

## JOINT MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICES COMMITTEE BULLETIN

### FIRE SERVICE REGISTRATION

Fire Services Registration helps to ensure the safety of the public and emergency service providers. That's why municipal and village fire departments, volunteer fire departments, and fire commissions must register in every municipality in which emergency services are provided.

Annual registration helps to guarantee that the municipality has the information necessary to make informed decisions with respect to the safety of firefighters and the public.

Annual Registration assures that the municipality knows: who is providing emergency services; what emergency services are available in the municipality; and that emergency service providers have met minimum standards.

*The Fire Services Stakeholder Committee is comprised of representatives from the following organizations:*

- Association of Municipal Administrators, NS;
- Department of Municipal Affairs;
- Fire Services Association of Nova Scotia;
- Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities; and
- Office of the Fire Marshal.

**For more information regarding fire service registration or the work of the Fire Services Stakeholder Committee please contact: [fireservices@amans.ca](mailto:fireservices@amans.ca)**

**More information can be found in the *Municipal Government Act - Guide Respecting Fire and Emergency Services***

### Why is Registration so Important?

#### Registration helps enable:

- The safe delivery of fire services by ensuring that the municipality is aware of the specific capabilities of all fire departments and any deficiencies that may need to be addressed.
- A municipality to grant or lend money to guarantee a loan for a registered department.
- A municipality to grant or lend assets to a registered department without charge.

#### Registration helps to manage risk by:

- Ensuring that municipalities have access to the most current information.
- Protecting registered fire departments, and their members from liability (unless they are grossly negligent).
- Proving the information necessary to ask key questions which will identify any gaps in service.

#### As a representative of your municipality or village, do you know:

- There are eight key services that may be provided by your fire department(s)? Of those eight, do you know what services your fire department(s) are registered to provide and at what level?
- If your fire department(s) are registered and the last time your fire department(s) updated their registration?
- If there is an issue with the fire department registration, where would you go to find the completed registration form?
- If funding to your fire department(s) is linked to an annual registration requirement?
- If you have a Fire Services Advisory Committee?
- If you have a Fire and Emergency Services Coordinator?

#### As a representative of a fire department do you know:

- If your department is registered, and which key services it is registered for?
- If your municipality is kept informed of changes in the services provided by your fire department?
- If your municipality has conducted a community risk assessment?
- The average number of firefighters responding per call?
- That annual registration supports funding requests for equipment and/or training?