

**NEW BRUNSWICK ASSOCIATION OF FIRE PREVENTION OFFICERS
NBAFPO**

**ASSOCIATION DES AGENTS DE PREVENTION DES INCENDIES
DU NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK**

March 2010 Newsletter

Hello Everyone!

Spring will soon be upon us, and clocks will be moved ahead for daylight saving time, which means it is time to change batteries in smoke alarms. Please promote that strongly in your communities. We all know that going door-to-door and offering a “safety check”, or even helping to change the batteries, is a valuable way to educate and promote awareness, but if that is not possible, some ideas may be to use signage in businesses, schools, senior’s homes, hospitals, churches, etc as well as putting a reminder in your community newsletter, or use the free public announcements on various radio stations. Some schools will be willing to put the message across their voice-mail system, so it certainly doesn’t hurt to ask your schools. The main thing is to get the message across.

Don’t forget about the Inspectors’ meeting set by Ken Harris that will take place at OFM in Fredericton, March 31st, 2010, 1pm to 4pm, to go over the OFM bulletins.

Let Randy MacTavish know if you plan on attending: randy.mactavish@miramichi.org

Check the NBAFPO website for more information about the Inspectors’ course, as well as the Webinar taking place on March 18th regarding Fire Sprinkler Systems.

Special notices that have come out are also added to the NBAFPO site. It is constantly evolving, so check it often, and as always, we welcome your comments or suggestions.

We have altered our Fire Prevention Pins to make them slightly bigger, thus easier to see. Each attendee of the Seminar will receive one, as will new members, and then we will be selling them for a nominal fee to raise funds for the Association.

NBAFPO Annual Spring Seminar 2010:

The cut-off date for early registration is March 22nd, 2010. Your planning committee has worked extremely hard to provide a high quality, interesting, informative Seminar for you without raising prices, and Membership fees have also remained unchanged, so take advantage of the early registration and plan on attending.

Check out our website for details of speakers, presentations, hotel information, etc.

Beautiful Bathurst is the place to be April 22nd (pm) to 25th. You need to be there!

We are very grateful to all our Sponsors, and to those who have helped with fund-raising. A dance has been added to the Banquet in case you want to bring your spouses. We have also provided the opportunity to register on-line for your convenience and direct-billing is available on request. Hotel rooms are filling up quickly, so get yours booked right away. Our Key-note Speaker is Michael Gaultois, from Newfoundland, and his bio is on our site, as well as a link to his website, but for the purpose of this newsletter I am going to add his bio, as follows:

Michael Gaultois

On March 26, 1991, at the age of 15, Michael was horrifically burned over 85% of his body. What was supposed to be a fun evening at the cabin turned out to be a tragedy for Michael and his three young friends. For nearly seven months he was hospitalized and for years endured countless operations and extensive rehabilitation to rebuild his life.

Michael feels that we all face challenges but a serious injury should not be one of them. Serious injuries are not only physically painful, but often leave behind a trail of emotional scars that can affect families & communities for a lifetime. For this reason Michael is dedicated to sharing his story captivating audiences ranging from fire and medical personnel, to various community and volunteer organizations.

Today, much of his time is spent in the classroom talking to youth about the many issues they face, especially fire safety. He is dedicated to spreading the message of burn prevention, and in the past 9 years has been active in assisting other burn survivors and their families from around the world.

Michael's personal story of fire tragedy serves as a stark reminder that serious injuries can happen to anyone, but by working together in fire prevention efforts we can truly save lives through education. One person cannot do everything, but we can all do a little something to make our communities safer today.

On behalf of your Executive & Board of Directors of the NBAFPO and our continued partnership with the Office of the Fire Marshal and NB Association of Fire Chiefs, we thank you for your Fire Prevention efforts in your communities and wish you all continued success with those efforts, and a Fire-Safe spring season.

Sincerely,

Maria Northrup, Secretary/Treasurer

On behalf of your NBAFPO

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