

# **FIPEN and the First Nations: What can we do together?**

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**Presentation at the**

## **ANNUAL TECHNICAL SERVICES CONFERENCE & TRADESHOW**

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Alberta

*Alberta Emergency  
Management Agency*

**Mission:**

Lead Alberta's Emergency Management System in the interest of public safety for all Albertans.

**Mandate:**

We are accountable and responsible to our government and to Albertans for effectively ensuring the protection of people, their property, their communities and industry, and their environment from the effects of emergency events.

**Motto:** Alberta – A Province Prepared!

## **What about First Nations?**

The Agency will continue to provide services to First Nations communities effectively and seamlessly.

**“First Nations communities are an integral part of the Alberta fabric that we support”**

Public education and fire preventions programs

Mutual aid agreements

Emergency training - Grant funded firefighter training

Fire investigations & fire incident reporting

Cross-ministry committee on fire protection issues on FNs,

Etc.

# Outline

- What is FIPEN?
- Why was FIPEN started?
- What is FIPEN's vision and mission?
- Target audiences
- The steering committee
- What is FIPEN doing?
- Five FIPEN Working Groups
- An invitation to First Nations
- An update on the working groups
- Questions

# What is FIPEN?

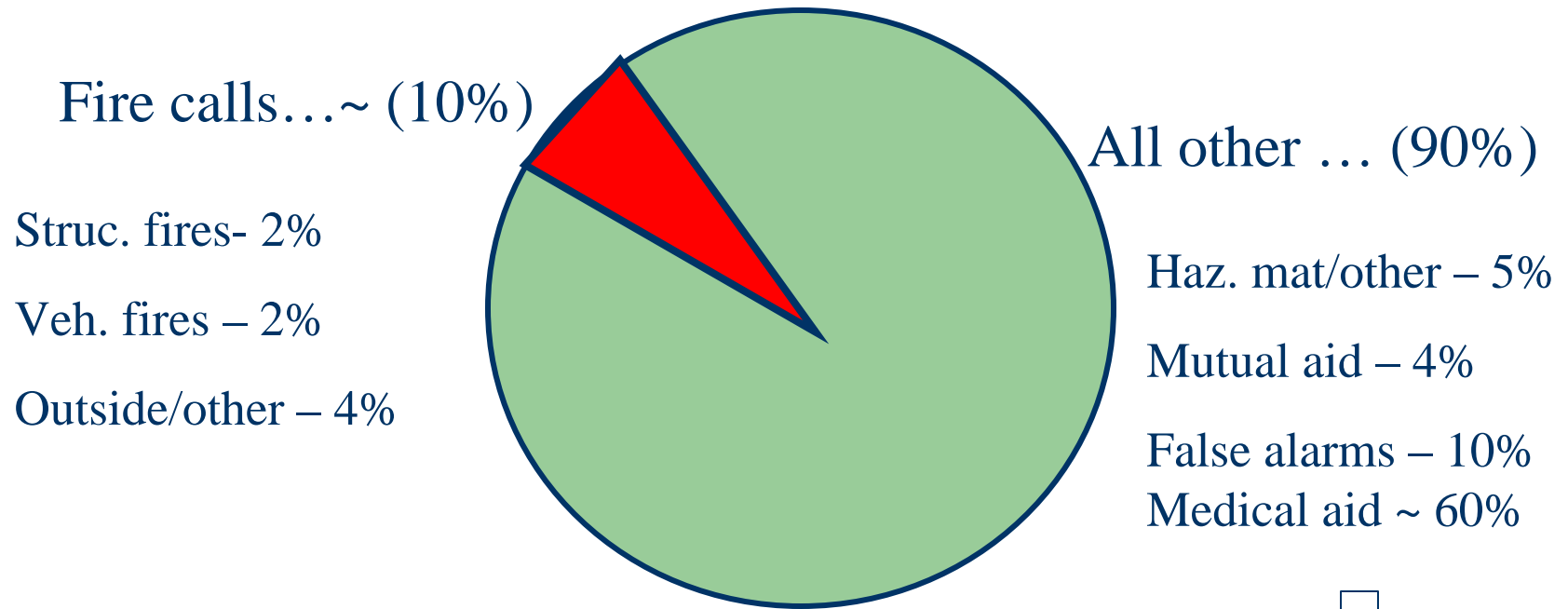
- Fire and Injury Prevention Educator's Network
- FIPEN is a collaboration of:
  - the Fire Commissioner's Office (AEMA)
  - Alberta fire/emergency services and
  - the Alberta Centre for Injury Control & Research.

# Why?

- All children growing up in Alberta are not exposed to life saving fire and injury prevention lessons
- The same is true for other target audiences – First Nations, seniors, disabled, immigrants, building owners/operators, etc.
- Members of fire/emergency services in Alberta have expressed an interest in the network
- The elements of a network already exist in Alberta
- Contribute to a new vision for the Alberta Fire Service.

# Why?

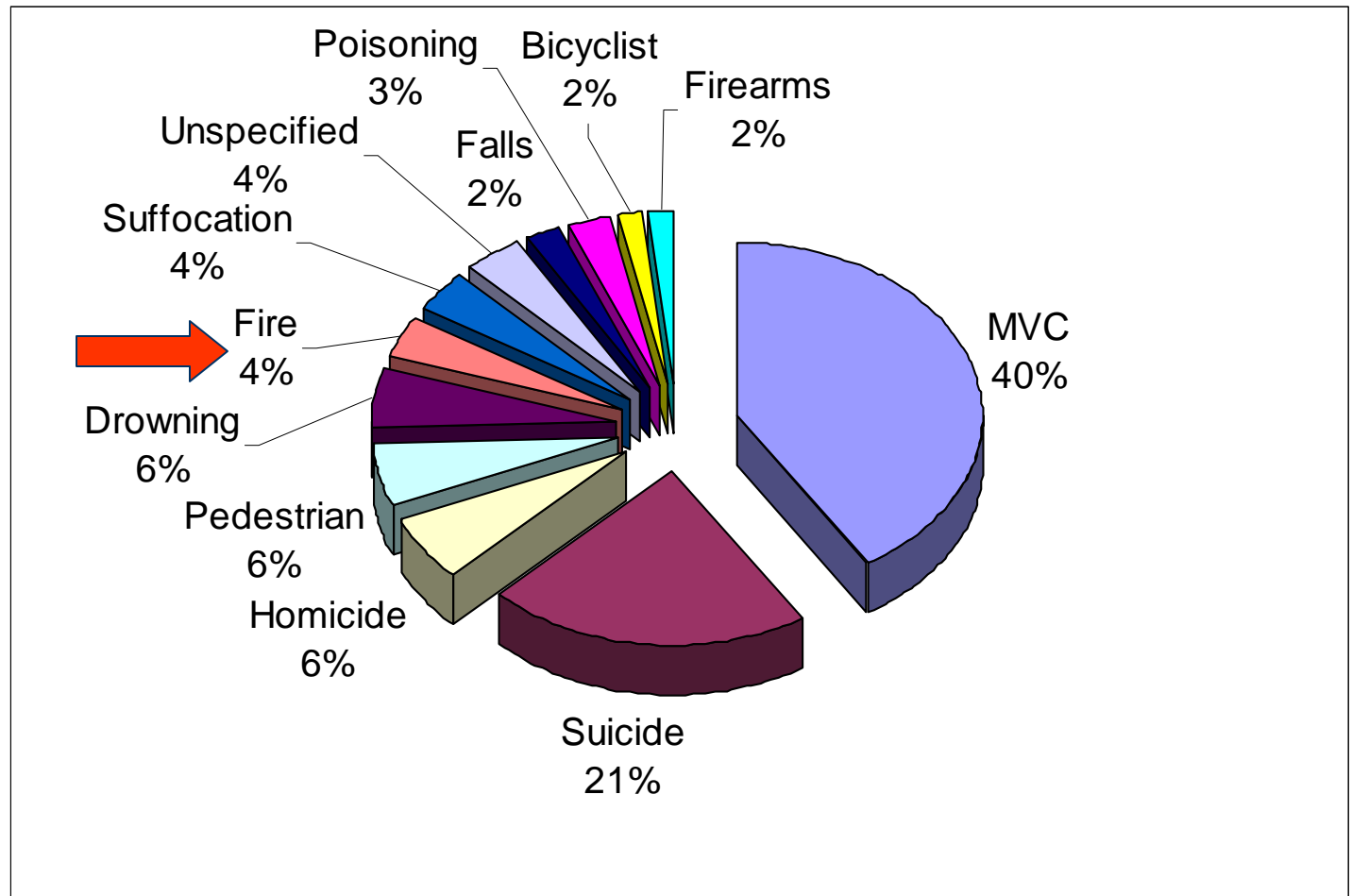
## Fire Department Calls (NFPA – 2005)



Injury incidents

# Why?

## Causes of Death in Alberta Children



# Why?

## Balancing Priorities



Reactive  
perspective



Prevention  
perspective

# Transition

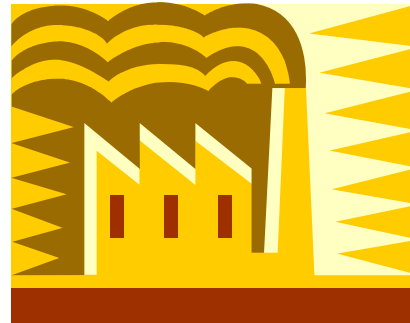
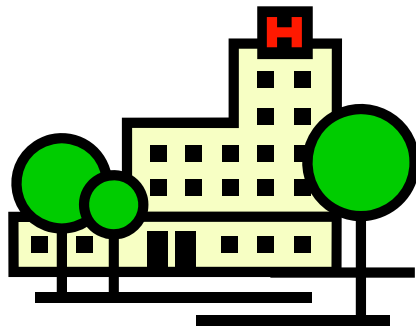
From fire safety to  
fire and injury prevention



# What is FIPEN's vision and mission?

- The vision of FIPEN is “*Making Alberta the safest place to live.*”
- Its mission is to contribute to a reduction in the frequency and severity of fires and injuries in Alberta.
- Recognize and reduce gaps in the delivery of fire and injury prevention education in Alberta
- To make fire and injury prevention education a priority for the Alberta fire/emergency services.

# Target Audiences...



# Three parts of FIPEN

**Advisory Committee**

**Steering Committee**



**Network of Educators**

# Steering Committee

- Co-Chairs: Mahendra & Tim Vandenbrink
- ACICR
- Municipal Fire Departments:  
Edmonton; Calgary; Red Deer; Lethbridge;  
Medicine Hat; Grande Prairie; Bonnyville.
- Risk Watch Champion Management Team
- Alberta Firefighters Association
- Alberta Fire Chiefs Association

Consultant: Liza Sunley

# What is FIPEN doing?

- Examining current risks to Albertans in terms of fire and unintentional injuries (report available)
- Recommending preventative strategies
- Identifying **potential roles the fire/emergency services in Alberta can play** in public fire safety and injury prevention education.

# Five FIPEN Working Groups

Priority issues (based on consultant's report):

- Arson
- Home/Residential Fire Issues
- Injuries among Teens and Young Adults
- Motor Vehicle Related Injuries
- Seniors (High risk for injuries and falls)

# An invitation from FIPEN to First Nations

If you are interested in contributing to the work on any of the following priority issues, you are welcome to join a Working Group:

- Arson
- Home/Residential Fire Issues
- Injuries among Teens and Young Adults
- Motor Vehicle Related Injuries
- Seniors (High risk for injuries and falls)

Please contact Liza Sunley or Mahendra if interested

# An update on the Working Groups

Four Working Groups have begun work and determined their scope of activities:

- Arson: Juvenile Firesetters, General Public Education, Construction Safety, Fires in Aboriginal Communities
- Home/Residential Fire Issues: Home Safety Check, After the Emergency
- Motor Vehicle Related Injuries: Occupant Restraints
- Seniors: Falls

For further information: Contact Liza Sunley/Mahendra



