

MEMORANDUM

To: Regional Fire Services Trainers

From: Fire Services Division (FSD)

Date: February 13, 2026

Subject: Ground Cover Firefighting for Structural Firefighters – Train-the-Trainer Courses

In the aftermath of the significant wildfires of 2025, the Fire Services Division (FSD) has identified the need for enhanced training for both volunteer and career fire departments in responding to wildland-urban interface incidents.

To support this need, FSD—working in partnership with the Manitoba Fire Commissioners Office (MFCO) and Provincial Forestry representatives—will be offering **Ground Cover Firefighting for Structural Firefighters** in a **Train-the-Trainer** format beginning in mid-March 2026.

FSD is inviting applications from Regional Trainers to attend one of the two upcoming sessions facilitated by MFCO:

- **March 18–19, 2026** – St. John's (Wednesday and Thursday) *
- **March 21–22, 2026** – Deer Lake (Saturday and Sunday)

This is a **two-day course**, and full attendance is mandatory. Due to the limited number of seats available FSD will review applications so that trainers are strategically placed throughout the province.

**Note: FSD is aware that weekday courses are sometimes undesirable but be advised that we have had to work around scheduling conflicts for our assisting agencies to make this work in a timely manner.*

Trainer Commitment

Applicants must be prepared to support their communities and surrounding regions by delivering this training to fire departments upon request. This ensures that, should a Kingston-type scenario occur in the future, Newfoundland and Labrador firefighters will be better equipped with the knowledge and skills required to mitigate such incidents safely and effectively. FSD would like to see each approved regional commit to providing a minimum of two sessions in their region before June 2026. The hosting department will be responsible for arranging and covering the cost of the instructor for these sessions. The Department of Justice and Public Safety will support this regional training initiative by providing \$500 to help offset these expenses.

Minimum Requirements

To be considered, applicants must hold the following:

- Firefighter I certification (or equivalency)
 - Completion of a minimum, two-day or five-day Fire & Emergency Services Instructor course
 - A current First Aid certificate
 - A minimum of ICS-100 would be an asset.
 - Commitment to providing this training to other departments as needed.
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Action Required

Please indicate your preferred course date when submitting your application, as well as an additional date should your first pick not be available.

Expenses

FSD will provide successful applicants with reasonable expenses incurred during the training, including transportation to and from the venue, accommodations, and meals. Applicants are expected to utilize the most economical means of transportation possible. All expenses will be as per Government of NL Travel Rules 2026.

Ground Cover Firefighting for Structural Firefighters – Train the Trainer Application Form

SECTION 1 — Applicant Information

Fire Department: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

SECTION 2 — Course Date Preference

March 18–19, 2026 – St. John’s

March 21–22, 2026 – Deer Lake

Available for alternate session if primary choice is not available: Yes No

SECTION 3 — Required Training

Firefighter I Certification (or equivalency)

Fire & Emergency Services Instructor Course (two- or five-day course)

Current First Aid Certificate

ICS-100 (Asset)

If applicants do not fully meet the requirements listed, please indicate why your application should be considered for this training.

SECTION 4 — Trainer Commitment

I acknowledge and agree to provide a minimum of two training sessions in my region before June 2026.

SECTION 5 — Applicant Signature

Signature: _____ Date: _____