



Huron Kinloss Fire & Emergency Services Strategic Plan

Emergency Management Group

February 2023

Process

Along with assistance and input from staff, we have been able to complete a full review of the department and the services offered through the following steps



- Governance of the Fire Department
- Staffing needs
- Facilities - conditions
- Apparatus assessment and needs
- Service level standards and evaluation of response data
- Training & Fire Prevention/Pub Ed
- Emergency Planning

Fire Protection Model

The key focus of this Strategic Plan revolves around the three Lines of Defence for Public Safety

1. Public Fire Safety Education
2. Code Enforcement Through Inspections
3. Emergency Response Capabilities

At EMG we also consider the following as a key partner to the above three lines:

4. Emergency Management



Recommendations Based On

- Governance and By-laws
- Fire Prevention and Public Education
- Fire Stations
- Aerial need
- Staff
- Training
- Emergency Operations
- Communications/Dispatching
- Budget and Finance

29 Recommendations that are either operationally or strategic in their focus:

- Operational recommendations can be addressed mostly by staff
- **Strategic** recommendations require large financial investment and possible Council approval, and these are the key to this presentation.

Recommendations Overview

Fire Prevention & Public Education

- To be more proactive, there is a need for part-time Public Fire and Life Safety Education officers to:
 - Have a greater ability to promote public fire safety education as the first line of defence
 - The OFM notes fire safety education as the first line of defence.
- Hiring a full-time Fire Prevention Officer to provide a more robust inspection and fire code enforcement program :
 - Will ensure the frequency of inspections for the community
 - The OFM notes fire inspections and enforcement as the second line of defence.

Recommendations Overview

Training

- With the new OFM Training and Certification Regulation, there will be an increased need for training and records management.
 - Presently, the Fire Chief is the key lead on this program with the assistance of the station officers.
 - This will need to be addressed by creating a full-time Training Officers position to work with both stations.
- This could also be accomplished by filling the vacant position of Deputy Fire Chief and assigning this portfolio of training (and fire prevention) to the new DC position.
 - This will accomplish a couple of things – first, the training needs are being addressed, along with more oversight of the fire prevention and public education program are being met. And finally that the vacant DC position is filled.

Fire Stations



Fire Stations



Ripley - Bunker Gear
Exposed



Ripley – Storage
concerns



Both Stations – No diesel
exhaust systems

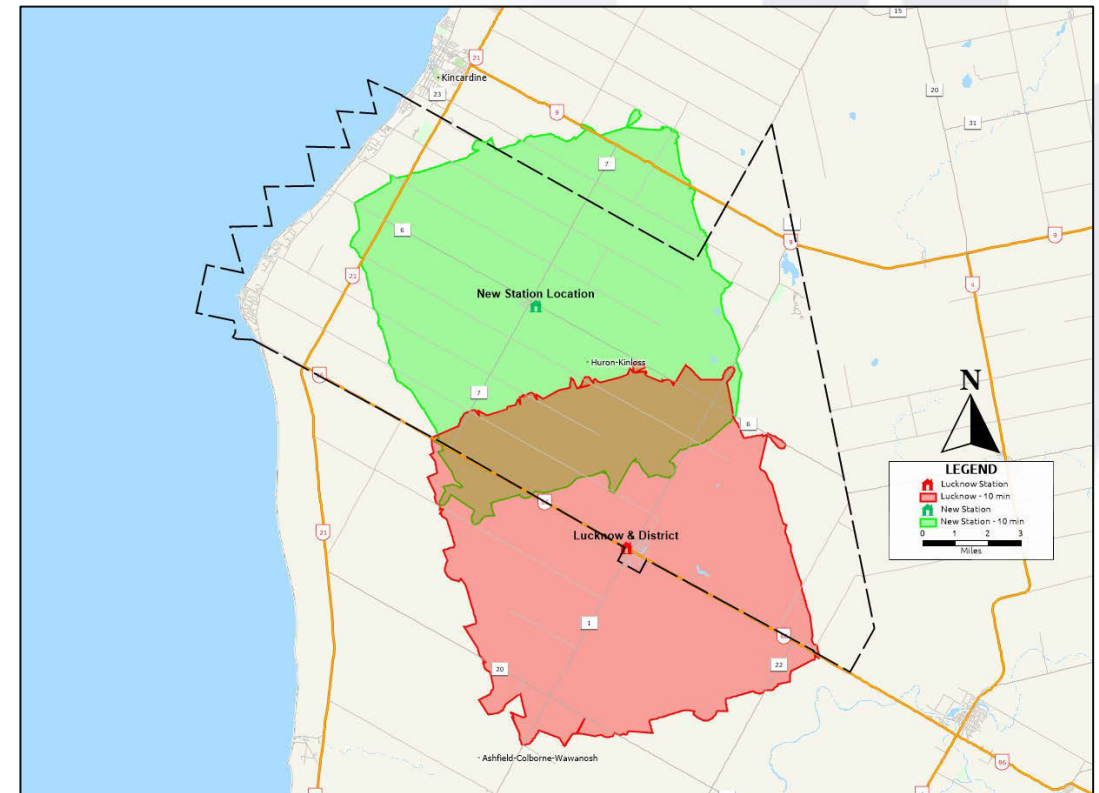
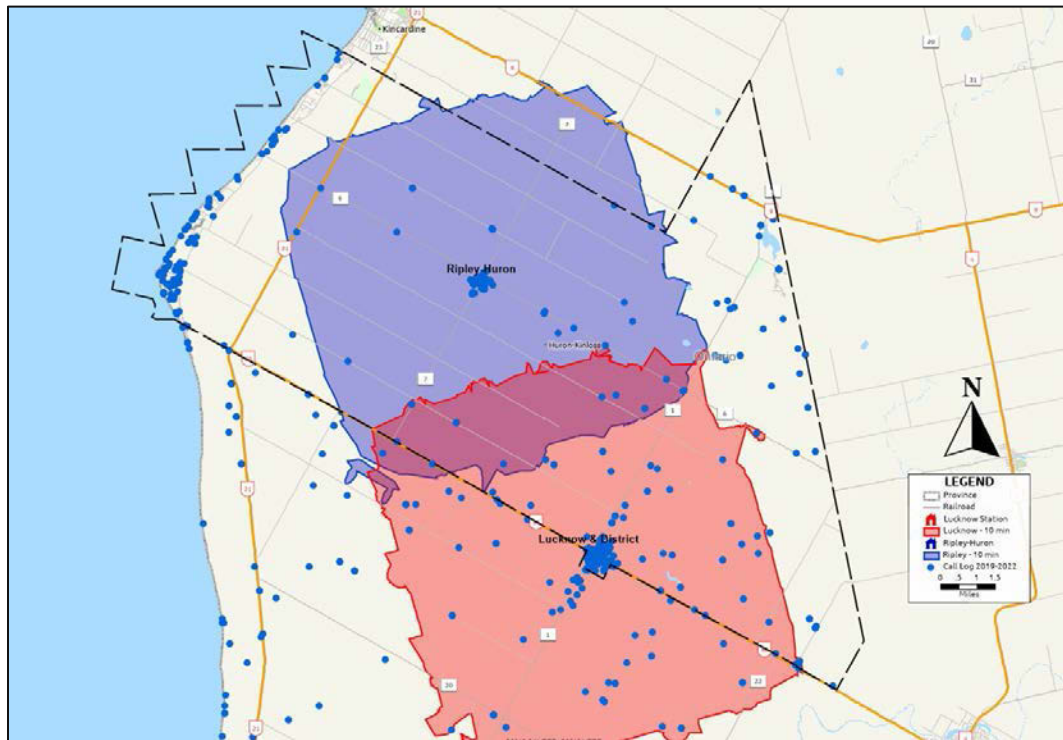
Fire Stations Concerns

- Proximity of the firefighter's gear in relation to the vehicle exhaust.
- No diesel exhaust catchment system at any of the fire stations.
 - The Ripley station appears to be at maximum capacity for vehicles and equipment storage. This creates a tripping/safety hazard to the staff.

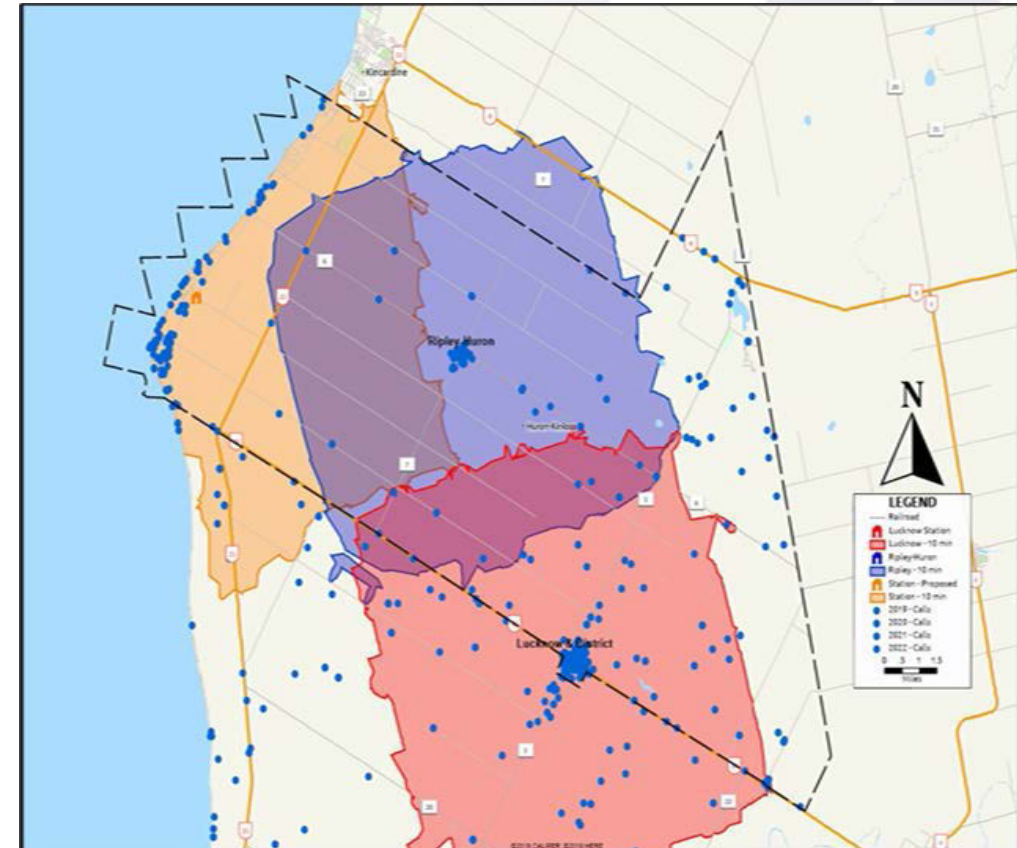
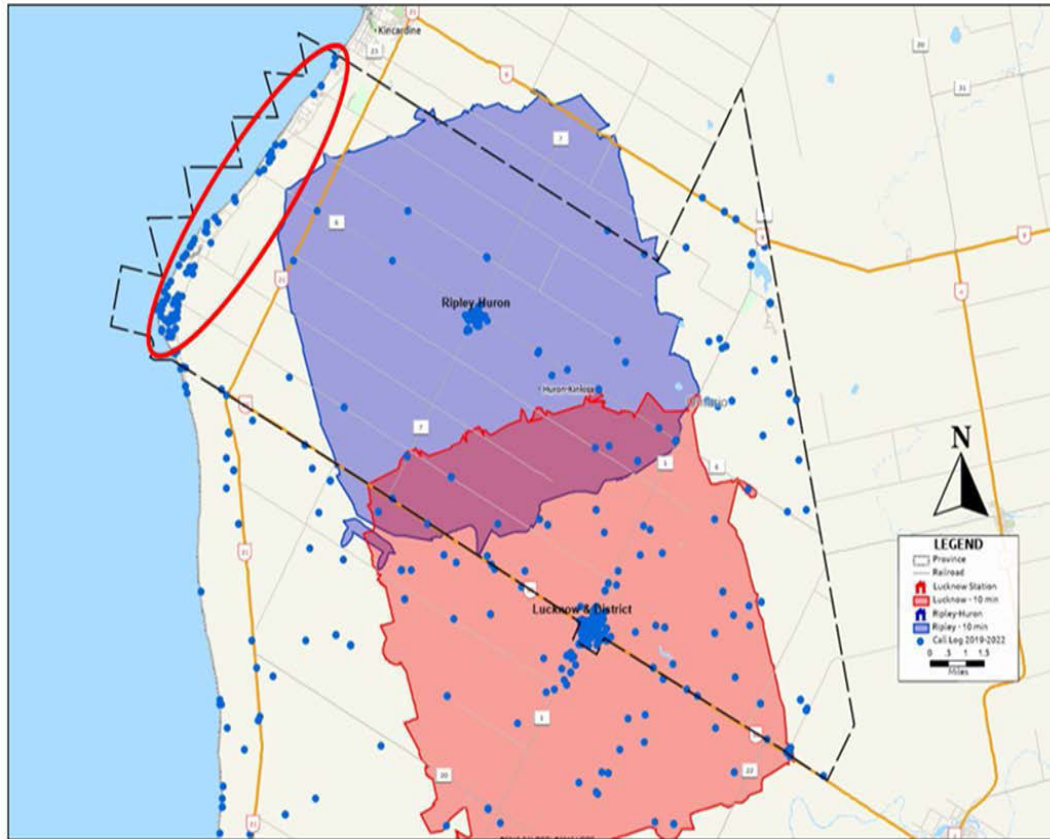
Fire Stations Locations

- The Ripley fire station to be relocated to the nearby industrial area.
- A new fire station to be constructed in the Lakeshore area to improve response and coverage by HKFES

Ripley Fire Station Location and New Proposed Location



Proposed Lakeshore Fire Station Location and Coverage Improvements



Fleet Spare and Aerial Device Consideration

- Presently, HKFES does not have a spare pumper truck for its fleet, which is a requirement by the Fire Underwriters Group.
- Also, consideration should be given to adding an elevated device (aerial) to the fleet – new or used.



This would allow fire department access to buildings that are more than two stories.

Fleet – Wildland Firefighting Vehicle

Due to the amount of wildland/treed areas of the community, consideration should be given to the purchase of a wildland vehicle.



This would allow the fire department access to off-road areas that are presently inaccessible by the present fleet.

Live Fire and Hands-On Training

Training Facility

- HKFES has their own training facility that is very well set up, with plans for even more capabilities.
- The Department should be commended for this progressive endeavour, which puts it in a good position to meet many of the OFM training and certification requirements.



Conclusion

It must be noted that during our assessment it was quite evident that:

- The Huron Kinloss Fire and Emergency Service is made up of a group of dedicated, professional personnel who are committed to improving their level of service provision to meet the needs of the community.
- We would like to thank everyone who assisted in the development of this master plan and the community risk assessment.

Final Note:

- *This presentation has only been a high-level overview of the Strategic items, that would require Council approval. There were also many operational recommendations.*
 - *But the operational recommendations can be addressed by the Fire Chief and Volunteers, with little to no cost.*

Next Steps

- Review the recommendations and create a plan for moving forward
- Feasibility study to be conducted relating to the fire station recommendations
 - Cost and related timelines for implementation.
- Document the implementation and completion of the recommendations
- Track the level of improvement based on:
 - Response times, whether stations are relocated, or the new one in Lakeshore is built
 - Staff training and retention
 - Improvements in fire prevention and public education programs



Questions?

Emergency Management Group
Huron Kinloss Council Presentation - February 2023