



THE VOLUNTEER

The Volunteer Firefighters
Association of BC

Issue 1
January 2024

Spring Training Seminar 2024 Sunshine Valley

It's almost here!

The date for this years' 2024 Spring Seminar is approaching fast and we're making preparations. Don't miss out!

Registration for the May 3-5, 2024 Spring Seminar is OPEN

We are pleased to announce the opening of registration for the 2024 Spring Training Seminar taking place **May 3-5, 2024**. Go to <https://svvfd.com/registration> for the 2 page registration form and follow the instructions given to register and pay for the event. Registration closes April 15th.

Vendors wishing to attend can contact
Chris Terry Fire Chief LAFC
778-583-5661 or scvfdfirechief@gmail.com

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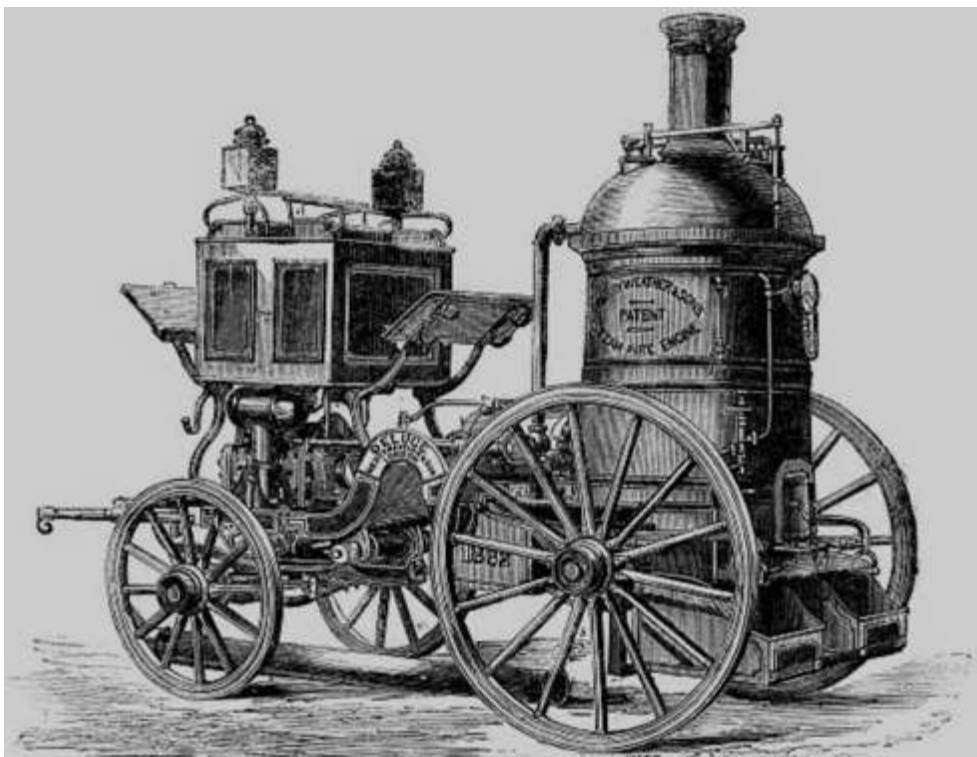
Check out the article
from the Fire
Commissioners
Office on page 8



Don't forget
our website



vfabc.ca





THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION FUND

This foundation Fund was established to help Firefighter's or their families when needs arise. It has been used in the past in the case of death in the family, severe illness, a need to travel for health care and so on. The Fund is maintained through a portion of the Association membership fee.

Claims are made through your local Fire Chief who can contact:

PRESIDENT: Dustin Curry,
P.O. Box 100
Tumbler Ridge, B.C.
V0C 2W0
Ph. 250 242-3939
e mail: president@vfabc.ca

And/Or

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Art Sanderson
921 Jubilee Street
Duncan, B.C.
V9L 1Y2
Ph. 250 748 8871
e mail: executivedirector@vfabc.ca

Please note the administration of the fund is with the office of the Volunteer Firefighters Association of B.C. in Duncan, B.C. Mail: 921 Jubilee Street, Duncan, B.C., V9L 1Y2

Please pass this information on to your Volunteer Firefighters.



WILDFIRE RESILIENCY AND TRAINING SUMMIT

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-Ed Bartley

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HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

THE FOUNDING EXECUTIVE

President: Wes Gillis – Sullivan

Vice President: Pat Clackson- North Cowichan

Secretary/Treasurer: James Urquart – Cloverdale

Director: Don Grant – Sullivan

Director: Merle Hiltz – Sullivan

Director: Allan Clegg – Cloverdale

AWARDED BY THE EXECUTIVE

Ed McIntyre – Pritchard

Doug Wade – Director, Langley

Garry Ruston – Director, Blackpool

Bill Ridley –Sec./Treas., Spences Bridge

Don Gillespie – Director, Revelstoke

Pat Shirley – Member, Salmon Arm

Jim Nelson – President, Warfield

Rick Starke - Director, Duncan



Applications for the position of Executive Director are being accepted.

The position of Executive Director for the Volunteer Firefighters of B.C. and the Volunteer Firefighters Foundations fund will be available starting May of 2024. This position is responsible for the day-to-day workings of the association and foundation fund. Applicants should have a broad knowledge of the volunteer fire service in B.C. and be able to communicate with members and prospective members about the association and other questions that may impact the operation of their departments. Applicants should have a knowledge of financial management and accounting, good computer skills, good communications skills, the ability to plan and record meetings, other skills to enhance the operation of the associations.

This position is open to members of VFABC departments or retired or Honorary/Life members that still want to be involved with service the fire service. For further information contact Art Sanderson at 250 710 5395. Applications should be sent to President Dustin Curry at trfire@dtr.ca

Applications are being accepted for 3 vacant Director positions Lower Mainland, Thompson/Okanagan and Kootenay East

Should be an active member of a fire department in good standing with the Association. Interested in promoting the volunteer fire service. Willing to be involved to improve, support and maintain the Association. Also be willing to sit on committees that may be struck by the Association, Provincial Government or any other agency that would involve the Association. Attend Association meetings, communicate with members of the Association and member fire departments. Promote the association to volunteer fire departments throughout the region. If interested please contact our President Dustin Curry: trfire@dtr.ca

This is your Newsletter

Items of interest, training or social activities, photos, events of interest, equipment wanted or items to be repurposed.



Doug is not on Facebook, or any other social media platforms for that matter. Doug does not have an email account nor does he have a cell phone. Doug is just a hard working guy who is very committed and loyal to his family, friends and community.

Committed to his community, however, is a bit of an understatement. Last night, Doug attended his last training session completing 43 years of service with Mission Fire Rescue Service as a Paid on Call Firefighter.

I'm not sure we will see, in the future, firefighters providing this type of long service and dedication, however, I hope we do. Doug, over the years, attended thousands and thousands of calls and practices during his tenure - he will be greatly missed at MFRS.

I want to congratulate Doug on his accomplishment, and wish him the best on all his future endeavors, but I'm going to have to do it in person!



Lyle Wood
Fire Chief –
Pineveiw Fire
Rescue

Looking for some obsolete lights for our 1982 International engine. Hoping someone might have some on a shelf.



Congratulations to Captain John Berry on your well-earned retirement from the North Fraser Fire Department after an impressive 33 years of service. Your leadership and commitment to ensuring the safety of the community, and members have been truly commendable. Your years of hard work and commitment both on duty and off have made a lasting impact on the department and the lives of those you've served alongside. Thank you, Captain Berry (91) for your selfless dedication. May your retirement be as rewarding as your career.

Lytton gets free rescue truck.

Instead of trying to sell their fire department's 27-year-old rescue truck, Port Moody is giving it away to the Village of Lytton.

Port Moody had decommissioned the truck and an even-older pumper vehicle because of their ages. Together, the two trucks wouldn't fetch more than \$20,000, according to their fire chief. So instead, they're giving them away.

Loon Lake is getting the pumper, while the rescue vehicle is going to Lytton. The village's new rescue truck won't be able to put out fires, but the Village of Lytton says it's still going to be a great help for its volunteer fire department.

In particular, it means the department won't have to take its fire-response engine to respond to road events over its huge coverage area. That will allow the fire truck to remain available and in service more often.

The village hasn't had a dedicated rescue truck to service their large road rescue boundary, so Lytton Fire & Rescue has had to take an engine out of service while responding to long rescue calls.

Although the truck had reached the end in Port Moody, Lytton said the donation "will greatly increase Lytton Fire & Rescue's response capacity for the greater community and will serve Lytton for years to come."

The TriCity News reported that Port Moody's councillors were happy to help smaller and remote communities protect themselves. But they also suggested that other, larger communities should also step up to the plate.

- As reported in Fraser Valley Current, February 1, 2024



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Message from the Office of the Fire Commissioner— Staffing, data trends, training, and looking to summer 2024

As we head into 2024, I am pleased to share with you updates from the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC). The OFC has several initiatives underway, and I would also like to highlight some accomplishments from 2023. We look forward to continuing to work with all of you to keep our communities safe.

Staffing

There have been a few staffing changes. Natasha Sucia has joined the team as my Executive Administrative Assistant. Jenna Saffin has come on board to join Gord Sharpe in the role of Training Specialist. She will focus on public education and fire prevention in the public realm while Gord will continue to focus on firefighter training and competency standards.

Fire Service Advisor Steve Wright will be retiring at the end of February. I would like to thank Steve for his last five years of service, particularly his deployments during the wildfire seasons and his work in revising the Training Standards.

As always, the most up-to-date list of our Fire Service Advisors (FSAs) and their contact information can be found at: [OFC Fire Service Advisors](#).

Data trends

Our 2023 Annual Report will be published in the spring. If you are curious about trends from the past year, the quarterly reports for 2023 are available at: [Statistical Reports](#). Fire reporting numbers have increased again this year, a positive result of OFC's training efforts on the FIRES reporting system and the efforts of fire services. Please keep submitting your fire reports!

Accurate fire data allows us to provide comprehensive statistics to all our partners and also informs where we focus our resources to most effectively deliver the OFC's mandate of public education and fire prevention.

Training

In December, OFC staff delivered a webinar providing a high-level overview of 'why, when, where, and how' to meet fire reporting obligations. We recorded the webinar and posted it on YouTube; the easiest way to find it is via the link on the OFC website: [Fire Incident Reporting Webinars](#). The webinar slides are also available through that link. We will be providing additional information and training about using the FIRES reporting system, including videos detailing how to enter structure fire reports, vehicle fire reports, and other incidents. We will also be adding a field for wildland urban interface fires. Stay tuned for OFC emails and announcements.

In spring 2023, the Province provided a \$1.75M grant to the Fire Chiefs' Association of BC (FCABC) for a project to increase rural communities and First Nations fire departments' access to regional live-fire training. This project will increase firefighter access to live-fire training throughout the province by constructing live-fire training props in select communities. Please see FCABC's update: [FCABC - Live-Fire Training - 2024](#)



Wall- Mounted Chrome Axe

\$375
Mahogany or Black
1990 - CAPTAIN B. MURRAY - 2019

CAPTAIN B. MURRAY
August 7, 1961 - April 28, 2019
 PRESENTED IN APPRECIATION OF
 28 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THIS
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1990 - CAPTAIN B. MURRAY - 2019

- includes 4.5 lb. chrome axe head
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 W: firstresponderawards.ca
 C: 250-938-0803 PST
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42" Ladder with Dropdown Plaque

\$295

- includes 2 laser engraved & colour-filled rails
- 12" beveled glass dropdown plaque
- wall mounting kit & template



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 IN APPRECIATION OF 40 YEARS DEDICATED SERVICE
 Mike Collinge
 40
 1978-2018



NORTHERN ROCKIES FIRE RESCUE
 IN APPRECIATION OF YOUR DEDICATED SERVICE
 FIREIGHTER ALVIN STARR
 40
 1978-2018

Chrome Axe & Ladder

\$595

- includes axe as described above
- 42" long engraved ladder with a custom 12" x 9" beveled glass dropdown plaque
- laser engraved ladder & handle
- no wall stud required/easy to mount kit & wall template included

Plan for disasters





From pge 7

Looking forward

Education: The OFC, working with our fire prevention partners, has created *Get to Know Fire*, our flagship fire prevention education program. The name is likely familiar to some of you, and this program is an updated and expanded version of the previous *Getting to Know Fire* curriculum that brought fire safety education to so many British Columbians. Stay tuned for the official program launch later this spring! In addition to sharing the lesson plans free of charge for fire services to use in their communities, the OFC will also be providing training and facilitation support.

Legislation: The OFC has been working to bring the *Fire Safety Act* into force. As many of you know, it was passed in 2016, but not brought into force. The OFC has been working with the Union of BC Municipalities, regional districts, and the Fire Chiefs' Association of BC to address concerns raised in 2016. The OFC will be reaching out to the fire services and other partners this spring to provide an update on the work. If you have any questions, please reach out to your local FSA.

Research: I want to thank all fire departments and firefighters who responded to the Volunteer and Composite Fire Department Survey. The survey was conducted to provide insight into the operational status and capabilities of volunteer and composite fire departments throughout the province, and your feedback is extremely valuable. We are in the process of reviewing and analyzing the results. Those results will guide the OFC's efforts to support volunteer firefighter recruitment and retention across the province.

Funding: To support fire services in keeping their communities safe, please keep checking the Union of BC Municipalities' Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) site under Volunteer and Composite Fire Departments Equipment and Training. Funding permitting, the 2024 application deadline is scheduled for October 18, 2024. Please monitor the site for the intake date. The intent of this funding stream is to build the resiliency of volunteer and composite fire departments in preparing for and responding to emergencies through the purchase of new or replacement equipment and to facilitate the delivery of training. [Volunteer and Composite Fire Departments Equipment and Training | Union of BC Municipalities \(ubcm.ca\)](https://ubcm.ca/volunteer-and-composite-fire-departments-equipment-and-training)

Thank you!

As we head into 2024, I want to recognize the invaluable service that volunteer firefighters provide to the people of this province. Your dedication to your profession and your communities, particularly the time commitment it demands, is commendable. The OFC is aware of the ways that shifting demographics, vulnerable populations, new technologies (particularly lithium-ion batteries), and the impacts of climate change are creating new challenges and placing greater demands on volunteer fire services. You are an essential part of British Columbia's public safety network. I and my team look forward to continuing our work together to reduce the impact of structure fires in the province and keep our communities safe.

Brian Godlonton
Fire Commissioner



WHY THIS PROGRAM: The Occupational Awareness Training (OATFF) Series

In April of 2022, a wide collaboration across stakeholders came together with a vision to build an upstream mental wellness model that focused on preventing and reducing the psychological challenges facing members of the BC fire service family. Our goal was to provide an inclusive, cost-effective (FREE), and accessible program to BC fire fighters (full-time, paid on-call and volunteer) fire administrators and dispatchers. Historically, mental health training programs in the fire service have been built by outside subject matter experts that failed to capture the nuances of local fire culture, leading to significant challenges around engagement and course completion. As such, the OATFF series is built for fire fighters, by fire fighters utilizing subject matter experts who have demonstrated a history of working with our members to reduce psychological injuries related to the impact of service.

An Evidence Informed Approach

Instead of reinventing the wheel, our team looked to existing mental health programs that showed evidence of success when it came to working with our unique population. In collaboration with Blueprint, the OATFF series features local subject matter expert, Dr. Duncan Shields, co-creator of the BC First Responder Resiliency Program. Since 2017, Dr. Shields and his team has been providing an immersive retreat experience for BC (over 200 BC fire fighters), leading to a statistically significant reduction on psychological stress injury symptoms related post-traumatic stress disorder, with a symptom reduction sustained over 6 months. The OATFF vision was to take the content of Dr. Shields' experience and place it on a scalable educational platform for all BC fire fighters to view.

Launch of the Fire Fighter Occupational Awareness Training Program

In April of 2023, our group launched the OATFF program across the provincial fire service landscape. Within one month we had 4000 enrollments with most municipal fire services implementing the training on-duty as part of compulsory monthly wellness training. Currently the program has been very successful with over 6200 individuals enrolled into the program (56% of all BC fire personnel). This popularity reflects the first time that a universal curriculum standardizes mental health language in a way that reshapes perception of stressors in a fashion that reduces shame and stigma. Our goal is to have all fire service personnel in the province increase their ability to identify these stressors and access care in the earlier stages of challenge thereby reducing the complexity of struggle and contributing to enhanced therapeutic outcomes.

Beta Test Results

Year 1 of the OATFF series was beta tested across 60 fire fighters from around BC. The year 1 course series was rated 4.7/5.0. 93% of this beta test group reported that this series will provide fire fighters and their crews the knowledge and tools to look after themselves and each other better. 100% of these respondent stated this series will work towards reducing the shame and stigma of mental health challenges in the fire service.

"The entire program was excellent. Every module was relevant, and the videos really hit home. I can't wait for the rest of the members to receive this training. Thank you."

- Career fire fighter

For more information please contact Mike Roberts mroberts@bcmsa.ca



Online Courses available:

S-100a Annual Safety Review
S-185 Fire Entrapment Avoidance
W.H.M.I.S. for Forest Workers

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Water Conservation Guide for BC – Now available!

January 24, 2014

Water conservation is a valuable source of ‘new’ water that brings benefits to communities of all sizes. It can lighten the load on your existing water sources and systems, increase the efficiency of local water use, and save your utility money on treatment and distribution costs while protecting the environment and keeping water services affordable. Water conservation plans are an excellent means of coordinating conservation efforts to maximize the benefits to your community and keep the number of drops saved per dollar high. The potential savings can be great, allowing your utility to defer or reduce costly investments in upgrades or new water or wastewater infrastructure. As of 2013, over 40% of British Columbian communities have developed water conservation plans.

This guide provides a seven-step water conservation planning process to get your community on track for a healthy, water-wise future. It has been designed to help small to mid-size communities identify and realize their water conservation goals, though it contains information that larger BC communities may also find useful.

Each step shown in the diagram is outlined in a chapter, with step-by-step instructions for how to develop and run your planning process, an example case to demonstrate ideas, and a writing checklist to assist you in crafting a water conservation plan for your obwb.ca for PDF community.

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Categories [Articles](#), [Featured](#)

[Boats weeds lake bed](#)

[Water forum to hear from government today](#)

Having heard concerns about the possibility of a drought this summer, Check out the information on the Provincial Government website.





GET YOUR FIREFIGHTERS FAST & IMMEDIATE HELP 24/7

Learn more about other solutions offered through your Member and Family Assistance Program (MFAP).
1.800.461.8347 | Canada@vfis.com
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When the alarm sounds, your firefighters jump into action uncertain what awaits each and every one of them. Most of the time, it is a quick solution to an easy problem. However, what happens when the complexity of the call becomes a hindrance to your firefighter's psychological wellbeing and now he/she needs immediate help? The answer is the VFIS of Canada Member & Family Assistance Program (MFAP) through Homewood Health. Your firefighter can access immediate support, without hesitation, in order to resolve the potential issue with help of Homewood's experienced, professional counsellors.

GIVING YOUR FIREFIGHTERS THE PEACE OF MIND KNOWING THAT YOU CARE.

Within Minutes your firefighter has instant access to
Trained Crisis Counsellors.

Don't forget this is your newsletter. We can use photos, articles, items wanted for sale. Article can include training sessions, social activities, fund raising or public education or demonstrations. You can even submit news about difficult, special or strange responses. Lets hear from you.



Member Benefits Program

Volunteer Firefighters Association



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Coverage Highlights

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Dependant Life

Spouse: **\$2,500** | Child: **\$1,000**

Extended Healthcare

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80% | **\$2,500** per person per year
80% | **\$75**

every 24 months for adults
every 12 months for children

Vision Care

80% | **\$200**

every 24 months for adults
every 12 months for children

Out-of-Country

100% | **\$5 million** per person per trip

Other Healthcare Services
and Supplies

80%

Paramedicals

80% | **\$500** per practitioner per year

Acupuncturist, physiotherapist,
chiropractor, naturopath,
podiatrist, massage therapist,
psychologist

Dental

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(cleanings, fillings, x-rays,
extractions, scaling)

80%

Major Services
(crowns, bridges, dentures)

50%

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Employee Benefits Consultant

T: 250 869 3820

E: denise.henderson@acera.ca

Isabelle Beattie

Client Service Associate

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VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION OF B.C.

921 JUBILEE STREET, DUNCAN, B.C. V9L 1Y2

FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Hello esteemed membership of the Volunteer Firefighters Association of BC.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter – YOUR newsletter in fact! I hope you find its contents meaningful and relevant to you in some way, shape or form. We are always looking for new content, so feel free to pass along any stories, articles, or events to your Zone Director or you can send them directly to newsletter@vfabc.ca.

2023 was quite a busy year for many of our member departments for a wide variety of reasons. Many of you travelled well outside of your own communities to lend aid to others during yet another intense wildfire season. On behalf of the executive, I would like to express our gratitude to all of the fire services personnel that put the needs of other communities above their own. Job well done.

The past year was also a busy one for the VFABC. The association continued to be an advocate for volunteer firefighters in the province on multiple issues affecting our operations. These include issues such as Fire Prevention, Mental Health and Resiliency, and most recently, Rechargeable Battery Safety. Additionally, the association continues to work with the BC Office of the Fire Commissioner regularly to act as the voice for the volunteer firefighter in this province. Our website transition is still underway and continues to improve each time I look at it. You may also find us on various social media platforms now too!

As you read through this newsletter, you may notice that we are looking to fill some vacancies within the executive of the association. We need interested individuals just like you to represent the areas of Thompson-Okanagan, Northwest BC, East Kootenay, and the Lower Mainland. You do not have to be an active member of the fire service to fill these roles, just able to visit fire halls from time to time to establish excellent relationships. We cannot advise on issues that we do not know about. Again, this is YOUR association, and we are here to help.

Lastly, we are still seeking someone to take the reigns as our Executive Director. This position is integral to the operations of the association and accomplishes much of the “behind the scenes” work. Experience in the fire service is ideal, but not necessary for this position, however, exceptional administrative skills are a must. If you are interested in any of our vacancies or wish to find out more, please contact me directly at president@vfabc.ca

We are always looking for more departments to become members of the VFABC. Please consider the benefit that this association could have for your firefighters and join today.

Thank you all for what you do. Day in and day out, you make this province a safer place to live, work and play.

Stay Safe out there.

Dustin Curry
VFABC President

UBCM Financial opportunities

A reminder from our Director's fall meeting that UBCM has several grants available for local

Current Opportunities

The following programs are currently accepting applications:

- **2024 FireSmart Community Funding and Support** – Applications accepted from October 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023
- **2023/2024 Complete Communities** – Deadline: January 12, 2024
- **2024 Emergency Support Services Equipment and Training** – Deadline: January 26, 2024
- **2024 Active Transportation Planning** – Deadline: February 9, 2024
- **2024 Emergency Operations Centres Equipment and Training** – Deadline: February 23, 2024
- **2024 Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Change** – Deadline: March 28, 2023

communities and emergency services, this is just a sample, so check their website ubcm.ca:

Don't forget to check into gaming grants!



Layla W / Ecole Lac Des Bois

Winner – Grade 3 (Prince George Fire Rescue)



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**New wildland firefighter hiring strategy to
keep communities safer**



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Headquarters



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Saanichton, BC
Mailing Address
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24 Hour Contact Number 1-888-988-9488
E-mail OFC@gov.bc.ca
Fax: 250-952-4888

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Marcel Profeit	Northeast	Marcel.Profeit@gov.bc.ca
Keith Stecko	Northwest	Keith.Stecko@gov.bc.ca
Dan Wood	Vancouver Island	Dan.Wood@gov.bc.ca





2024 Fire Department Members

Atlin VFD	Keromeos & District	Sechelt FD
Bralorne FD	VFD Malaspina VFD	Shawnigan Lake VFD,
Buckhorn FD	Mill Bay FPD	Sproat Lake VFD
Burton VFD	Nakusp & District VFD	Sun Peaks FR
BX-Swan Lake FR	North Cowichan FD,	Sunshine Village VFD
Chase FR,	Northern Rockies FR	Taylor FR
Cowichan Bay FR,	Otter Point VFD	Thetis Island VFD
Dashwood FD	Oyster River FR	Tofino VFD
Deep Bay FPD	Parksville FR	Toms Lake & District VFD
East Sooke VFD	Pender Harbour FPD	Tulameen & District FD
Field FR,	Port Moody Volunteer	Union Bay VFA
Gibsons & District VFD	Firefighters	Willowbrook VFD
Gilles Bay VFD	Quadra Island FD	Whistler VFD
Horsefly VFD	Roberts Creek VFD	Ootischenia Fire Dept.
Houston VFD	Robson VFD, Salmon	
Kent V	Arm VFD	

Associate Members

Dynamic Rescue	KGC Fire Rescue Inc.	Rocky Mountain Phoenix
Systems Inc.	Provident-Michael Crowe	WFR Wholesale Fire &
Irwin Air	ResQtech Systems Inc.	Rescue Ltd.

Individual Members

Bob Claus	Mac Gregory	Scott Porritt
Bob Dubbert (Firefighters Without Borders)	Jake Jacobson (Wildwood Resources)	

Attention

When submitting payments, PLEASE include your application form so we can properly identify the department or hall the payment should be attributed to. This is an on going problem which generates phone calls and emails inquiring as to why they are not on the membership list in the newsletter. Please pass this information on to whom ever is submitting payment, we try hard to maintain our records correctly.

Thanks

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THE VOLUNTEER

“THE VOLUNTEER” is the official newsletter of the Volunteer firefighters’ Association of British Columbia. The Volunteer is publisher three times a year. February, June and October. Editorial Deadlines are: February 15, June 15 and October 15. The newsletter is distributed throughout the province of BC. Copies are distributed to manufacturers across Canada. About 600 newsletters are distributed for each issue. Non-members may be sent a copy of the newsletter for information purposes.

Advertisements

The advertisement rates for non-members are:

\$100.00 per page	\$50.00 per half page
\$25.00 per quarter page	\$10.00 per business card size

We also have a shared mailing program under which inserts are included with the newsletter at a cost of \$100.00 per page or \$175.00 for 2 or 3 pages. For heavy pamphlet types of inserts rates are negotiable. Advertisements for Member Halls are free. Advertisements for non-members is double those shown above. The Volunteer is printed in black and white on 8 x 11 pages. Please allow for margins of 1.2 cm. It is best to send camera ready material or an e-mail attachment. The Volunteer welcomes submissions. Letters to the Editor or articles of interest to the fire service in general. These may be e-mailed to newsletter@vfabca.ca and/or mail/courier if needed to: Lloyd Delves, 73-27111 0 Ave, Aldergrove, BC, V4W 2T2

Opinions expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the Volunteer Firefighters’ Association of BC.

Check out our website www.vfabca.ca



Communicating during a disaster

How will you reach your loved ones in an emergency? Make sure communication is part of your plan. Get started with @PreparedBC's fill-in-the-blanks emergency plan: preparedbc.ca/emergencyplan

Sometimes phone lines can get jammed during an emergency. Make sure the people you live with have a backup plan so that everyone can get in touch. A private social media group is a great option! Make your emergency plan today: preparedbc.ca/emergencyplan

DYK you should designate an out-of-province emergency contact? Someone who lives far away & doesn't face the same hazards, can act as a check-in if you're having trouble reaching people locally. Learn how to make your emergency plan: preparedbc.ca/emergencyplan

During an emergency, returning home might not be the safest option for you and the people you live with. Agree on an emergency meeting place so everyone knows how to reunite. Visit @PreparedBC to make your plan: preparedbc.ca/emergencyplan

We're all in this together. Meet your neighbours & talk about how you can support each other during an emergency. Include their contact info in your plan and encourage them to make a plan, too. @PreparedBC can help you start the conversation: preparedbc.ca/emergencyplan

Top Tips:



TURN pot handles toward the back of the stove. Always keep a lid nearby when cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the burner.



WATCH what you heat. Set a timer to remind you that you are cooking.



HAVE a "kid-free zone" of at least 3 feet (1 meter) around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.



VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION OF BC

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

All information collected on this form is kept confidential and for the use of VFABC only.

Date: _____ New Application: ____ Renewal: ____ For Which Year: _____
yyyy/mm/dd

Newsletter: Electronic Copy ____ Hard Copy ____ (Number of hard copies needed: ____)

Type of Membership: Fire Department ____ Associate/Manufacturer ____ Individual ____

(Please complete the rest of the application/renewal based on your membership type)

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____

Address: _____
PO/Street City Postal Code

Tel/Cell: _____ Email: _____

Current/Previous Fire Department Membership: _____

FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP

Fire Department Name: _____

Depart. Email: _____

Address: _____
PO/Street City Postal Code

Hall Tel: _____ Fax: _____ Website: _____

Fire Chief: _____ Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Fire Chief Email: _____ Halls: _____ # of Firefighters: _____

Firefighter Status: Full Time ____ Part Time ____ Paid on Call ____ Volunteer ____

Funding Body: _____
(Regional District/Municipal/Improvement District/Society Only)

ASSOCIATE/MANUFACTURER MEMBERSHIP

Company Name: _____ Contact Name: _____

Product or Service Related to Fire Service: _____

Address: _____
PO/Street City Postal Code

Tel/Cell: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

FEES ENCLOSED (all memberships include newsletter subscription):

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER ASSOCIATION and FOUNDATION combined dues.

Department membership: less than 20: \$200 ____, 21 to 30: \$300 ____, more than 30: \$400 ____

Individual membership \$15 ____

Associate Membership \$ 140 ____

**NOTE: THIS IS FOR BOTH VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION AND THE
VOUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION FUND.**

Please send completed forms together with appropriate fees to: The Volunteer Firefighters Association of BC

921 Jubilee Street, Duncan, B.C. V9L 1Y2

Email: vfaofbc@telus.net with e-transfers (auto-deposit set up)



THE NEUROMUSCULAR COMMUNITY IN CANADA NEEDS YOU

Help #FillTheBoot



Fire Fighters have been supporting Muscular Dystrophy Canada and Canadians impacted by neuromuscular disorders for nearly 70 years!

The neuromuscular community needs you more than ever to ensure that critical programs, services, and life changing research continue.

Keep the tradition of helping to Fill The Boot alive!

Rahul Rajanala, *Community Fundraising Officer*
1-800-567-2873 x2231
rahul.rajanala@muscle.ca | muscle.ca

