uxbridge specific information that Uxbridge firefighters require to operate at peak safety and effectiveness. It supplements international fire service training manuals.*

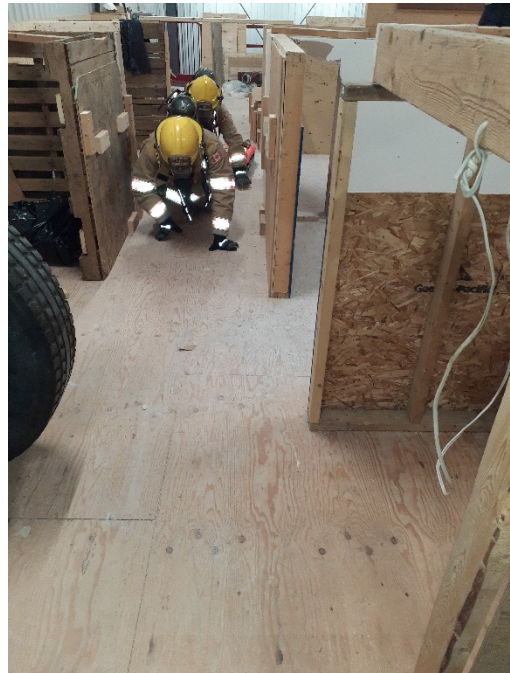


## Phase 2 – Individual Skills and Small Unit Drills

In Quarter 3, we transitioned to Phase 2, which involved concentrated individual and company level drills. The training calendar was reorganized into nightly drills, with each crew training on a different night of the week, reducing class sizes from approximately 40 to an average of 7. This reduction in group size formed a foundation of our risk management for training, along with additional precautions such as mandatory masks, disinfection, and physical distancing.

With the theory already reviewed, this allowed for intensified practical training sessions on topics such as hose deployment, ladder deployment, and rapid donning of personal protective equipment. As an added benefit, this also presented firefighters with the ability to “makeup” training on another night, which actually led to an improvement in training attendance in 2020.

At this time we remain in Phase 2. Since individual skills and small unit drills comprise the majority of our training, this phase can continue for the medium term without affecting the long-term training needs of the department. In addition, alternative methods of delivering theory have been investigated, and the division has had success using technology to deliver presentations, which will allow training sessions to be facilitated remotely should the need occur in the future.



*Once safe to do so, the department switched to individual skills practice and small unit drills, working within provincial group size restrictions. Pictured above is two firefighters performing a search and rescue drill in the department's new training area.*

## Phase 3 – Multi-company Drills and Exercises

Phase 3 is the final phase in the Training Division's response. Ultimately, the services that the fire department require more than just skilled individuals; it requires skilled individuals working as a team in close coordination with each other. This component of our training programs is how we develop and maintain that teamwork and coordination, as well as test our systems such as Standard Operating Procedures.

From a risk management position, it was not possible to safely conduct these types of training sessions in 2020 as these types of training sessions require group sizes ranging from 15 – 40 personnel, and often involve local high occupancy facilities.

Until these sessions can be completed again, additional emphasis is being placed on reviewing performance and outcomes during emergency incidents to reinforce excellent performance and ensure that teamwork and coordination is not suffering. However, once

it is safe to do so, a series of multi-company drills and joint exercises will be conducted before returning to our normal training cycle.

## **QUALIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION**

### Recruit Firefighter Program

The Recruit Firefighter Program is designed to prepare new firefighters to serve the Township of Uxbridge as a front-line suppression firefighter. The training program is based on NFPA 1001 requirements. Firefighters may enter the program with previous certification or attend the Eastern Ontario Emergency Services Training Academy in Norwood, Ontario to become certified to NFPA 1001 Firefighter Level I and II.

In addition to training in fire suppression and search and rescue, recruits are trained in:

- Auto extrication operations
- Firefighter survival and rapid intervention
- Emergency first aid, CPR, defibrillation and naloxone administration
- Ice/water rescue awareness

Following completion on the Recruit Firefighter Program, recruits are classified as Firefighter 4<sup>th</sup> class and participate in annual testing and evaluation, comprised of a written exam, practical exam, and interview. In 2020, the following activities were conducted under the Recruit Program:

- (5) firefighters were hired and began their recruit training (completion in 2021)
- (4) firefighters were promoted from Firefighter 3<sup>rd</sup> Class to Firefighter 2<sup>nd</sup> Class
- (4) firefighters were promoted from Firefighter 2<sup>nd</sup> Class to Firefighter 1<sup>st</sup> Class

### Ice/Water Rescue Program

The Ice/Water Rescue Program is designed to train firefighters to respond to emergencies involving bodies of open water and ice. The program is based on NFPA 1006 requirements and teaches standardized tactics using Uxbridge Fire Department equipment and resources.

Following graduation from the Ice/Water Rescue Course, firefighters are qualified to respond as “GO” rescuers and enter into open bodies of water or onto ice for the purposes of conducting a rescue.



*Two Uxbridge Firefighters familiarize with Ice/Water Rescue Immersion Suits in confined water while other firefighters standby to assist them if needed*

Unfortunately, Ice/Water Rescue training fell during the initial lockdown and was not able to be safely completed due to the narrow weather conditions that permit realistic ice/water rescue training. Additional training was conducted in 2021 to account for this.

### Emergency Vehicle Operator Program

The Emergency Vehicle Operator Program qualifies firefighters to drive Uxbridge Fire Department fire apparatus and operate all fixed onboard equipment, including generators, scene lighting equipment and fire pumps. The program follows NFPA 1002 Driver/Operator recommendations, as well recommendations made by the Ontario Fire Service Health and Safety Advisory Committee under Section 21 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act.



*Firefighters receive extensive training on the apparatus before they are qualified to drive an apparatus or operate its fixed systems.*

In 2019 the program was revised to reflect recent and future changes to the department's fleet of apparatus. The program is now divided into four qualification levels:

- EVO I – Rescue apparatus. This level qualifies firefighters to drive department apparatus and vehicles under emergency conditions, as well as begin building emergency driving experience on the smallest and lightest emergency vehicles in the fleet. Two EVO I Classes were conducted in 2020, which will lead to nine newly qualified rescue driver/operators.
- EVO II – Pumpers. This level qualifies firefighters to drive the single-rear axle pumpers. It also qualifies firefighters to operate the fire pumps and supply the proper amount and pressure of water to firefighters attacking the fire or defending exposed structures. One EVO II Class was conducted in 2020, which will lead to five newly qualified pump driver/operators.
- EVO III – Tankers. This level qualifies firefighters to drive mobile water supply apparatus, also known as “tankers.” Tankers are used to provide a reliable source of water at fires in non-hydrant, rural areas of the township. Because of their large on-board water tanks, they are much larger and heavier apparatus, and often operate remotely from the incident under indirect supervision, requiring more experienced drivers with additional training.
- EVO IV – Reserved. This level is reserved for future fleet changes, such as replacing an existing pumper with an elevated device.

## Ontario Fire College

In 2020 the central Gravenhurst facility of the Ontario Fire College (OFC) was closed to in-person learning, and subsequently closed permanently. Instead, a network of Regional Training Centres, operated by municipalities, has been established working under a framework determined by the province. OFC equipment has been packaged into trailers and OFC instructors are now providing oversight and administration of OFC programs throughout the RTC network. At this time, the details surrounding logistics and administration of those resources is still under development.

The Eastern Ontario Emergency Training Academy (EOETA) in Norwood continues to operate much the same as it has in the past, with very little impact to our operations. EOETA has structured its courses around nights and weekends, which is well suited to the schedule of part-time firefighters, especially on lengthy courses such as the Firefighter certification courses which requires several weeks to complete.



*Firefighters participating in a NFPA 1072 Hazardous Materials Operations training session at EOETA.*

To fill the void that the Gravenhurst facility closure has created, the eight fire services in Durham Region have established a joint-RTC, administered through the Whitby Fire & Emergency Services. This setup allows any fire service in Durham Region to host an OFC certification course at their local facilities, using local instructors. The Training Division is currently working with the Durham Region Training Officers Association to develop a pool of qualified instructors to deliver the courses and forecast certification needs to ensure that sufficient courses are being run to meet the needs of the eight fire services.

While this does create the potential to increase the availability of training and reduce wait-listing of firefighters, it comes at a significant financial impact to the division. Previously the cost to attend a training course was a \$65 provincial administration fee, which included meals and accommodation at the Gravenhurst facility; under this new system, firefighters will be required to travel to the hosting facility daily and, in addition to the \$65 provincial fee, the cost of the delivering the course will now be borne by the hosting department, or passed on in the form of additional course fees which can range from \$400-\$900 per week depending on the nature of the course.

The Ontario Association of Fire Training Officers (OAFTO) is continuing to liaise between training divisions and the Ontario Fire College to identify and address emerging issues created by the closure of the Gravenhurst facility.

## **IN-SERVICE TRAINING SESSIONS**

### Emergency First Responder (EFR) Medical Training

Administered by the Central East Prehospital Care Program (CEPCP), the EFR Program consists of Continuing Medical Education (CME), annual certification in CPR and Semi Automated External Defibrillation, and Quality Assurance. The majority of medical training in 2020 consisted of recertification of CPR and first aid, as well as safety precautions for providing medical care to COVID positive patients.

Facing the same challenges as our training division, the CEPCP worked in coordination with various fire departments to adjust training delivery to meet the circumstances. This included implementation of an online Learning Management System (LMS) to supplement in-person learning where firefighters can review medical directives, training videos, and presentations online at any time. This will greatly improve access to CEPCP medical training resources for our firefighters and ensure that they always have personal access to the most current medical directives and will serve to reduce the amount of in-person training during the duration of the pandemic.

## **PUBLIC EDUCATION DIVISION**

The Uxbridge Fire Department continues a dedicated approach to Public Fire & Life Safety Education. In 2020, we experienced a decline in community interaction due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Using all media forms, virtual communication, and limited social distanced interaction, we continued to deliver important fire and life safety messaging.



## **RADIO INTERVIEWS**

Fire safety interviews with Dan Pollard on 105.5 Hits FM proved to be essential in 2020. Radio interviews were conducted throughout the year with Chief Alexander and Captain Clark covering topics such as cooking safety, outdoor burning, home hazard inspections, Smoke and CO alarms, and home fire escape planning. Chief Alexander also explained the precautions the Fire Department was taking to deliver emergency services during the pandemic. A “Twelve days of Christmas” campaign was continued for a third year. The Uxbridge Fire Department partnered with the Scugog Fire Department. Listeners were given a fire safety tip each day which they had to call in and repeat to win a prize. Prizes were supplied by the Fire Marshal’s Public Fire Safety Council.



## LEARN NOT TO BURN

In 2020, the “Learn Not to Burn” Fire and Life Safety school program was delivered in the first quarter prior to March break. Fire safety lesson plans were delivered to students from JK to grade 8 and scheduled to be delivered to all seven public schools in Uxbridge. Unfortunately, with the COVID 19 pandemic, we were not able to present in-person education sessions for the remainder of 2020. This was overcome by participating in virtual Google Classroom sessions. A grade 3 class from Quaker Village P.S. emailed drawings of inventions they created to assist firefighters with wild land fires. The class was rewarded with a virtual fire truck tour. Other virtual lessons included home fire escape planning with a question-and-answer portion. Scheduling the virtual sessions with all seven schools is an ongoing process. It is understood that this method of delivering our fire and life safety lessons will be the most efficient way to do so for the foreseeable future.

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK – “Serve up fire safety in the kitchen”



This year’s topic for Fire Prevention week was “Serve up fire safety in the kitchen”. An added effort was put forward during the week to influence families to monitor their cooking and stay in the kitchen. Unattended cooking remains the number one cause of house fires in Ontario. The Uxbridge Fire Department participated in an initiative from the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs. The OAFCA provided promotional items for children and smoke alarms to hand out from First Alert.

## MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

Newspaper articles were published to support initiatives and messages throughout the year. A Fire and Life Safety section was added to the new township website. A link to fire safety information and printable information sheets was added. The importance of working smoke and CO alarms, and home fire escape planning remain key messages we deliver to all demographics. Annual Public Education training is delivered to all Uxbridge Firefighters. Training prepares Firefighters to answer common fire safety questions from the public. The Firefighters are also instructed to direct residents to the website to review this information.

## REUSABLE SHOPPING BAGS

The Uxbridge Fire Department partnered with MARC Advertising and local businesses to provide reusable shopping bags with fire safety messaging on it. The bags were handed out at the local grocery stores. This gave firefighters the opportunity to explain the importance of maintaining working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and answered questions and concerns from the general public.

## **FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION**

The year 2020 started out as a normal year but by mid-March the outbreak of COVID-19 started to ripple across the province and impacted fire prevention initiatives immensely, as schools, business and factories shutdown, fire prevention staff began to change its focus and priorities to continue to address community fire safety needs.

### **GENERAL INSPECTIONS**

During the shutdown of local businesses, personal services, and factories, the fire prevention staff limited all inspections to only inspections by complaint and/or by request. General inspections resumed when these occupancies were allowed to re-open with staff adhering to strict safety precautions during these inspections.

### **MULTI-UNIT RESIDENTIAL OCCUPANCIES**

In 2020, the fire prevention division began to inspect multi-unit residential buildings but halted these inspections in the middle of March due to the pandemic. After careful consideration it was decided to continue inspections of these occupancies but limited them to reviewing all fire and life safety equipment servicing documentation and inspecting common areas of the building for fire hazards. No inspections of individual apartment units were conducted.

### **DAYCARES**

During the early stages of the pandemic daycares were asked to make available childcare services for front line shift workers which would include overnight accommodations for children in their care. With limited time, prevention staff completed multiple inspections of these occupancies, reviewed and approved changes to their fire safety plans as needed, and assisted in the training of staff to carry-out their required duties as outlined in their Fire Safety Plan.

### **SCHOOLS**

As schools started to plan for the return of students to in class learning, it was determined by school staff that with social distancing requirements, reduction of supervisory staff, and in some locations the closing of portions of buildings may affect the safe evacuation of students from the buildings.

The fire prevention staff, working closely with school staff, reviewed fire drill evacuations routes, reviewed and approved changes to their fire safety plans, and fire prevention staff also attended schools to observe fire drills to confirm evacuations of the schools could be completed in a safe and efficient manner.



## **RESTAURANTS AND PATIOS**

As restaurants were able to re-open with limited occupant loads, the fire prevention staff, working closely with township building officials, inspected, reviewed, and approved restaurants that wished to extend their outside patios. These inspections included inspections of tents, occupant load calculations, exit requirements and in some cases, issuing of liquor license for some of these businesses.

## **VULNERABLE OCCUPANCIES**

During the pandemic, these occupancies were still required to conduct an evacuation drill and have their buildings inspected as required by the Fire Marshal's directive. Out of the five vulnerable occupancies located in our Township, fire prevention staff were able to conduct evacuation drills and inspections in person in four of these occupancies. Due to an outbreak in one facility, fire prevention staff were able to conduct an evacuation drill virtually and conducted an inspection of the building in the same manner. The fire department is pleased to say that all of our vulnerable occupancies completed and passed their mandatory evacuation drills, and no Ontario Fire Code violations were found during the inspection of these buildings.

## **OTHER DUTIES**

- Building Plan Reviews
- Committee of Adjustment Reviews
- Burning complaints
- Administration Call (Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Checks)
- Fire Investigations

The fire prevention staff will continue to focus on the community needs and circumstances to provide assistance to all of our residents and visitors to make our Township a fire safe community.

## FIRE PREVENTION

Inspection By Occupancy Type	Number
Assembly	21
Institutional ( including Schools )	33
Residential ( including Multi-unit )	16
Mercantile, Business & Professional Services	104
Industrial	12
Re-Inspections / Follow-up	42
Business License ( including Chip Trucks)	10
Incident Follow-up	6
Requests / Complaints	14
Occupant Load	29
Customer Service / Consultations	93
<b>Total</b>	<b>380</b>

New Construction & C.O.A	Number
Plan Reviews	14
Committee Of Adjustments	26
New Building Construction Inspections	21
New Building Construction Final Inspections	6
Pre-Construction Meetings	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>

Other Duties	Number
Oversized Fire Permits / Fireworks Permits ( Inspections )	52
Fire Safety Plan Reviews	68
Fire Drills	30
Burning Complaints	13
Administration Calls ( Carbon Monoxide and Alarms Ringing )	31
Lawyers Request for File Search	14
Fire Investigations	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>215</b>

Enforcement	Number
Part One Tickets Issued	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

## MECHANICAL DIVISION

Our Mechanical Officer is responsible for maintaining our equipment in operational condition. In addition to the individual trip-checks that each vehicle movement requires, our staff complete weekly inspections and operational checks on all our apparatus and the individual pieces of equipment that each carry – everything from the main fire pumps to defibrillators. Repairs are completed in-house, in the Township mechanical facility or by external service providers as the situation warrants. All our fire hose is pressure tested annually in-house. In 2020, our self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and ground ladders completed annual third-party verification. The apparatus also completed their regular service and maintenance checks, annual commercial vehicle safety inspections, and rust proofing treatments.

In the 2020 capital budget program, Council approved the replacement of all our SCBA. Although our SCBA is kept in good repair and tested annually, many of the units were too old to be upgraded to current safety standards and it was determined that that complete replacement was the most sensible option. A committee was established to prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP) document. Three proponents submitted proposals and were invited to participate in presentations and firefighter wear tests. The successful proponent will deliver the units and provide the necessary training for switchover in Q1 2021.

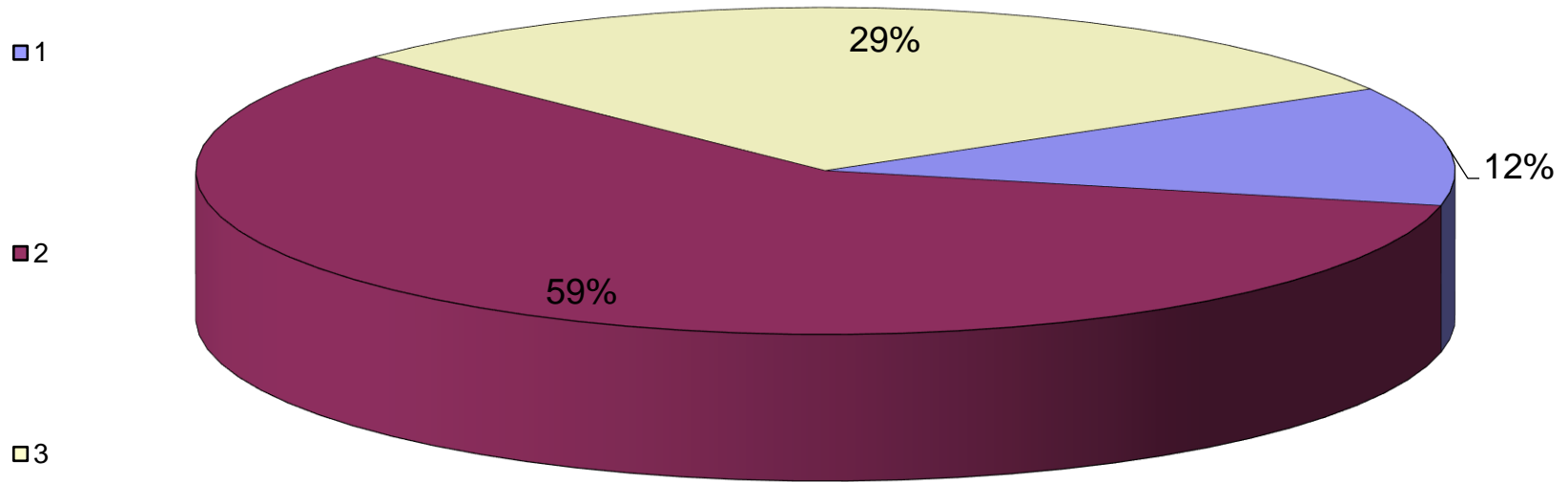
The new rescue truck received just in time for the 2019 Santa Claus Parade was placed in service in January after initial driver/operator orientation was completed. As mentioned earlier, the rescue truck it replaced was sold to Northern Bight Fire Department, a task made more difficult by inter-provincial travel restrictions. Plant closures and international restrictions due to COVID-19 also delayed the delivery of the new command car ordered in 2019. This unit was ordered with an emergency services specification to expedite the outfitting with emergency lights and radio equipment. It is also the Township's first foray into hybrid vehicles.



Rescue 79

Car 71

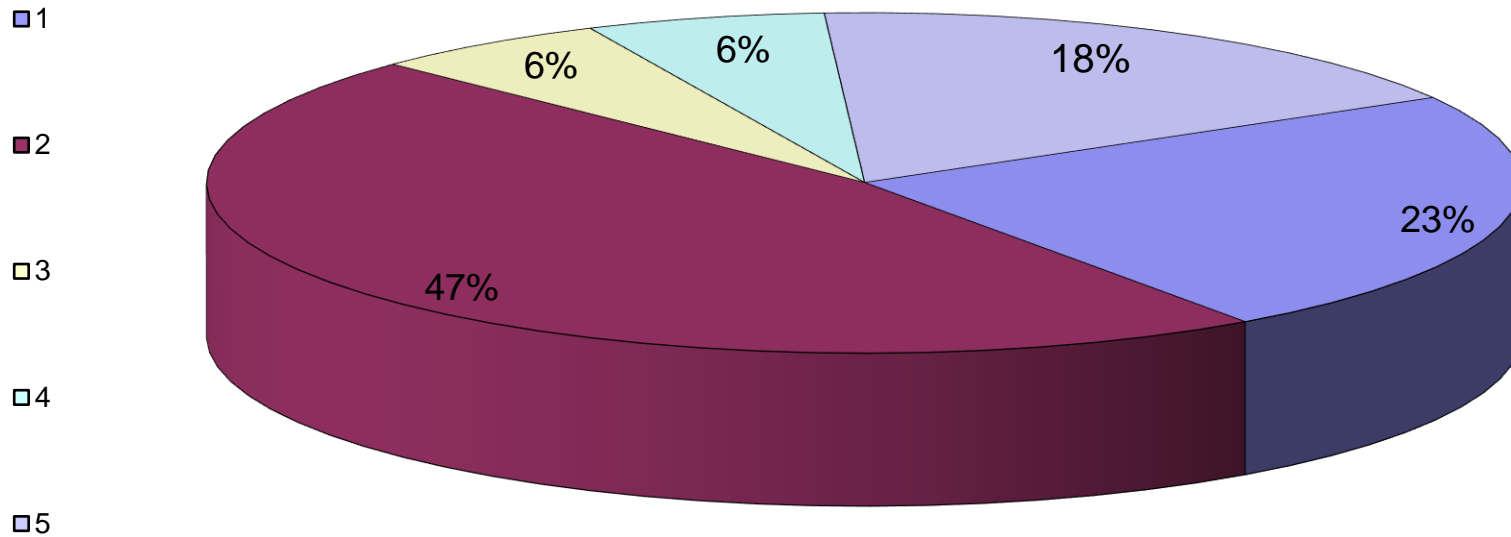
**2020  
EAST GWILLIMBURY EMERGENCY SERVICES  
OCCURRENCE BREAKDOWN BY TIME**



<u>Legend #</u>	<u>TIME PERIODS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1	#1 00:01 hrs to 08:00 hrs	2
2	#2 08:01 hrs to 16:00 hrs	10
3	#3 16:01 hrs to 00:00 hrs	5

**EAST GWILLIMBURY EMERGENCY SERVICES RESPONDED TO A TOTAL OF 17 CALLS IN UXBRIDGE TOWNSHIP IN 2020**

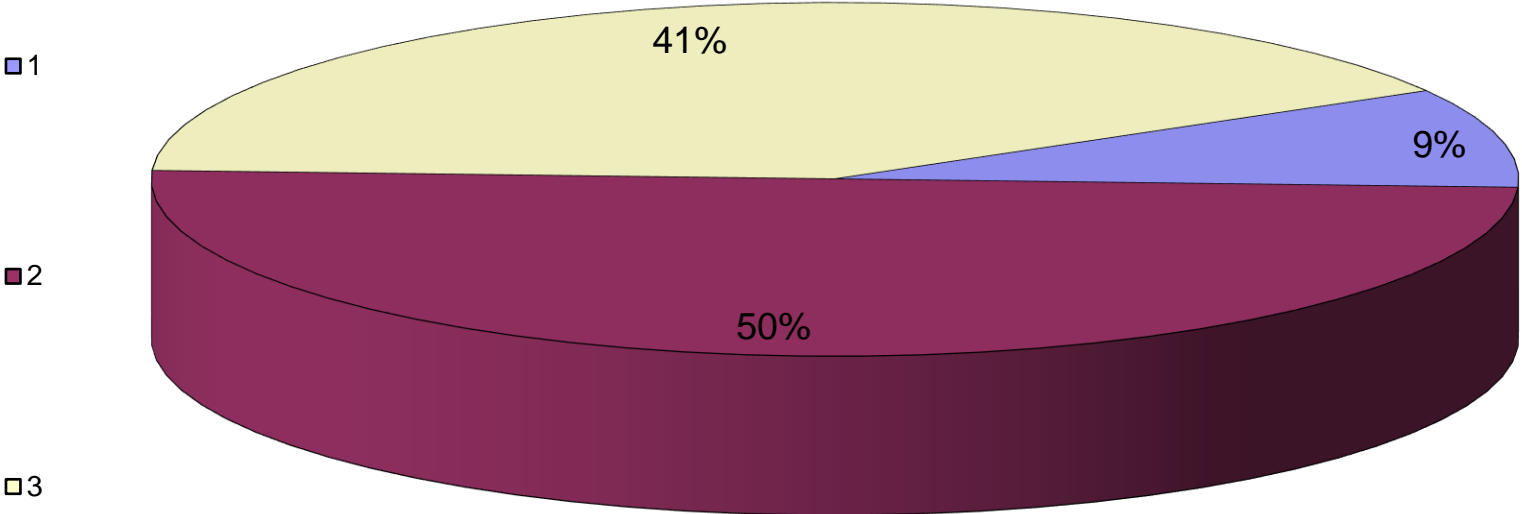
**2020  
EAST GWILLIMBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT  
OCCURRENCE BREAKDOWN BY TYPE**



<u>Legend #</u>	<u>RESPONSE TYPE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1	MVC	4
2	FIRE	8
3	ALARMS	1
4	MEDICAL	1
5	OTHER	3

**EAST GWILLIMBURY EMERGENCY SERVICES  
RESPONDED TO A TOTAL OF 17 CALLS  
IN UXBRIDGE TOWNSHIP IN 2020**

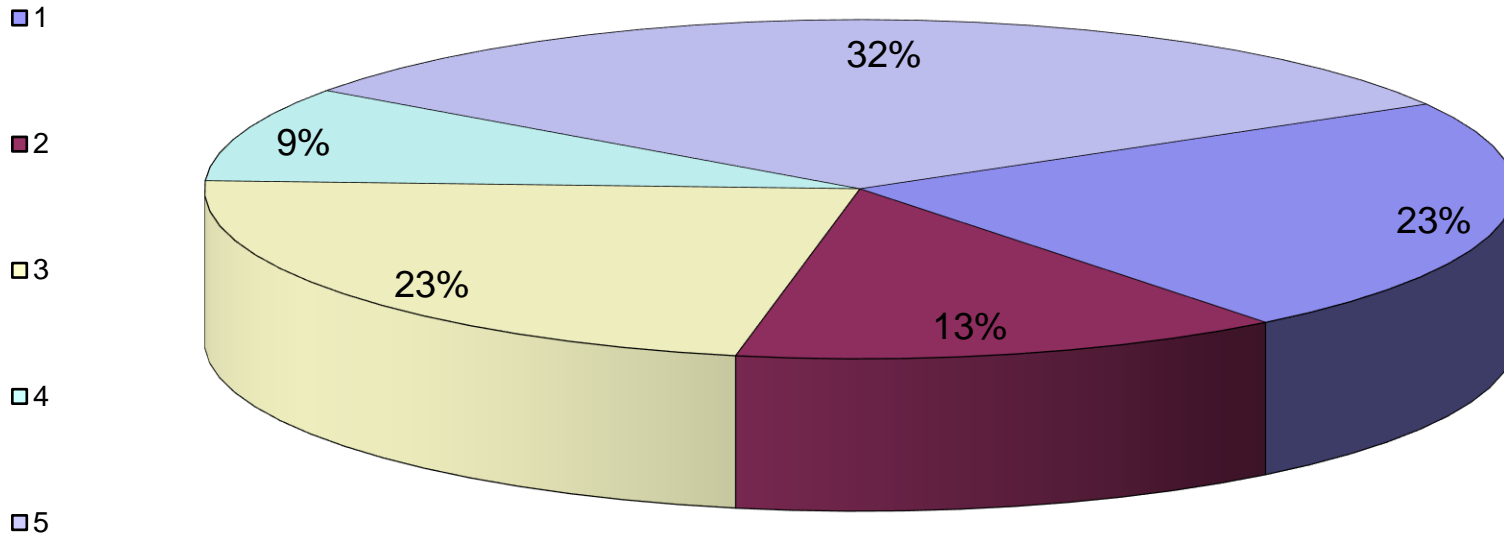
**2020  
WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES  
OCCURRENCE BREAKDOWN BY TIME**



<u>Legend #</u>	<u>TIME PERIODS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1	#1 00:01 hrs to 08:00 hrs	2
2	#2 08:01 hrs to 16:00 hrs	11
3	#3 16:01 hrs to 00:00 hrs	9

**WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE FIRE AND EMG SERVICES RESPONDED TO A TOTAL OF 22 CALLS IN UXBRIDGE TOWNSHIP IN 2020**

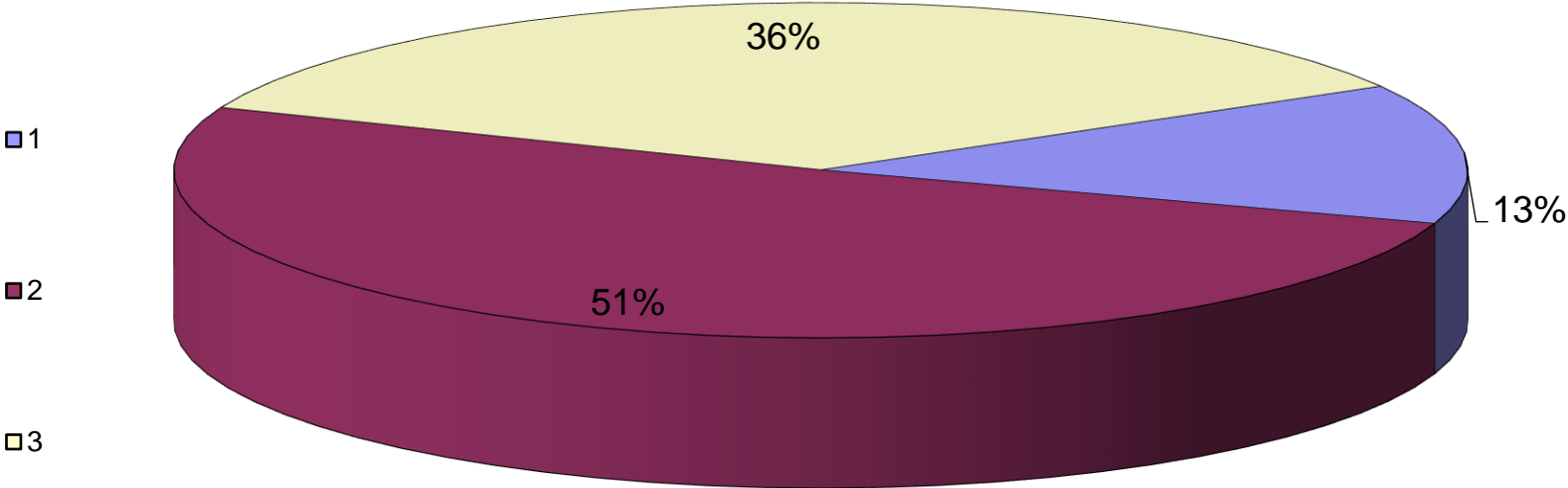
**2020**  
**WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES**  
**OCCURRENCE BREAKDOWN BY TYPE**



<u>Legend #</u>	<u>RESPONSE TYPE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1	MVC	5
2	FIRE	3
3	ALARMS	5
4	MEDICAL	2
5	OTHER	7

**WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE FIRE AND EMG. SERVICES  
 RESPONDED TO A TOTAL OF 22 CALLS  
 IN UXBRIDGE TOWNSHIP IN 2020**

**2020  
UXBRIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
ANNUAL OCCURRENCE BREAKDOWN BY TIME**

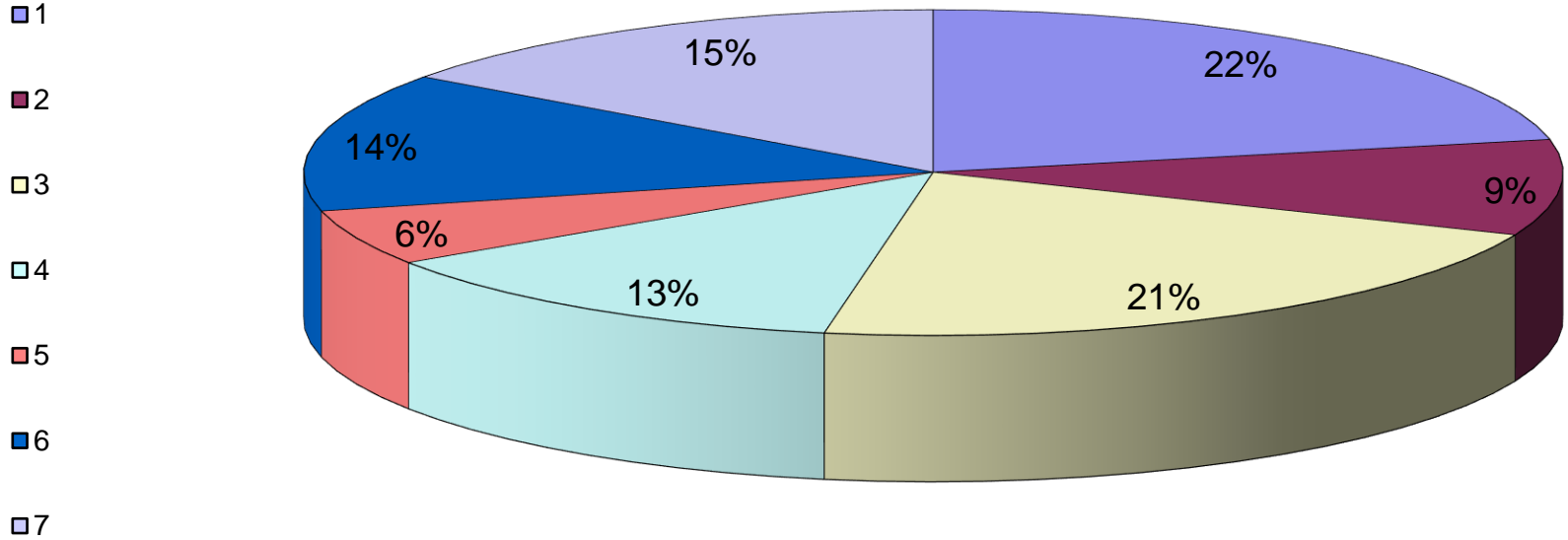


<u>Legend #</u>	<u>TIME PERIODS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1	#1 00:01 hrs to 08:00 hrs	44
2	#2 08:01 hrs to 16:00 hrs	166
3	#3 16:01hrs to 00:00 hrs	116

**UXBRIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONDED TO A TOTAL OF 326 CALLS  
IN UXBRIDGE TOWNSHIP IN 2020**



# 2020 UXBRIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT OCCURRENCE BREAKDOWN BY TYPE

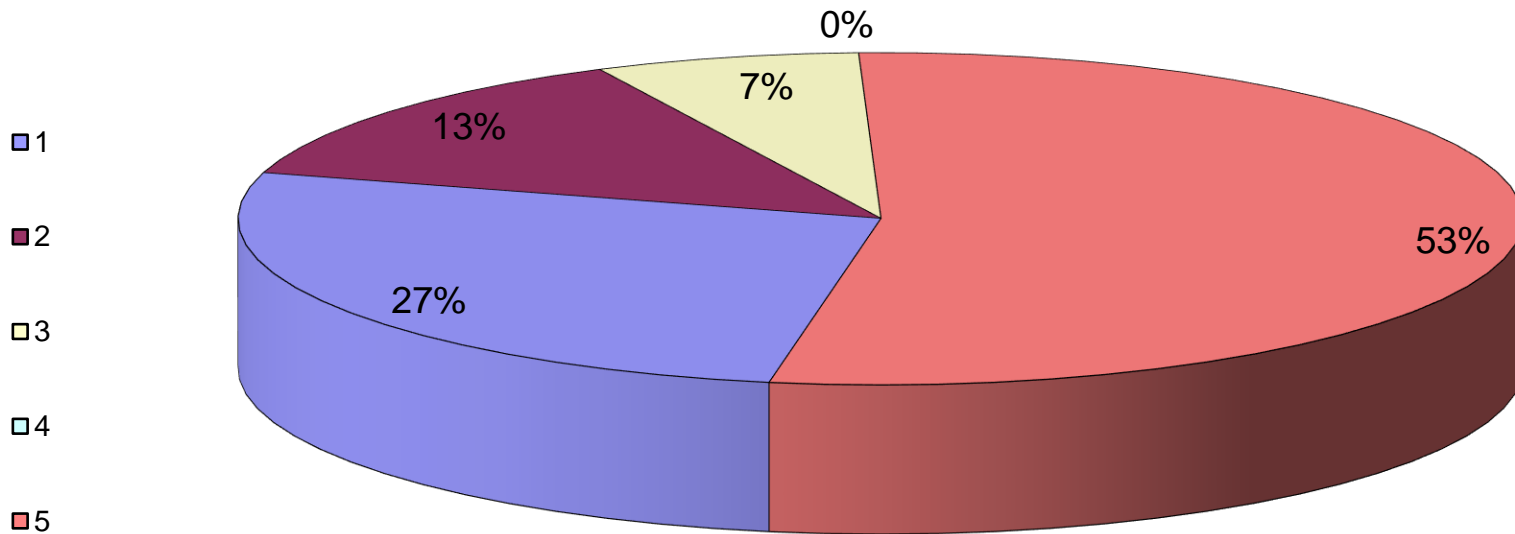


Legend #	RESPONSE TYPE	TOTAL
1	MVC	71
2	FIRE	31
3	ALARMS	70
4	MEDICAL	42
5	PRE-FIRE	18
6	PUBLIC HAZARD	45
7	OTHER*	49

**UXBRIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
RESPONDED TO A TOTAL OF 326 CALLS  
IN UXBRIDGE TOWNSHIP IN 2020**

\*OTHER includes: Burning Complaint, Lift Assist  
Public Service, Trail Rescue

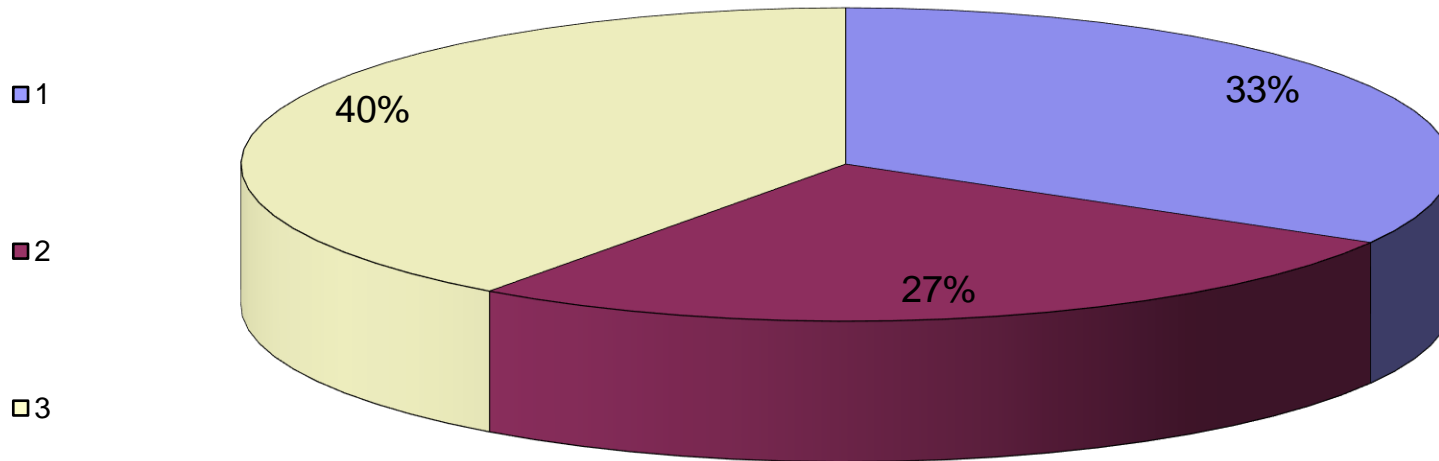
**2020**  
**UXBRIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**CALLS WITHIN RESPONSE AGREEMENT - UXBRIDGE AND SCUGOG**  
**ANNUAL OCCURRENCE BREAKDOWN OF RESPONSES BY TYPE**



<u>Legend #</u>	<u>RESPONSE TYPE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1	MVC	4
2	FIRE	2
3	ALARMS	1
4	MEDICAL	0
5	OTHER (Mutual Aid)	8

**UXBRIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
 RESPONDED TO A TOTAL OF 15 CALLS  
 IN SCUGOG TOWNSHIP IN 2020**

**2020**  
**UXBRIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**CALLS WITHIN RESPONSE AGREEMENT - UXBRIDGE AND SCUGOG**  
**ANNUAL OCCURRENCE BREAKDOWN OF RESPONSE BY TIME**



<u>Legend #</u>	<u>TIME PERIODS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1	#1 00:01 hrs to 08:00 hrs	5
2	#2 08:01 hrs to 16:00 hrs	4
3	#3 16:01 hrs to 00:00 hrs	6

**UXBRIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONDED TO A TOTAL OF 15 CALLS  
 IN SCUGOG TOWNSHIP IN 2020**