

# Cowichan Bay Improvement District

## Fire Report

**Date:** June 17, 2026

**To:** Cowichan Bay Improvement District Board of Trustees

**From:** Dean Stennes, Fire Chief

**Subject:** Cowichan Bay Fire Rescue Monthly Report

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**Purpose**

To provide the Board of Trustees with a summary of the activities for May 2026 by Cowichan Bay Fire Rescue.

**Incidents:**

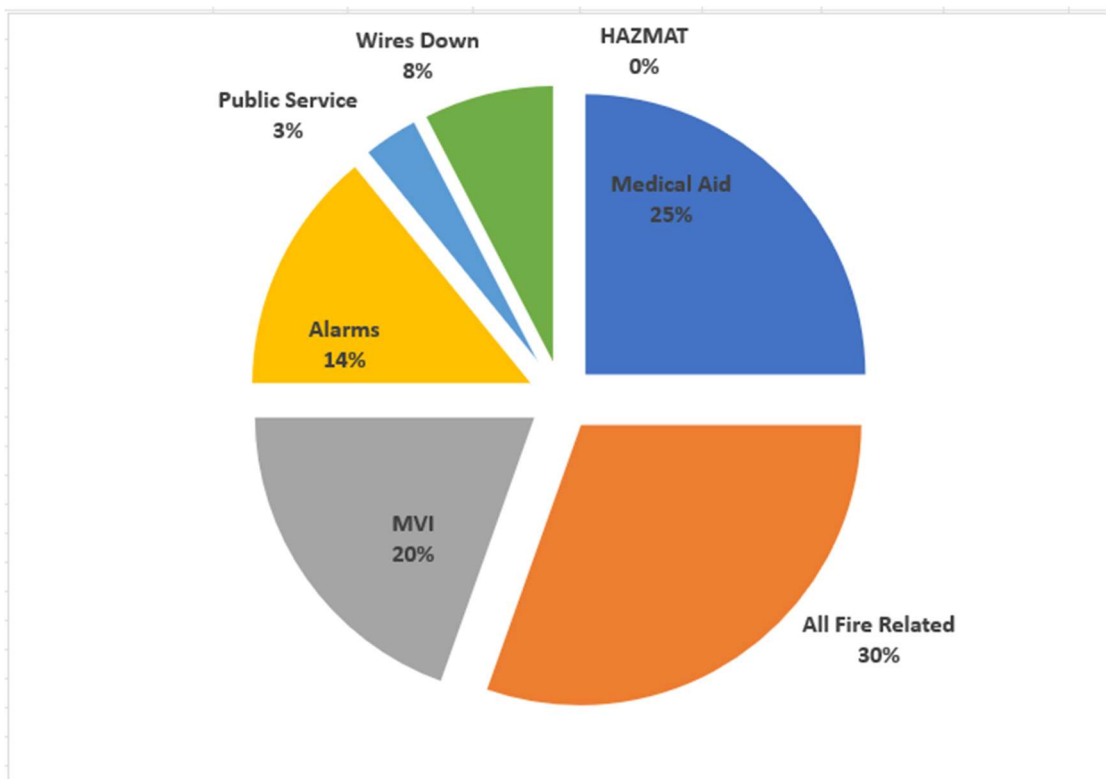
For the month of May Cowichan Bay Fire Rescue attended 20 incidents.

As set out in the Cowichan Bay Improvement District Bylaw 109-22 Fire Department Establishment Bylaw, Cowichan Bay Fire Rescue responds to several different types of incidents.

The table below shows a breakdown for type of incidents by month. The totals are at the top of the table. This table also shows the percentage of each type of incident responded to.

| <b>Incident Type</b> | <b>Medical Aid</b> | <b>All Fire Related</b> | <b>MVI</b> | <b>Alarms</b> | <b>Public Service</b> | <b>Wires Down</b> | <b>Hazardous Materials</b> |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------|---------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Total</b>         | 23                 | 28                      | 18         | 13            | 3                     | 7                 | 0                          |
| <b>Percentage</b>    | 25%                | 30%                     | 20%        | 14%           | 3%                    | 8%                | 0%                         |
| <b>January</b>       | 7                  | 7                       | 5          | 3             |                       | 1                 |                            |
| <b>February</b>      | 3                  | 3                       | 5          | 4             |                       | 1                 |                            |
| <b>March</b>         | 2                  | 6                       | 4          | 1             | 2                     | 3                 |                            |
| <b>April</b>         | 7                  | 5                       | 1          | 1             |                       | 1                 |                            |
| <b>May</b>           | 4                  | 7                       | 3          | 4             | 1                     | 1                 |                            |
| <b>June</b>          |                    |                         |            |               |                       |                   |                            |
| <b>July</b>          |                    |                         |            |               |                       |                   |                            |
| <b>August</b>        |                    |                         |            |               |                       |                   |                            |
| <b>September</b>     |                    |                         |            |               |                       |                   |                            |
| <b>October</b>       |                    |                         |            |               |                       |                   |                            |
| <b>November</b>      |                    |                         |            |               |                       |                   |                            |
| <b>December</b>      |                    |                         |            |               |                       |                   |                            |

### Incident Percentage by Type for Current Year



#### **Membership:**

At the end of May membership was 34.

The breakdown is as follows:

- 2 Full-time Career Certified members
- 18 Active Paid on Call Certified members
- 9 Active Paid on Call members working towards certification
- 5 Recruits

Hailey Martin retired from the department as she moved out of district.

#### **Training:**

Training continues on a weekly basis for all members, ensuring operational readiness and ongoing skills development. In addition to regular Monday evening training sessions, supplementary training is conducted during duty weekends, providing members with additional opportunities to enhance their knowledge and practical skills.

On May 2 and 3, seven members attended JIBC-accredited Live Fire Training at Otter Point. This valuable training provided realistic hands-on experience in fire suppression, fire behaviour, and crew coordination under controlled live-fire conditions.

Duty crews continue to benefit from smaller, focused weekend training sessions organized by their officers. These sessions have been well received by members and allow for targeted skill development, practical exercises, and mentorship opportunities in a more personalized learning environment.

### **Awards Night:**

The Department's Annual Awards and Recognition Dinner were held on May 28 at the fire hall, with special guests in attendance from several of our mutual aid partner departments. The evening provided an opportunity to recognize the dedication, commitment, and accomplishments of our members.

The following awards and recognitions were presented:

- **10-Year Service Award** – Brant Weniger and Quinten Currie
- **20-Year Service Award** – Steve Frueh
- **Rookie of the Year** – Connor Drinkwalter
- **Outstanding Service Award (Most Calls & Practices)** – Steve Frueh
- **Officer of the Year** – Phil Robinson
- **Retirement Recognition** – Hailey Martin and Noah Wickham
- **Bob Evans Memorial Shield – Firefighter of the Year** – Matt Baird
- **Charlie Ennals Firefighter of the Year** – Quinten Currie
- **Oscar Award (Chief's Least Favourite)** – Dave De Kleer

The Department would like to congratulate all award recipients and thank every member for their continued dedication and service to the Cowichan Bay community. Recognition events such as this provide an important opportunity to celebrate the contributions of our members and the strong culture that exists within our organization.

### **Fire Prevention and Public Education**

The Department continues to actively promote fire and life safety throughout the community. One member regularly attends meetings with the Cowichan Valley Fire Prevention Association, helping maintain strong regional partnerships and consistent prevention messaging.

On May 28, the Department participated in the Bench School Fun Fair with the Fire Safety House and Engine 41. Members engaged with students, families, and the public to promote fire safety education in a positive and interactive way.

### **Health and Safety**

Nothing to report.

### **Fire Department Administration Activities**

The administrative side of the Fire Department continues to remain busy, with members of the public regularly attending the fire hall seeking information on fire safety, emergency preparedness, and general safety-related inquiries. Staff continue to provide guidance, support, and education to residents, contributing to the overall safety and resilience of our community.

This concludes the report on the activities of Cowichan Bay Fire Rescue for the month of May. I respectfully request that the Board accept this report as presented.

Prepared by: Dean Stennes, Fire Chief