

## **FR REPORT**

The FR group was well represented at the UNDE Triennial Convention with approximately 12 FRs in attendance representing TB and Seperate Employer Locals. We met as a group a couple times and discussed issues, at the time the re-emergence of the PT Test was a hot issue, and exchanged emails and phone numbers.

Since August, the FR Wellness Committee has had a couple conference phone calls where the desire of the CFFM's office to reinstitute a timed PT test was made clear. This led to a meeting of the FR Steering Committee, where we invited the CFFM to attend, and hear our proposal. LCol Brooks, the CFFM agreed, and so Brother Jason Elder from CFB Suffield laid out a proposal to the committee and LCol Brooks for a confidential, non-punitive, peer driven, wellness-fitness initiative based on the IAFF model which was jointly developed between labour and management. The IAFF model has for a basis, a thorough medical, and then has peer trainers run firefighters through a series of events, and offer specific ideas on exercises to address areas of concern. The results are confidential, designed to help maintain or improve fitness, not as a form of punishment. Details of the test can be viewed on the IAFF website. LCol Brooks heard what we had to say, and agreed to set up a working group made up of 4 members of the FR Steering Committee (3 plus a co-chair) and 4 appointed by the CFFM's office.

We held elections and Brother Jason Elder, Brother Orlando Hamm, and Brother Carl Darveau, were elected as members with Brother Serge Desbiens elected co-chair. This working group will look at options and attempt to come up with a way ahead that is agreeable to both firefighters and management.

I have accepted an assignment at the CFFM's office in Ottawa and therefore will no longer be the rep from Alberta on the FR Steering Committee, so Brother Bill McKeown from Wainwright has agreed to fill that position. This is the first time that the Wainwright Fire Department has had a representative on a FR national committee, and we are very happy to welcome Bill to that role.

Blair Winger