

**Aboriginal Firefighters Association of Canada  
Annual Report 2009-10**



**AFAC Office  
102 – 70 Orwell Street  
North Vancouver, BC**

## Table of Contents

Executive Summary: 2009-10 Fiscal Year Activity .....	3
AFAC Board of Directors & Administration .....	4
National Firefighting Competition.....	6
National Fire Safety Poster Competition .....	7
Promote Fire Safety Prevention And Education Program Tools .....	9
AFAC Information Seminars and Annual General Assembly (AGM).....	10
AFAC Website .....	11
Appendix - 1 .....	12
Appendix - 2 .....	14

## **Executive Summary: 2009-10 Fiscal Year Activity**

The AFAC vision statement that guides the principles and goals of the organization:

*“Working together to improve fire safety in all Aboriginal/First Nation communities across Canada to protect and enhance the quality of life, health and safety.”*

The Aboriginal Firefighters Association of Canada is a non-political, non-profit service organization with membership in fire and emergency-related services from Aboriginal communities across Canada. AFAC has been working consistently towards becoming a nationally recognized organization in fire prevention, education, training and safety, and is committed to providing the highest quality service whenever possible. The 2009-10 Activity Report is based on the objectives defined in the budget submission under title Aboriginal Firefighters Association of Canada 2009-10 Funding Proposal.





Five specific areas defined AFAC 2009-10 activities;

1. National Aboriginal Firefighters Competition.
2. National Fire Safety Poster Competition
3. Research national fire safety prevention and safety program, and make it available to every community through AFAC member regional organizations.
4. Conduct and host AFAC information seminars in regions and the AFAC annual general assembly (AGM) with representatives from regional member organizations.
5. Promote the AFAC website to support regional organizations and promote a national fire prevention model.

In addition to the established five goals AFAC entered into a formal relationship with the First Nations Emergency Services Society of BC to provide management services for corporate and financial activities of the association. Key administrative tasks included;

1. evaluation and transfer of administrative tasks to the BC office,
2. develop a new web site presence and
3. ensure continuity of current and recent required business records were accessible and archived adequately.

**AFAC Board of Directors & Administration**

<p><b>Arnold Lazare – Quebec – Quebec Firefighters President</b></p> <p>Arnold has been an active member of the Kahnawake Fire Brigade since 1979. He is certified as an Emergency Medical Technician and Firefighter Instructor/Evaluator with both the Justice Institute of BC and the Ecole Nationale des Pompiers de Quebec. He has held positions officer as Lieutenant and Assistant Fire Chief and was the Fire Chief from 1993 to 2008 when he took the position of Director of Operations. He was the AFAC Secretary/Treasurer from 2001 until 2009 when he became the President. Arnold's wife is also a firefighter/emt and when they are not on duty go camping with their three boys.</p>	
<p><b>Richard Kent – Saskatchewan – Prince Albert Grand Council Vice President</b></p> <p>Richard started his fire services career in 1981 with Saskatchewan Forest Fire Management as Team Leader of the R.I.A.C.T. Group, (Regional Initial Attack Control Team), until 1986. He then joined the Prince Albert Fire Department in the fall of 1986 and worked with them for 11 years. While working at the Prince Albert Fire Department he was involved in training First Nation fire departments on his days off. In 1997 he was offered a job with Prince Albert Grand Council as the head of the newly formed Emergency and Protective Services. Prince Albert Grand Council is comprised of 12 First Nation Bands and 30 communities.</p> <p>On his days off Richard also works as an Instructor in Emergency Services for Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies and an Instructor in Emergency Services for Northlands College. He also enjoys the outdoors as he grew up in northern Saskatchewan and was taught by his father to hunt and trap for food at a very early age. He owns a hunting and fishing cabin in northern Saskatchewan that is on a remote lake with no electricity, phone service or neighbors and this is the place that he and his wife like to "unwind".</p>	
<p><b>Pernell Marchand – BC - First Nations' Emergency Services Secretary/Treasurer</b></p> <p>Pernell is a member of the Okanagan Indian Band and was the Fire Chief for eight years. Pernell enjoys the challenges and opportunities that he faces as a Director, and the responsibility and privilege of representing First Nations of British Columbia. As the secretary/treasurer, Pernell knows that FNESS continues to search for further programs and funding to add to our existing services for First Nation Communities, utilizes First Nations' resources to provide these services within the field.</p>	
<p><b>Allan Peters – Atlantic Region</b></p> <p>Allan started as Fire Chief for the Elsipogtog First Nations Fire Department in 2001. That year he received a grant from the INAC to purchase bunker gear for 20 firemen to replace the old and outdated gear. After years of fighting for the Firefighter course Level One he finally received it in the Fall of 2008. The Firefighters of Elsipogtog will be receiving their certification soon. This all happened through the support and funding of the Office of the Fire Marshall and Allan's persistence. In 2009, he received a new Peirce fire truck which again was funded through INAC. In the summer of 2009 Elsipogtog First Nations Fire Department hosted the Atlantic Aboriginal Firefighter Regional Competition, which has not been done there in over 15 years.</p>	

<p><b>Eugene McPherson - Ontario - Ontario Native Fire Fighter's Society</b></p> <p>Eugene McPherson represents the Ontario Native Fire Fighter's Society (ONFFS) and has been with AFAC since its conception. He was a key player in helping to get all of the fire representatives together to start talks that finally culminated in the forming of AFAC. Eugene sits on many Provincial and National Boards that all have had a positive effect on our First Nation communities.</p>	
<p><b>Dale Simon – Alberta</b></p> <p>Dale Simon Represents Alberta on the AFAC board and has been with the fire services in Alberta for over 20 years.</p>	
<p><b>Gordie Lathlin - Manitoba - Manitoba Association of Native Fire Fighters</b></p> <p>Gordon Lathlin is currently the President of the Manitoba Association of Native Fire Fighters. Gordie has been a fire fighter for many years and has many accomplishments under his belt.</p>	

## National Firefighting Competition

The National Aboriginal Firefighters Competition was held in Listuguj Quebec, hosted by the Listuguj Police Department on Friday August 21<sup>st</sup> and Saturday August 22<sup>nd</sup> 2009. In addition to the competition and AGM, the participants were treated to community-hosted meals, events and networking opportunities. The planning and logistics for the 2010 National Fire Competition is well underway. The host community is Lower Nicola Indian Band (Merritt, BC) to be held on August 21, 2010.

The winning teams of the 2009 National Firefighters Competition were;

1. Team Quebec
2. Team Alberta
3. Team Nunavut
4. Team Manitoba
5. Team Ontario
6. Team Atlantic
7. Team BC



The National Aboriginal Firefighters Competition



1<sup>st</sup> Place – Team Quebec



2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Team Alberta



3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Team Nunavut

## National Fire Safety Poster Competition

During the 2009-10 year all regions were invited to participate in the National Fire Poster Competition. Appendix 2 is an example of the regional letters sent to schools across each region. The regional winners have been selected and awarded prizes from the regions. The National Fire Safety Poster competition winners were to be selected at the March Board meeting that was planned, but postponed due to unforeseen circumstances. The regional winning posters for 2010-11 are being sent to the AFAC offices for electronic conversion to be forwarded for selection at a scheduled teleconference meeting. The regional winners will also be highlighted on the AFAC website.

### BC provincial winners:

#### Category 1 First Place:



Jonas James, age 6 from Chilliwack Landing Preschool

#### Category 2 First Place:



Katelin Henry, age 10, grade 5 from Lower Nicola Indian Band School

### Saskatchewan provincial winners:

#### Grade 2 winner:



Jessica Martin, Grade 2, from Father Gamche Memorial, Fond du Lac

Grade 5 winner:



Destiney McDonald, Grade 5, from Father Gamache School, Fond du Lac.

Grade 9 winner:



Blair Ballantyre, Grade 9, from Little Red River School, Montreal Lake.



Darren Oike, FNESS Fire Services Officer, presents awards to the BC regional Poster contest Winners.

## Promote Fire Safety Prevention And Education Program Tools


Wisdom of Fire - AFAC has exhausted its supplies of Wisdom of Fire and delivered remaining stock to Aboriginal communities and regional organizations across Canada.

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) fire prevention programs – Utilizing the AFAC website, the NFPA annual fire message will be promoted and information to access fire prevention and education resources identified.

Education Material Development & Insurance funding – AFAC in collaboration with FNESS has met with Fire Prevention Education vendors and identified insurance companies that are willing to support and provide funds to develop and acquire updated material and new fire prevention programs for delivery into school programs. This project is ongoing.

AFAC Website Resource Depository – Incorporated into the AFAC website is a listing by region of fire management resources & providers. This includes regional offices of the fire commissioners, regional & national fire prevention organizations, federal fire prevention grant suppliers, education material suppliers and other organizations that promote and support fire prevention safety.

# Aboriginal FireFighters Association of Canada



## Association Canadienne des Pompiers Indigènes

Home About Board Events Regional Competition Poster Contest Protection

### National Fire Protection Resources

Directory of Canadian Fire Services  
Guide to Fire Services Training & Fire Prevention Resources  
January 2010

*About the Directory*  
Province listings are alphabetical followed by Territories. The following information was collected from the agencies website. Please notify us if you would like us to update your listing.

[AB](#) | [BC](#) | [MB](#) | [NB](#) | [NL](#) | [NS](#) | [ON](#) | [PE](#) | [SK](#) | [QB](#) | [NWT](#) | [NUNAVUT](#) | [YUKON](#) | [CANADA](#)

#### ALBERTA

##### PROVINCIAL AGENCIES

**Alberta Emergency Management Agency**  
Website: [http://aema.alberta.ca/ab\\_index.cfm](http://aema.alberta.ca/ab_index.cfm)  
Fire Commissioner and Executive Director - Trent West  
Phone: 780-422-9000  
Agency Response Readiness Centre:  
24 Hours: 1-866-618-2362  
Toll-free in Alberta:  
310-0000  
Fax: 780-644-1044  
E-mail: [aema@gov.ab.ca](mailto:aema@gov.ab.ca)

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##### INAC REGIONAL OFFICE

George Arcand Jr. – Regional Director General  
Jim Sisson – Associate Regional Director General  
Website: <http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ai/scr/ab/index-eng.asp>

**Alberta Region Head Office**  
630 Canada Place  
9700 Jasper Avenue  
EDMONTON, AB T5J 4G2  
Phone: (780) 495-2773  
Fax: (780) 495-4088

**Southern Alberta Field Services Office**  
Suite 300  
9911 Chilla Boulevard  
TSUU T'INA, AB T2W 6H6  
Phone: (403) 292-5901  
Fax: (403) 292-6903

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**LAKELAND COLLEGE**  
Fire & Emergency Training

#### News

AFAC is developing, more coming soon.

Regional and National Firefighters competitions to be announced shortly.

## **AFAC Information Seminars and Annual General Assembly (AGM)**

Annual General Assembly (AGM) – The AFAC Annual General Meeting was held at Listuguj, QB on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009. AFAC organizational business was performed including the selection of the new Board of Directors.

The 2009-10 Board of Directors selected include;

1. Arnold Lazare, Quebec, President
2. Richard Kent, Saskatchewan, Vice President
3. Pernell Marchand, BC, Secretary/Treasurer
4. Eugene McPherson, Ontario, Director
5. Allen Peters, Atlantic Region, Director
6. Dale Simon, Alberta, Director
7. Gordie Lathlin, Manitoba, Director

### Regional Information/Training Seminars

The regional information and training sessions are designed to support regional organizations and activities.

- Alberta Region - TSAG conference presentation
- Alberta Region - TSAG meeting with Alberta government related to training standards
- BC Region - FNESS meeting to utilize fire department capacity development tools
- Manitoba Region - MANFF meeting scheduled
- Quebec Region – Support the formal development of the Quebec First Nations Firefighter Association

Developing regions;

The following regions were provided with technical or administrative support to help promote the development of a regional component that would improve coordinated efforts in the areas of fire prevention and life safety activities. In addition to supporting the regions to develop organizations AFAC can now provide developing regions with website hosting to provide information and support about the organizations.

- Atlantic Region
- Yukon Region

AFAC website: www.afac-acpi.ca

Success of AFAC lies in its ability to effectively communicate with the regions and organizations it serves and represents. Through the continued development and enhancements of the website, AFAC will keep its membership, fire/emergency services, personnel and communities informed of activities, new technologies and innovations within industry, training, services, events and other information the Association undertakes. In addition as noted in other sections the website is a valuable enhancement tool to the services and functions both of AFAC and regional organizations.



**Appendix - 1**

AFAC Operating Budget


April 1, 2009-March 31, 2010

Item	Notes	Totals
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>		
<b>Salary &amp; Benefits</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive Director \$30 000</li> </ul>	Executive Director, MANFF Benefits 20%	\$ 30 000
<b>Office &amp; Administration Costs</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration support</li> <li>• Photocopier lease</li> <li>• Computer maintenance</li> <li>• Phone/ fax</li> <li>• Insurance</li> <li>• Postage/courier</li> <li>• Office supplies</li> <li>• Interest &amp; bank charges</li> </ul>	Administration support, Photocopier/fax lease Computer maintenance Phone/fax, Insurance (office, liability) Postage/courier Office supplies Interest/bank charges	\$ 23 753
<b>Other Administration Costs</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Independent Audit fees</li> <li>• French translations</li> </ul>	Independent audit, year end French translation (Funding permitting)	Included with office and adm costs - MANFF
<b>Travel &amp; Accommodation</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive Director \$ 11 520</li> <li>• Board members (6) \$ 15 000</li> </ul>	<p><b>Executive Director:</b> INAC meetings 2 per year; 6 regional (8 total); Rtn travel 8 @ \$800 per, \$6400; 2 INAC meetings, Accommodation 1 night @ \$130 (incl taxes) \$260; meals/incidentals @ \$75/day x 2 days, \$300; 6 Regional Meetings, Accommodation 2 nights @ \$130 (incl taxes) \$1560; meals/incidentals \$75/day, 3 days, \$1350; Airport parking 34 days @ \$15/day, \$330; vehicle rental 34 days @ \$60/day (incl.insur), \$1320;</p> <p><b>6 Board members;</b> 2 Board mtgs,(other than AGM) 2 days each; Rtn travel @ \$500 each @ 6 members x 2 mtgs, \$6000; Accommodation 3 nights @ \$125 per (incl taxes) x 6 members x 2 mtgs, \$4500; meals/incidentals \$75/day @ 6 members x 2 days x 2 mtgs \$1800; Airport parking \$15/day @ 6 members x 3 days x 2 mtgs \$540; Vehicle rental \$60/day (incl. insur) @ 6 members x 3 days x 2 mtgs \$2160;</p>	<p>\$ 11 520</p> <p>\$ 15 000</p>
<b>PROGRAMS &amp; DEVELOPMENT</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website \$4000</li> <li>• Communications: \$4000.00</li> </ul>	Website maintenance/uploads  AFAC Communications: Newspaper Events Announcements/Advertising	\$ 8 000

<p><b>COMPETITION(S) &amp; AGM</b></p> <p><b>National Fire Poster Competition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awards plaques \$ 225</li> <li>• Travel \$4,500</li> <li>• Airport parking \$270</li> <li>• Accommodation \$780</li> <li>• Meals/incidentals \$ 876</li> </ul>	<p>Award plaques 3 @ \$75 each, \$225.  First place winners only:  3 winners &amp; one family member (6 total):  Rtn travel @ \$750 pp, \$4500; Airport parking  3 days @ \$15/day, \$270; Accommodation 2 nights @  \$130/night, 1 room per, \$780; Meals/incidentals,  \$876;</p>	<p>\$ 6 651</p>
<p><b>National Aboriginal Firefighters Competition &amp; Conference</b></p> <p><b>Annual Host Community</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host community disbursement \$ 20 000</li> </ul> <p><b>Team Travel/ Accommodation/ Meals Incidentals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel \$31,5000</li> <li>• Accommodations \$21,000</li> <li>• Meals/incidentals \$9,030</li> <li>• Airport parking \$2,016</li> <li>• Gas reimbursement \$3,500</li> <li>• Van rentals \$5,250</li> </ul>	<p><b>Host community</b> disbursement \$20000 competition</p> <p><b>7 Regional Teams (6 per team): Alberta</b>  Rtn travel 42 @ \$ 750 pp \$31500; Accommodations: 7  teams, 4 dbls per team @ \$150/night (incl. taxes) 5  nights \$21000;  Meals/incidentals 42 @ \$215 pp \$9030; Airport  parking \$15/day x 6 days (3 vehicles max per team)  \$2016; Gas reimbursement \$500 x 7 teams \$3500;  Van Rental (1 per team) 7 @ \$150/day, 5 days \$5250;</p>	<p>\$ 92 296</p>
<p><b>Annual General Meeting (AGM), Competition &amp; Training Session</b></p> <p><b>Board Members Travel/ Accommodation/ Meals Incidentals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel \$4,500</li> <li>• Airport parking \$540</li> <li>• Accommodation \$ 3,900</li> <li>• Vehicle rental \$1,800</li> <li>• Meals/incidentals \$ 1,290</li> </ul>	<p><b>6 Board Members</b>  Rtn travel @ \$750 pp, \$4500; Airport parking \$15/day,  6 days \$540; Accommodation @ \$130/night (incl.  taxes) 5 nights \$3900; Meals/incidentals \$215 pp  \$1290; Vehicle Rental \$60/day, 5 days \$1,800</p>	<p>\$ 12 030</p>
<p><b>Total Budget 12-months</b></p>		<p><b>\$ 200 000</b></p>

Examples of the regional letters sent to schools across each region

British Columbia:



September 25, 2009

**Attention:** School Principal / Administrator / Teachers

**2009 - 2010 BC First Nations' Fire Safety Poster Contest**

The **2009-2010 BC First Nations' Fire Safety Poster Contest** is open to full time students attending a band or federally operated school, from Pre-School to Grade 7 and up. Get your students involved; your participation will help communities stay fire-safe.

**Theme: "Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned."**

**How to Enter:**

- Have your students produce posters (should be on 11" x 17" paper) on this year's fire safety theme **"Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned"**
- Fill-in and affix the appropriate FNESS Entry Label to the back of each child's posters so we have their information.
- And then mail your schools posters to First Nations' Emergency Services

The contest will be broken up into three (3) categories

- Category 1 – Students in Preschool to Grade 2
- Category 2 – Students in Grade 3 to 6
- Category 3 – Students in Grade 7 and up

The posters will be judge on:

- Creativity (Use of theme **"Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned"**)
- Overall fire safety knowledge
- Artistic quality

**Prizes:**

Prizes will be awarded to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners of each category.

If you require any assistance, or clarification, please contact our office at 604-669-7305.

**Closing Date: January 16, 2010**

Yours truly,  
**FIRST NATIONS' EMERGENCY SERVICES SOCIETY OF BC (FNESS)**

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102 – 70 Orwell Street, North Vancouver, BC V7J 3R5  
Tel 604.669.7305 | Fax 604.669.9832 | Toll Free 1.888.822.3388 | Email [info@fness.bc.ca](mailto:info@fness.bc.ca) | Web [www.fness.bc.ca](http://www.fness.bc.ca)

Saskatchewan:



## PRINCE ALBERT GRAND COUNCIL ENGINEERING & TECHNICAL SERVICES

Chief Joseph Custer Reserve # 201, P.O. Box 580 S6V 5R8  
2300 - 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan S6V 6Z1  
Phone: (306) 953-7242 • Fax: (306) 922-1710 • Eng@pagc.sk.ca

August 12, 2009

### RE: National Fire Poster Contest

The Aboriginal Firefighters Association of Canada (AFAC) is administering the national Fire Prevention Poster Contest during National Fire Prevention Week – October 5 – 11, 2008. This year's theme for Fire Prevention Week is "Prevent Home Fires." We strongly encourage First Nation communities and schools to participate in this worthwhile fire protection promotion. As appropriate, please liaise with your Regional Organization fire program and decide whether or not your Region will be participating. All winning regional posters must be submitted to AFAC **no later than January 15, 2009.**

The guidelines under which the competition will proceed are as follows:

- The Contest will include three categories of contestants:

Category 1 - children in kindergarten to Grade 2

Category 2 - children in Grade 3 to 6; and

Category 3 – children in Grade 7 and up

- Contestants in each category will be required to draw and color their own posters.

Prizes in the National Contest will be as follows:

First prize – \$500.00

Second prize – \$300.00

Third prize – \$100.00

A maximum total of five (5) honorable mention prizes

- Eligible recipients will be restricted to full time students attending a First Nation or Federally operated school.
- Posters **MUST** be on 11 inch by 17 inch paper.
- **The names of the artist must be on the back of the poster, as well the grade and the school name.**
- Entries will be limited to one poster per contestant;
- Each participating school will judge the posters, choose one winner in each category and Forward the winner to the Regional Organization or hand-in to the PAGC Engineering Dept.

Cottage 12, 2300 – 10<sup>th</sup> Ave West  
Box 580  
Prince Albert, Sk S6V 5R8

Thank you for your support.

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Richard Kent  
Commissioner  
Emergency and Protective Services  
Prince Albert Grand Council