



Nova Scotia Fire Fighters' Burn Treatment Society

Post Office Box 481 Dartmouth Main, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, B2Y 3Y8

Phone: 902-835-0166 Email: info@nsffbts.ca

Website: www.nsffbts.ca

The Nova Scotia Firefighter's Burn Treatment Society was started in 1982 by three Halifax firefighters who wanted to contribute personally to the fight against burns. Rallying fellow firefighters, by 1983 they were able to incorporate the Society to further burn prevention education and to raise funds to assist in the provision of modern burn treatment.

The membership has spread to encompass volunteer and career firefighters throughout the province. Members represent departments from Amherst to Yarmouth. Also included are members of the Department of National Defense Fire Service, as well as members from the corporate community as associate members. Efforts are underway to further expand the membership throughout the province.

One of the first goals was to start raising funds. The first project, a Hot Dog sale netted eleven hundred dollars (\$1100) over two days of hard work. Since then, the Society has raised well over a million dollars (\$1,000,000) through many projects. The flagship event, the annual "Bowl-a-thon" provides substantial funding and is recognized as a major social event by many firefighters.

Funds are used to promote burn prevention education and to assist in the treatment of burn victims. At the I.W.K. Hospital for Children, the Society has helped by providing advanced training for staff that work very hard rehabilitating burn victims.

A major project, the creation of a skin bank, was established at the Victoria General Hospital in 1986. The Society provided the equipment for the bank and the specialized training needed to operate it. The commitment to maintain up-to-date equipment and training has been on-going. This is one of two skin banks which exist in Canada during 1986, the only one east of Montreal.

Other accomplishments include establishing a Burn Support Group to encourage interaction between burn victims and other interested individuals. The Society also established the Burn Nurses Association which has since become a national organization. Liaison is maintained with other organizations with similar goals on a national and international front.

NOVA SCOTIA FIREFIGHTERS' BURN TREATMENT SOCIETY FACTS / ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- In 1982, a charity drive was initiated to raise funds for the provinces two Burn Units (V.G. Burn Unit and I.W.K. Burn Unit).
- In 1983, the fund was incorporated as the Firefighters Burn Treatment Society. Later on being known as the Nova Scotia Firefighters' Burn Treatment Society, which encompasses firefighters throughout Nova Scotia.
- We continue to supply funding to the I.W.K. Burn Unit, QEII Burn Unit and the Skin Bank.

"Taking Pride in Helping Others"



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- As of 1992, we were classed as the 2nd largest charity for the V.G. Hospital as depicted by the "WALL OF HONOUR" in the main lobby of the QEII Hospital.
- In June of 1988 we supplied funding for the SKIN BANK which later grew to be part of what is now the "MULTI-ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION PROGRAMME", which helps provide improved burn care for Atlantic Canada.
- Gave twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to the County of Halifax to help in the implementation of "LEARN NOT TO BURN" program, and we are showing on-going support of such and undertaking within the province of Nova Scotia.
- Established and support the BURN SUPPORT GROUP which is made up from previous burn victims who act as peer supporters to other burn victims during the time of need.
- Have helped in special cases where no other help was available for the burn victims.
- Have raised over one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to support burn care and education.
- Provided funding for Tap C program for juvenile fire setters.
- In 1998, the QEII Burn Unit was officially named Nova Scotia Firefighters' Burn Care Centre.
- In 1998, Summer Burn Camp for Children and Adults was established.
- Affiliate member of the International Association of Burn Camps
- In 2004, hosted the International Associations of Burn Camps Workshop.
- In 2006 NSFFBTS hosted the second bi-annual Canadian Burn Survivors Conference in Halifax.
- Continue to provide assistance for burn survivor's post-hospital care.
- In 2018 NSFFBTS will once again host the Canadian Burn Survivors Conference in Halifax.

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