UNITED FIRE FIGHTERS OF WINNIPEG
LOCAL 867 - INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS
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Please address all correspondence to the Secretary

I would like to thank the committee members for giving me this time to speak here today.

We are asking this committee to consider the following motion: we need 8 Fire Fighters to be hired so as to raise the on-duty Fire Fighter compliment from 158 to 160 per shift.

We are asking for this because we are being asked to do more every year. There has been a phenomenal increase in the number of medical calls that we attend to and we have voluntarily increased our medical training.

Statistics:

1997	7,500 Medical Calls
2000	13,500 Medical Calls
2002	27,500 Medical Calls

You will note that between 1997 and 2000 the number of medical calls almost doubled. Between 2000 and 2002, in just two years, our medical calls more than doubled once again. This is an increase of 20,000 Emergency Medical Calls that Fire Fighters have attended to. During this time there has been no increase in the number of on-duty Fire Fighters. In fact, our numbers have actually decreased. Decreased because of budget cuts. Further to this, demographic trends suggest that we will again have increased medical interventions to attend to in the future.

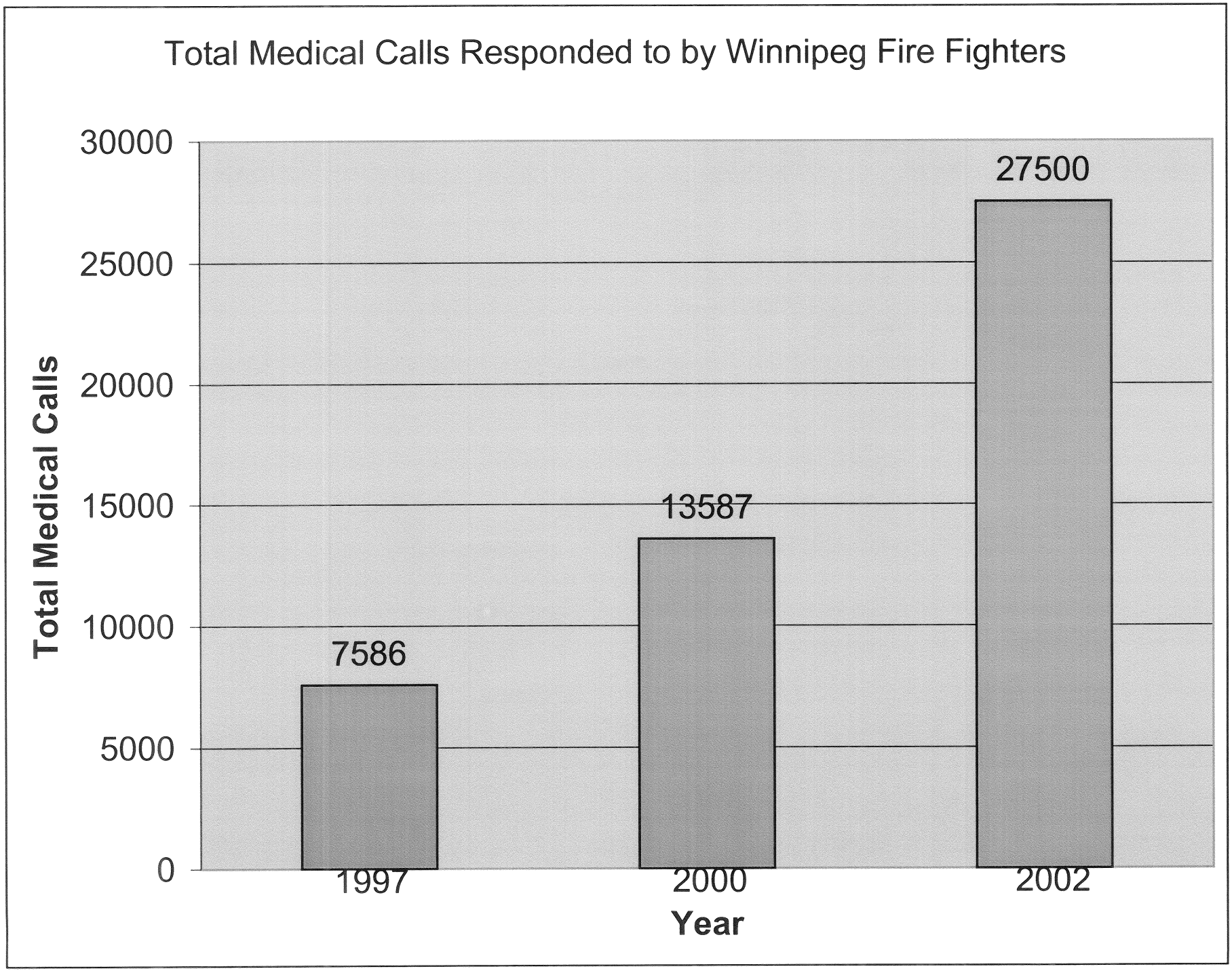
Because of the increased number of medical calls Fire Fighters attend to we are now creating "fast attack" machines. These are new machines that will enhance our ability to serve the public for emergency responses.

However, we are limited by our minimum staffing level of 158 Fire Fighters per shift. To put the new fast attack vehicle into service for South Winnipeg the Administration proposes that we delete a fire pump or a rescue from another area of the City.

We cannot have any machines deleted. We cannot steal from Peter to pay Paul, and we cannot delete a machine from Downtown, St. James or Elmwood to staff a new machine for South Winnipeg.

We are not only doing all these medical calls, we are also fighting fires, respond to Hazardous Material incidents, Water Rescue, motor vehicle accidents and every other emergency situation imaginable.

We have done our part to assist the city in providing appropriate emergency medical response. We have voluntarily upgraded our medical skills to that of Paramedic Medicine and we are asking you today to support our motion.


Total Medical Calls Responded to by Winnipeg Fire Fighters
Total Medical Calls
30000
25000
20000
15000
10000
5000
0
7586
13587
27500
1997
2000
2002
Year

Costing

Four Lieutenant Positions (Fast Attack) 2004

1	Promote 4 Fire Fighters to Lieutenant	$4576 X 4		$18,304.00
2	Hire 4 New Recruits	$34450 X 4		$137,800.00
3	Benefits of New Hires	20% of Scale	($137,800.00 X 20%)	$27,560.00
	Total			**$183,664.00**

Salary Increase

Cost of New Hire in 2005	$183,664.00 + $11648.00	$195,312.00
Cost of New Hire in 2006	$195,312.00 + $16,016.00	$211,328.00

Costing

Four Safety Captain Positions - 2004

1	Promote 4 Lieutenants to 4 Captain Positions	$5720.00 X 4		$22,880.00
2	Promote 4 Fire Fighters to Lieutenant Positions	$4576.00 X 4		$18,304.00
3	Hire 4 New Recruits	$34450.00 X 4		$137,800.00
4	Benefits of New Hires at 20% of Total Salary	$137,800.00 X 4	($137,800.00 X 20%)	$27,560.00
	Total			**$206,544.00**

*Salary Increase (Projected)

Cost of New Hire in 2005	$206,544.00 + $11648.00	$218,192.00
Cost of New Hire in 2006	$218,192.00 + $16,016.00	$234,208.00