FIREFIGHTER RECRUITMENT ORIENTATION GUIDE



GREENSTONE FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

A SUCCESSFUL FIREFIGHTER MUST POSSESS:

- Integrity
- An outstanding work ethic
- Pride in oneself and the fire service
- The ability to work well as a member of a team
- Good moral character
- Courage
- A willingness to learn new skills
- Assertiveness
- Compassion

If this describes you...

Consider Joining Us!

Application Deadline: February 23, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.



FOREWORD

This orientation guide has been developed as a resource for those individuals who have indicated an interest in becoming a member of the Greenstone Fire & Emergency Services. Participation as a member of a volunteer fire service will bring personal rewards, satisfaction, raise self-esteem and give you a tremendous sense of accomplishment for a job well done. Your involvement will also provide your community with a valuable service that has the potential to touch us all.

However, service as a member of the Greenstone Fire Department requires a serious commitment. Your decision to join should not be made quickly or lightly. The recruitment orientation guide has been developed to provide the information needed to help you make that decision.

Making a commitment to serve as a Volunteer Firefighter is a serious decision. We ask that you take the time to read this orientation guide and get the facts regarding what is involved in being a member of the Fire Department. Often, candidates underestimate the amount of time and effort required to be a successful firefighter.

This orientation guide contains information on the organization of a Volunteer Fire Department, training, participation requirements, the nature of our business, and answers the typical questions raised by prospective members. While this orientation guide will not answer all possible questions about membership, it will provide you with information about the most important areas.

Once you understand what is involved in being a member of a Volunteer Fire Department, we hope you will be able to make the commitment the community requires. The service provided by Volunteer Firefighters is truly valuable to the citizens of our municipality and we hope that you are able to contribute to the community's public safety.

Please read this guide thoroughly so that you clearly understand the steps in the recruitment process.

Further information can be obtained by directly contacting the Director of Fire Services/Fire Chief.



MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY

To be considered for employment, all applicants must provide the following:

- 1. Proof of valid Ontario driver's license (minimum G class) and a current abstract must be provided prior to commencement of employment. *All costs associated with this requirement are the responsibility of the applicant
- 2. Medical Examination Report, completed and signed by the applicant's Doctor, and the Consent Waiver and Release Form must be provided, prior to participating in any physical activities. *All costs associated with this requirement are the responsibility of the applicant
- 3. Demonstrate proficiency in the English language, both verbally, and in writing
- **4.** Proof of clean Criminal Record (with occupational relevance). (No convictions for which a pardon has not been granted), must be provided prior to the commencement of employment
- **5.** A certificate of vulnerable sector screening and a check of the Pardoned Sexual Offender Database completed by the applicant's local police service, prior to commencement of employment. *All costs associated with this requirement are the responsibility of the applicant
- **6.** A reliable means of transportation to respond to alarms
- 7. Proof of residency in accordance with the requirement of the Fire Department

OTHER DESIRABLE SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE

- First aid and CPR certification/training
- Class DZ or higher driver's license
- Previous fire department experience
- Demonstrated commitment. (i.e. volunteer service)
- Bilingual (French/Other)
- Related experience (Nursing, EMS, Mechanical Trades)
- Previous pertinent training (e.g. WHMIS, O.H.S.A.)

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

- Willingness to acquire a DZ licence and maintain it during employment and a driving record clear of criminal offences
- Ability to successfully complete all required training programs and demonstrate proficiency in all required activities
- Maintain a clean criminal record
- Maintain attendance levels (emergency responses and training sessions) in accordance with department requirements
- Adhere to all departmental rules, regulations, and operating guidelines



GOALS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The goal of the Fire Department is to provide fire protection services through a range of programs designed to protect the lives and property of the inhabitants from the adverse effects of fires, sudden medical emergencies, or exposure to dangerous conditions created by man or nature;

- to the municipality
- to those municipalities requiring assistance through authorized emergency fire service plan and program (mutual aid) activities
- to those parties that are provided with fire protection services by the Fire Department via authorized agreement

THE NATURE OF OUR BUSINESS

Firefighting is one of the most diverse and challenging professions known today. It is this diversity that inspires most individuals to enter the service, both as volunteers and career Firefighters. Imagine having to train to prepare yourself to cope with situations which range from structure fires, childbirth, hazardous chemical spills, heart attacks 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, seven days a week, in any kind of weather, and very often under potentially stressful and emotional circumstances, makes your contribution to your profession very personally rewarding.

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

This type of work is not for everyone. You need more than just a desire to help people. You also need courage and dedication, compassion, 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 members to perform hot, sweaty, dirty, strenuous work, often in uncertain and hazardous environments.

The personal rewards and satisfaction received from being involved in a Volunteer 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 in our municipality. We are here and prepared for one reason and that is to provide service to the residents and visitors of this municipality.

If you feel you have what it takes to meet the challenges of our business, we welcome you to apply to join us.



ORGANIZATION

A typical Fire Department is comprised of a variety of divisions and functions. Firefighters are often required to fulfill responsibilities within several divisions and functions.

Division of Administration:

Budget, reports, records, planning and policy development

Division of Apparatus, Equipment and Communications:

Purchase and maintenance of apparatus, equipment, and communication services

Division of Fire Suppression or Operations:

- Prevent, control and extinguishment of fires
- Investigate fires
- Perform rescue and salvage operations
- Respond and assist at such emergencies as may be required
- Pre-plan

Division of Fire Prevention:

- Conduct inspections
- Enforce prevention laws (federal, provincial, and municipal)
- Examination of plans
- Public education functions

Division of Training:

- Administer training programs relative to the services delivered
- Prepare and conduct examinations of members

PRIMARY OBJECTIVES OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

To achieve the goals of the Fire Department, the following objectives have been established:

- 1. Identify and review the fire protection service requirements of the municipality
- 2. Provide an administrative process consistent with the needs of the department
- 3. Ensure that the firefighting equipment and operating personnel are available and trained to provide adequate response to a citizen's call within a reasonable length of time
- 4. Provide department training to an accepted standard which will ensure the continuous upgrading of all personnel in the latest techniques of fire prevention, firefighting, and control of emergency situations and to co-operate with other municipal departments with respect to management training and other programs
- 5. Provide a maintenance program to ensure that all fire protection apparatus, including all equipment, is ready to respond to emergency calls



- 6. Provide an effective fire prevention program to:
 - (a) Ensure, through plan examination and inspection, compliance with applicable municipal, provincial, and federal fire prevention statutes, codes, and regulations
 - (b) Reduce and/or eliminate fire hazards
- 7. Develop and maintain effective public information systems and educational programs, with particular emphasis on school fire safety programs
- 8. Ensure, in the event of a major catastrophe in the municipality, that assistance to cope with the situation is available from outside departments and other agencies
- 9. Develop and maintain a good working relationship with all federal, provincial, and municipal departments, utilities, and agencies, relating to the protection of life and property
- 10. Interact and co-operate with other departments of the corporation regarding the aspects of fire protection or any given program

TRAINING AND PARTICIPATION

Over the years, the fire service has evolved into a public safety agency providing highly technical and diverse services. The general public has come to rely on the Fire Department as the "first responder" not only when life and property are threatened by man-made and natural disasters, but for seemingly smaller problems as well.

To ensure that all members of the Fire Department are prepared to deliver the best level of services required, training standards have been developed to provide each member with the needed skills, knowledge, and abilities necessary to deliver fire and emergency services to the citizens of the municipality.

Training Requirements - Volunteer Orientation

- 1. All volunteers entering the system may be required to complete a recruit training program taught by departmental instructors, regardless of whether the individual may have prior training or experience.
- 2. Volunteers that have successfully completed the recruit training may begin responding to emergency calls. However, they must wear some sort of probationary designation and assist fully qualified firefighters only when proper supervision is provided. The probationary designation identifies the person as a member in training. New members shall wear a probationary designation during the probation period. Probationary firefighters may not enter burning buildings, participate in activities requiring advanced training, or be subjected to hazardous environments.

Training is provided in accordance with accredited standards, such as those of the National Fire Protection Association.



JOB SPECIFICATION - VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

1. General Statement of Duties:

□ Physically and mentally capable and able to respond to an emergency to perform firefighting duties and other related work as required, in the saving of life and property

2. Summary of Firefighter Duties, Responsibilities, and Working Conditions:

- Covered by the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board
- □ Covered with On-Duty Accidental Death Insurance Policy
- May be required to obtain a Hepatitis 'B' vaccination or provide confirmation of current vaccinations
- ☐ Must maintain a reasonable level of health and fitness
- ☐ Must carry a pager, supplied by the Fire Department
- Must complete a Recruit Training Program prior to activation
- ☐ Must be committed to continuous training in fire suppression, prevention, public education, and emergency first aid procedures
- □ For reasons of safety, facial hair that may affect the integrity of the face piece seal of self-contained breathing apparatus, i.e. beards, bushy moustaches, and long sideburns, is not permitted
- □ Responsible for performing various duties, under emergency conditions, frequently involving considerable risk, in a safe and efficient manner
- □ Tasks include routine duties in the maintenance of firefighting equipment and property, carrying out of specific orders and directions as received from a superior officer in the normal course of maintenance duties, training, and firefighting
- □ Must respond promptly, safely, and efficiently to alarms, obey the orders of the officer in charge, share in the work that is required at emergency scenes, around the fire stations, and when otherwise on duty
- □ Must refrain from using offensive statements or language at the emergency scene, in and around the fire stations, and when on duty in public
- Must be loyal to their fellow firefighters, officers, and the department and at all times conduct themselves in a professional, compassionate, and sensitive manner, remembering that he/she is in the eyes of the public while on duty or when wearing identifiable department clothing while not on duty.
- Must meet minimum attendance for calls and training

3. Distinguishing Features of the Job:

- Responds to fire, rescue, and other related emergencies as required
- Reports directly to duty/scene officers regarding activities at the fire ground or station
- Reports directly to the Chief Fire Official on all observed fire/life safety matters
- Reports equipment deficiencies to Station Officer(s)
- Completes investigation reports following an emergency as required
- Completes regular inspection of assigned protective equipment and station wear
- Demonstrates independence of judgement and action in circumstances of extreme emergency where referral to a superior for instruction is not possible
- Demonstrates responsibility for rapidly and efficiently performing various duties under emergency conditions, frequently involving considerable hazard



- □ Carries out specific orders and directions, as received from a superior officer, in the normal course of firefighting operations
- □ Follows all Standard Operating Guidelines, directives, and department policies to enhance personal safety and comply with the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act

4. Examples of Work:

- Ensures the safe operation of all department equipment
- Assists with salvage operations during and following an emergency
- Assists with providing first aid or CPR to the injured
- Assists with Fire Department pre-planning as required
- □ Performs such duties as required to further advance public information, public safety, and public relations within the department
- □ As assigned, performs various maintenance and cleaning tasks on apparatus and equipment following an emergency
- □ As assigned, conducts firefighting/rescue activities at emergency scenes
- ☐ Inspects property at the scene of a fire to prevent re-ignition
- □ Attends assigned training sessions to ensure accuracy in firefighting and rescue methods
- Participates with in-service training as required
- Ensures compliance with all health and safety matters in accordance with the Corporation's Health and Safety Manual and the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations

5. Required Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Considerable knowledge of modern firefighting and rescue techniques
- Considerable mechanical aptitude
- □ Thorough knowledge of the rules and regulations governing the fire department and the volunteer activities of the department
- □ Thorough knowledge of provincial legislation relative to the activities of the fire department
- □ Thorough knowledge of the municipality, including demographics, major industries, and hazardous occupancies
- □ Thorough knowledge of the operation of all equipment and methods used in combating, extinguishing, and preventing fires and rescue activities
- □ Thorough knowledge of First Aid and CPR
- □ Agility and strength to do prolonged and arduous work under adverse conditions
- □ Ability to react quickly and remain calm under duress and strain
- Conscientious, dependable, co-operative, able to follow direction given
- Must maintain a valid driver's licence, demonstrate a safe driving record, and be capable of driving emergency vehicles in a safe manner, in both emergency and non-emergency situations



SELECTION PROCESS

The selection process will consist of the following components:

Stage 1: Application Review (Application deadline) - February 23, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. Stage 2: Aptitude Appraisal - March 1, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Stage 3: Interview - Week of March 6th, 2023

Stage 1: Application Review

All applicants are required to submit an Application for Volunteer Firefighter form. An application form is included in this package. It is encouraged for applicants to include a cover letter and resume to their application form.

Applications will be reviewed with priority being given to those applicants who demonstrate the following:

- Employment or residence within the municipal ward or reasonable response time to the fire station
- Current first aid and CPR certificates
- Valid class DZ driver's licence with a clean abstract
- Permission to leave place of employment to respond to alarms
- Local area shift workers

A review of applications will be conducted, and selected applicants will have the opportunity to advance to Stage 2 of the selection process.

Stage 2: Aptitude Appraisal

A written Aptitude Appraisal will be conducted on March 1, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. A location will be determined based on the number of applicants.

The aptitude appraisal will be a short simple questionnaire designed to measure your:

- Ability to understand written and/or verbal information
- Technical and mechanical skills
- Reading, reasoning, and mathematical skills

A review of results of the aptitude appraisal will be conducted and applicants who qualify (achieve 70% or greater) will have the opportunity to advance to Stage 3 of the selection process.



Stage 3: Interview

Interviews for the position of Volunteer Firefighter will be conducted during the week of March 6, 2023 by the Fire Chief, with assistance from other department members, as determined by the Fire Chief, in order to perform a fair evaluation. The Fire Chief may require you to bring additional documentation and/or proof of your credentials.

SELECTION & ACCEPTANCE (recruitment program start date will be announced to successful candidates)

The selection of applicants is based on qualifications and the ability and availability to do the job as determined by the results of the recruitment process. The successful applicants will be contacted with an offer to undertake a training program in preparation for commencing actions as a volunteer firefighter with the municipality.

Successful applicants will be required to attend and successfully complete a recruit-training program. The duration of the program will be approximately 100 hours of practical plus additional online training.

Completed applications can be dropped off prior to the closing date at the following locations:

Greenstone Administration Office - 1800 Main Street, Geraldton Beardmore Ward Office - 285 Main Street, Beardmore Longlac Ward Office - 105 Hamel Avenue, Longlac Nakina Ward Office - 200 Centre Avenue, Nakina

Email to: jeff.lipskie@greenstone.ca

THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING JOINING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

We want to acknowledge the effort every applicant puts into the pursuit of being a firefighter and their desire to assist in the protection of the Community.



MUNICIPALITY OF GREENSTONE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Beardmore, Geraldton, Nakina, Longlac

APPLICATION FOR THE POSITION OF VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

Name (Last): _____ (First): _____ (Initials): _____

Address:			PO Box:	
Town:	Province: Po		ostal Code:	
Home Telephone #:	Busin	ess Telephon	e #:	
Cell Phone #:	Provid	er:		
Email Address:				
Employment Requirements:				
Social Insurance Number:				
Driver's Licence Number:			Class:	
Criminal Record Check: (vulnerable sect	or) Attac	hed □	Received □	
MTO Drivers abstract:	Attac	hed □	Received □	
First Aid Certificate: (if applicable)	Attac	hed □		
Medical: (with proof of Hep B)	Attac	ched □		
Education:				
High School / Vocational School / Col				
Name of Institution	Year Completed	Level Completed	Major/Specialization	



Courses / Certificates / Specialized Skills / Trades (attach additional pages as needed)

Courses / Certificates / Specialized Skills / Trade	s (attacii additiona	i pages as needed)
Description		Date
Employment Experience:		
Present Employer		
Name:		
Address:		
Date Employed From:		
Position Held:		
Supervisor's Name:	Phone	#:
Outline your duties/responsibilities:		
May we contact the supervisor indicated above:	Yes □	No □
Previous Employer:		
Name:		
Address:		
Date Employed From:		
Position Held:		
Supervisor's Name:	Phone	#:
Outline your duties/responsibilities:		
May we contact the supervisor indicated above:	Yes □	 No □



Other Related Experience:

	ve previous fir	refighting experience?		
No □	Yes □	No. of Years:	Position:	
If yes, exp	olain:			
Do you ha	ve previous vo	olunteer experience?		
•	•	•	Position:	
No □	Yes □	No. of Years:		
No □	Yes □	•		

Related Skills:

Please complete this section even if a resume is attached. Check the level of skill appropriate.

- 1. Some familiarity and competence
- 2. Advanced or post-secondary courses
- 3. Certificates or professional experience

Skill	Level		
	1	2	3
Automotive Mechanic			
Lineman			
Electrical Systems			
Electronic Systems			
Radio Communications Systems			
Rescue Procedures - Canadian Red Cross, St. John Ambulance, etc.			
Firefighting Practices and Terminology - Ontario Fire College or			
Community College, etc.			
Pumps, Valves, Sprinkler Systems			
Building Trades or Inspection			
Read Blueprints			
Athletic or Sport Skills			
Scuba Diving			
Ice Water/Rescue			
Confined Space Rescue			
High Angle Rescue			
Urban Search and Rescue			
Hazardous Materials Response			
WHMIS			
Occupational Health and Safety			
Coaching/Teaching/Facilitation Skills			



Have you had any experience or training in driving heavy vehicles? Yes □ No □
Have you any other special driving skills or training (e.g. accident avoidance, skid control, etc.)? Yes \Box No \Box
Explain:
Do you have permission from your employer to leave your place of work immediately when your pager sounds? Yes \Box No \Box
Where is your current employer located?
Do you have a personal and reliable means of transportation to respond to fire alarms? Yes \square No \square
List three references (other than relatives) and their phone numbers:
Please provide any additional information or skills you feel may be pertinent to this position:
I understand that any misrepresentation made by me in connection with this application will be sufficient cause for cancellation of the application; and if I have been employed, for termination from the Municipality. I authorize the Fire Chief to make such enquiries respecting the foregoing information as may be deemed necessary.
Signature of Applicant:
Date:



MUNICIPALITY OF GREENSTONE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Beardmore, Geraldton, Nakina, Longlac

CONSENT WAIVER AND RELEASE FORM

TO: THE MUNICIPALITY and the FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Witness Signature:

WHEREAS the Municipality and the Fire Department require that applicants for the position of Volunteer Firefighter be examined.
AND WHEREAS I, have submitted to the Municipality and the Fire Department, my signed application for the position of Volunteer Firefighter, and have been informed that I am required to be examined for this position and required to participate in a series of tests to demonstrate my strength, endurance, and physical agility.
AND WHEREAS , the procedures to be followed during the said examination and said series of tests to demonstrate my strength, endurance and physical agility and have been fully explained to me.
NOW THEREFORE, I, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, hereby consent to and agree to be examined for the position of Volunteer Firefighter, and consent to and agree to participate in a series of tests to demonstrate my strength, endurance and physical agility and I for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, hereby waive any and all claims against the Municipality and the Fire Department that I, my heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, or any of them now or hereafter can, shall, or may have, for, on account of, or because of any injury or damage that I may sustain because of, in connection with, or on account of said examination and said series of tests to demonstrate my strength, endurance and physical agility, and I, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, do hereby remise, release and forever discharge the Corporation and the Fire Department from any and all liability claims for damages, actions, suits and demands whatsoever, which I, my heirs, executors, administrators or assigns or any of them now or hereafter and without restricting the generality of the foregoing, for or by reason of any cause, matter or thing arising out of or resulting from my participation in said examination and said series of tests to demonstrate my strength, endurance and physical agility.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and seal this day of, 20
SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED IN THE PRESENCE OF
Applicant Name: (Please Print)
Applicant Signature:
Witness Name: (Please Print)



CANDIDATE APPLICATION CHECK LIST

The following 2 items are required to apply: 1. **Application** (signed, dated, and fully completed) 2. Consent Waiver / Release Form (signed, dated by applicant and witness) 3. Medical examination report (2 pages) (with attached Appendix A and required signature) You do NOT require a signed medical form to apply. You will require the form once a position with the Department has been offered. It is recommended that you book your medical appointment in advance to ensure that you have the forms signed prior to an offer. 4. MTO 3-year Driver's Abstract 5. Vulnerable Sector Search You may require a letter from the Department in order to request a Vulnerable Sector Search. You do NOT require items 4 and 5 to apply. You may wait until you have been offered a position with the Department before obtaining them.



MUNICIPALITY OF GREENSTONE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Beardmore, Geraldton, Nakina, Longlac

MEDICAL EXAMINATION REPORT

Applicant Information

Name (Last):	(First):	(Initials):		
Address:		PO Box:		
Town:	Province:	Postal Code:		
	Physician Informa	tion		
Name (Last):		Include Physician's stamp or sticker here:		
(First):	(Initials):			
Address:				
Town:	Province:			
Postal Code:	<u> </u>			
Business Telephone #:				
	To be completed by P	hysician		
 Is the applicant prescribed a Firefighter? Yes □ N 		y affect his/her performance of duties as		
2. Please review the Position perform the duties of a Fire	• •	e reverse) Is the applicant medically fit to sition Profile? Yes \Box No \Box		
3. Is the applicant currently vaccinated for Hepatitis "B"? Yes \Box No \Box				
Final Vaccination d	late:	_		
I, the undersigned, am a legall of Ontario. This report confirm		tioner, licensed to practice in the Province cal opinion of the applicant.		
Signature of Physician:				
Date:				



Date:

APPENDIX 'A'

FIREFIGHTER POSITION PROFILE

(To be completed by Family Physician with Medical Examination Report)

TASKS INCLUDE: carrying heavy equipment such as ladders, chain saws, fire hose, hydraulic extrication tools, etc., lifting, pulling, chopping, climbing stairs/ladders, crawling, wearing self-contained breathing apparatus and other heavy personal protective equipment, driving and operating emergency vehicles, performing cardio-pulmonary resuscitation.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS INCLUDE: possible exposure to toxic gases and particulates, chemicals, wet/damp conditions, exposure to extreme temperature variations for lengthy periods of time, required to perform tasks in confined working spaces.

STRESSORS: firefighting requires an individual to go from minimal physical activity to peak physical activity within a noticeably short time frame. Physical stress is amplified by the need to wear heavy personal protective equipment while carrying, pulling, pushing, lifting a variety of materials. In addition to physical stress, firefighters are exposed to emotional stress while performing rescue activities involving patients that are severely injured or deceased and while administering first aid/CPR involving profuse bleeding and vital signs absent. Often, the patients are known to the firefighters in smaller communities, adding to the stress load.

I have reviewed the contents of the Firefighter Position Profile prior to determining if th applicant is medically fit to perform the duties of a firefighter.	е
Signature of Physician:	