



THE VOLUNTEER

The Volunteer Firefighters' Association of BC

Issue 1
February 2026

LOGAN LAKE SPRING SEMINAR

**HANDS-ON FIREFIGHTER
TRAINING WEEKEND**

May 1-3, 2026
Logan Lake, BC

- Live Fire Training
- First Responder Defense
- Vehicle Fires
- Auto Extrication
- Forcible Entry
- and so much more!

Registration is open!

www.LoganLakeSpringSeminar.ca



In This Issue

Foundation Fund	2
Director Postings	2
Honourary Members	3
Tumbler Ridge	4
Burn Awareness	5
Haisle Nation	7
Fire Safety Patrtners	8
Mental Health	9
Honour House	12
Department News	12
More department News	15
Membersio List	16
Spring Training News	16
Gear Wasing Study	17
Fire Smart Game	18
OFC Contact	22
Moyie Fire Department	22
VFABC Contacts	23
Muscular Dystrophy	20

Check out our
website
visit
vfabc.ca

**Memberships
are due now!**
Please encourage your
funding authority or
department to submit
your application

This will allow continued access
to the Foundation Fund.
Application form on our
website.

Deepest condolences to the families, survivors, first responders, responders, and Tumbler Ridge community after the tragic events the secondary school on Feb 10, 2026. As volunteer firefighters, we stand with all responders bearing this heavy load. We're here for you. In grief, ve grief, we unite in compassion, resilience, and care for one another.



- Volunteer Firefighters' Association of BC



THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION FUND

This Foundation Fund was established to help Firefighters or their families when the need arises. 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
president@vfabc.ca

and/or

EXECUTIVEDIRECTOR: Bob Graham
executivedirector@vfabc.ca

Applications are being accepted for a vacant Director position In the Lower Mainland

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: president@vfabc.ca



Online registration is preferred, please utilize the online booking system. We will be using a Canadian company called Simpli Events for registration. No other online registration websites (Eventbrite) will be used for the 2026 Spring Seminar. If you require a paper based registration form, please email springseminarregister@gmail.com. Please note, a \$25 administrative fee will be required for each participant registration using a paper based method.

Greetings from Logan Lake!

The Logan Lake Firefighters Association, in collaboration with the Volunteer Firefighters Association of BC, and the District of Logan Lake, are hosting "Fire on the Lake", the Logan Lake Spring Seminar. Join us for a weekend of insightful sessions, networking, and valuable hands-on-training in Logan Lake, British Columbia on May 1-3, 2026. All Spring Session activities will take place in and around the Logan Lake Recreation Centre, 31 Chartrand Ave, Logan Lake, BC.



**WITH YOU
EVERY STEP
OF THE WAY**
www.wfrfire.com

**SOME PEOPLE LIVE AN ENTIRE LIFETIME AND WONDER
IF THEY HAVE EVER MADE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD,
BUT FIREFIGHTERS DON'T
HAVE THAT PROBLEM.**
-Ed Bartley



fire hose 

WFR
SINCE 1984

With thousands of products for first responders to browse and order at your fingertips, along with support from our knowledgeable staff, **WFR** is your Equipment Destination.

Shop now: www.wfrfire.com

WFR Wholesale Fire & Rescue Ltd.
1.800.561.0400 | sales@wfrfire.com

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

In recognition of their commitment to the Fire Service

And

To the Volunteer Firefighters Association of BC

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

Rick Starke - Director, Duncan

Terry Murphy – President, Cariboo

Don Gillespie – Director, Revelstoke

Pat Shirley – Member, Salmon Arm

Jim Nelson – President, Warfield

Mac Gregory – Executive Director, Castlegar

Bob Haddow – President, OK Falls



Volunteer Firefighters Association of British Columbia

Regarding the Tragic Events in Tumbler Ridge

The Volunteer Firefighters Association of BC extends its deepest condolences to the families, friends, first responders, and entire community of Tumbler Ridge following the heartbreaking events that unfolded at Tumbler Ridge Secondary School on February 10, 2026. Reports confirm that multiple students, an educator, and community members lost their lives, and many others sustained injuries in this devastating act of violence.

Our thoughts are with all those directly affected—from the families mourning profound losses to the survivors now facing long and difficult recoveries. We also acknowledge the immense grief felt across British Columbia, where the province has declared a day of mourning and communities are gathering in vigils to honour the victims.

We recognize the bravery and professionalism of the first responders who acted swiftly under extraordinarily difficult circumstances. RCMP members, local emergency crews, educators, and health-care professionals worked tirelessly to protect students, stabilize the injured, evacuate more than 100 people safely, and provide life-saving care. Their actions reflect the highest values of public service, courage, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to community safety.

As volunteer firefighters ourselves, we share the emotional toll such events take on all emergency personnel. The VFABC stands in solidarity with every responder in Tumbler Ridge who will carry the weight of this tragedy long after the news cameras are gone. We encourage departments to access peer support resources and to look after one another in the days and weeks ahead.

The Tumbler Ridge community has long been known for its strength and tight-knit spirit. That spirit is visible once again as residents come together in vigils, mutual support, and collective mourning. The VFABC is keeping this community close in our hearts and remains ready to support our colleagues and partners in any way we can.

In this painful time, may we all honour the victims by supporting one another, caring for our first responders, and holding together as communities committed to safety, compassion, and resilience.

– Volunteer Firefighters Association of British Columbia.



BURN AWARENESS WEEK 2026
FEBRUARY 1-7

IDENTIFY HAZARDS IN YOUR SPACE
Spot burn risks where they happen, hot equipment, electrical panels, fuel storage, chemicals, and cooking areas. Address issues early.

REVIEW SAFETY GEAR & PPE
Check that personal protective equipment is available, in good condition, and appropriate for the tasks at hand. Replace damaged gear promptly.

PRACTICE EMERGENCY PROCEDURES
Ensure exits are clear, alarms are working, and staff know what to do in the event of fires, chemical exposures, or equipment failures.

TRAIN REGULARLY
Conduct safety refreshers throughout the year so new and long-time team members understand burn risks and prevention steps.

MAINTAIN EQUIPMENT & WORK AREAS
Service vehicles, tools, kitchen appliances, machinery, and heating devices regularly to prevent fires, overheating, or malfunctions.

STAY ALERT AROUND HEAT SOURCES
Watch for hot surfaces, open flames, steam, engines, batteries, and high-temperature equipment. Simple awareness prevents accidents.

STORE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFELY
Keep fuels, chemicals, gases, and flammables in approved containers with proper ventilation.

PROMOTE A SAFETY CULTURE
Encourage teams to speak up about hazards, report issues promptly, and model good burn-prevention habits.

Top 5 Burn Prevention Tips for the Workplace

- 1. Wear Protective Gear:** Use appropriate personal protective equipment such as gloves, aprons, helmets, eye protection, or flame-resistant clothing when handling hot surfaces, chemicals, or machinery.
- 2. Handle Heat Safely:** Monitor hot oil, boiling liquids, ovens, and industrial equipment. Open lids away from your face, use proper tools, and never leave heat sources unattended.
- 3. Inspect and Maintain Equipment:** Regularly check cords, tools, vehicles, and machinery for damage or overheating. Follow safety protocols and lock-out procedures during maintenance.
- 4. Control Flammables:** Store fuels, chemicals, and combustible materials properly. Keep them away from heat sources and eliminate sparks or open flames where flammable materials are present.
- 5. Know Emergency Procedures:** Ensure fire extinguishers and first aid kits are accessible. Know exit routes, report hazards immediately, and practice emergency drills regularly.

Learn more about preventing burns

Each year at BC Children's Hospital there are more than 1,000 burn-related visits for both treatment and follow-up appointments. Children with burn injuries require specialized care and a highly trained team of experts to not only treat the physical injuries but also to care for the emotional well-being of both the patient and the family.

Burns happen in seconds and they can be quite severe. Scalds are the most common burn injury in children and adults and often happen in the home environment with hot liquids such as coffee or tea. The majority of scalds are preventable.

The Burn Fund has created a free Too Hot for Tots e-learning course that is available to anyone who would like to learn more about scald prevention. Especially relevant to those with toddlers in their lives, this course offers an informative and interactive learning experience in just 30 minutes. Learn from BC Children's Hospital Burn Director, Dr. Sally Hynes and hear personal stories from burn survivors and their families. The course can be accessed by clicking the play button above.



If you have a BCWS S-100 Wildland Fire Fighting certificate and need to take the annual WorkSafe BC required S-100a safety refresher course, it is available online at www.s100a.com



Any B.C. Fire Department is eligible for a 20% discount if registered with Wildwood Resources Ltd.



The course is an easy to use review of the pertinent safety features of the S-100 course.

Jake Jacobson, the original developer of the course in 2006, is a 35-year veteran of the Salmon Arm F.D., a 37-year BCWS Fire Warden and a member of the CSRD's SPU team for the past 9 years.



For more information, phone 250-832-2300 or email jake@s100a.com
~ *Be careful out there and remember safety is always the first priority* ~



[Trey Hale - Fire Chief at Haisla Nation](#)

Proud moment for our team at the Haisla Nation Fire Department.

We've recently added a ZOLL AutoPulse automated CPR device to our medical response capability—an important investment in patient care and community safety.

This technology delivers consistent, high-quality chest compressions during cardiac arrest, allowing responders to focus on critical interventions and care. In emergency medicine, consistency and continuity matter, and this tool helps us deliver both when seconds truly count.

I'd like to extend a sincere thank you to the Neqcháko Kitimat Development Fund Society for their generous contribution, which made this acquisition possible. Support like this directly strengthens emergency response capacity and improves outcomes for our community.

Grateful to work alongside partners who believe in investing in modern equipment, preparedness, and the safety of the people we serve.



**Don't forget your membership
Application Form can be found on
our website; vfabcc.ca**



Dear Fire Safety Partners,

Since the Fire Safety Act (FSA) came into force on August 1, 2024, the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) has been working to finalize key processes related to the legislation. The latest step in this is the introduction of the administrative penalty process.

The FSA includes a mechanism for administrative penalties in cases of contravention of the FSA and its regulations. These penalties are intended to encourage voluntary compliance in situations of ongoing or repeated non-compliance – not as a punitive measure. They should only be requested after a local authority has exhausted all other options to achieve compliance.

Administrative penalties may be requested for:

- Failure to comply with an order issued under the *FSA*, or
- Refusal to provide information requested by a fire inspector or investigator.

Fire service personnel acting as designated fire inspectors and fire investigators may be involved in this process. Local authorities must request administrative penalties but only the Province, through the Office of the Fire Commissioner, can issue them.

New detailed information about the administrative penalty request process, including the [Fire Safety Act Administrative Penalty Policy and Procedures](#), is now available on the OFC website. If you have any questions about the documents, please contact your fire service advisor or ofc@gov.bc.ca.

In the new year, the OFC will host virtual information sessions to share *FSA* updates and review the administrative penalty procedures and responsibilities. A registration link will be emailed in the coming weeks.

Thank you for your continued commitment to public safety in British Columbia and for your partnership in advancing fire safety standards.

Kind regards,

Lori Cascaden
Director of Strategic Initiatives

Jenna Saffin MScComm, BA&Sc (she/her) | Fire Services Training Specialist
Office of the Fire Commissioner | Public Safety & Solicitor General | 778 405 9309



[First Responder Wellness Week](#)

8 ways to support your own mental health

These tips, tools, products and services are designed to promote emotional and psychological resilience

January 20, 2026 02:21 PM •

[Rachel Engel](#)



Sponsored by

Mental health in public safety isn't just a matter of personal wellbeing; it's integral to the effectiveness, resilience and longevity of those who serve our communities. The nature of first responder work – dealing with emergencies, witnessing human suffering and making split-second decisions under high pressure – can lead to stress, anxiety, PTSD and other mental health challenges.

For public safety leaders, creating a culture that prioritizes mental health is a necessity. Whether it's through peer support programs, mental health training or confidential counseling services, it's essential that first responders have the tools and support they need to manage the psychological demands of their work.

Moreover, fostering resilience – both individually and within the public safety community as a whole – is key. Resilience training, mindfulness practices and wellness programs can equip first responders with the skills to navigate the emotional complexities of their roles, enhancing their ability to recover from and adapt to stressful situations.

Mental health support: Tips, tools and services

To help first responders take charge of their own mental health, we've compiled a list of tips, tools, products and services designed to promote emotional and psychological resilience.

1. Start a journal

Journaling is a powerful tool for improving mental health, helping to clarify your thoughts and recognize patterns in your behavior and emotions. It also serves as a stress-reduction technique by enabling you to work through your anxieties on paper, offering a healthy way to navigate and understand your internal experiences.

2. Track your sleep and other metrics

Adequate sleep is crucial for mental health, as it helps regulate mood, improves brain function, and reduces stress and anxiety. Establishing a healthy sleep routine can enhance overall well-being and resilience to daily stress. Use a smartwatch or other wearable tracker to keep tabs on your sleep, steps, heart rate and other metrics.

3. Calm your nerves with meditation and mindfulness



Mindful meditation encourages you to focus on the present moment, helping to reduce stress and anxiety by promoting a state of calmness and awareness. It's an effective way to disconnect from daily stressors and engage in self-reflection.

4. Invest in a pressure-ful sleep

Weighted blankets utilize the principle of deep pressure stimulation to mimic the feeling of being hugged or held, promoting a sense of security and calm. This can significantly reduce anxiety, improve sleep quality and help decrease stress levels, making weighted blankets a beneficial tool for enhancing overall mental health and well-being.

5. Distract yourself from anxiety

Fidget toys can provide a tangible way to redirect nervous energy or anxiety, offering a physical outlet for stress and improving concentration and cognitive performance. Their use can promote a sense of calm, reduce feelings of anxiety and enhance focus, particularly in individuals with ADHD, autism or high stress levels, making them a practical tool for supporting mental health in various settings.

6. Incorporate aromatherapy into your daily routine

Aromatherapy involves the use of essential oils to promote psychological and physical well-being, harnessing the sense of smell to elicit calming and therapeutic effects on the mind and body. This practice can significantly reduce stress, anxiety and depression symptoms, as well as improve sleep quality, by influencing the limbic system, a part of the brain that plays a role in emotions.

7. Melt stress with a massage

Massage therapy can significantly improve mental health by reducing levels of stress hormones like cortisol, while simultaneously increasing levels of neurotransmitters associated with decreased anxiety and depression. This relaxation response not only alleviates muscle tension and pain but also enhances overall mood and well-being, making it an effective method for promoting mental relaxation and reducing psychological stress.

8. Apply body pressure in strategic locations for relief

Acupressure, a technique derived from traditional Chinese medicine, involves the stimulation of specific points on the body to promote relaxation and alleviate stress, anxiety and depression. By balancing the body's energy flow, or qi, acupressure can help reduce tension, enhance relaxation and improve overall mental well-being, making it a valuable complementary approach to mental health care.

Rachel Engel

Rachel Engel is an award-winning journalist and the senior editor of FireRescue1.com and EMS1.com. In addition to her regular editing duties, Engel seeks to tell the heroic, human stories of first responders and the importance of their work. She earned her bachelor's degree in communications from Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma, and began her career as a freelance writer, focusing on government and military issues. Engel joined Lexipol in 2015 and has since reported on issues related to public safety. Engel lives in Wichita, Kansas. She can be reached via email.



Benefits for Firefighters Protect Your Volunteers & Staff

Supporting your recruitment drive
with solutions that fit your budget



Enjoy full flexibility to Build Your Own Benefits Program
to suit your goals, support your crew & to fit your budget

For your On Call Volunteers:

- Focus on members only, or chose to include families
- **Healthcare** coverage includes 100% Hospital and \$5 Mio Emerg Medical Travel for 60 days; you chose the copay and limits for Drugs, muliti Paramedical Providers (incl. Massage, Chiro, Physio, Mental Health, etc.), and Other Medical Services (hearing aids, orthotics, CPaP, etc.)
- You can add **Visioncare** for glasses, contacts and laser and eye exams are already included
- **Dental** coverage includes Basic for routine and preventative services; you chose the copay, and limits and whether to add Major Restorative coverage for crowns and bridges

For your Career members:

- You can have more enhanced coverage if desired to include member and family, higher copay and limits, and include Life and AD&D protection

For Both:

- Consider adding a flexible **Health Spending Account** offering an annual allocation of funds for the member and family to spend on a wide-array of health and dental expenses

** Attract and retain productive members * enhance satisfaction * boost wellness * appeal to differing demographics * protect your full-time staff * reward loyalty by increasing coverage * save time with easy administration * count on responsive service from your local benefits team...*

We have been providing benefits to Emergency Services across BC for over 10 years. There are several tried and tested programs ready to go, and we work with you to further customize to your needs.

Contact our team today at info@integratedbenefits.ca to start exploring a solution for your crew.



Inland Truck & Equipment

January 27 at 6:15 PM · 🛠️🚛

Big day in Prince George! We were excited to welcome Terik Parascak and Aiden Foster of the **Prince George Cougars Hockey Club** to our dealership, with Chad Kline from **LBX Company, Maker of Link-Belt Excavators** joining the action — pucks were flying, and the equipment got a proper test drive.

This visit was a celebration of Goals for Charity, which has raised over \$4,000 this season. For every Terik Parascak goal, \$200 is donated to **Honour House Society** as part of our broader Project Courage partnership with Link-Belt.

Thanks to your continued support, Project Courage

has now raised over \$152,000 for Honour House! 🎉

About Honour House 🍁

Honour House Society provides a free “home away from home” for Canadian Armed Forces members, Veterans, and Emergency Services Personnel (and their families) while they travel to Metro Vancouver for medical care and treatment.

Learn more about Project Courage by visiting the link below.

[#InlandGroup](#) [#ICare](#) [#PGCougars](#) [#HonourHouse](#) [#LinkBelt](#) [#ProjectCourage](#)



Tator Volunteer Fire Department

January 18

We thought it might be nice to highlight some of our members, so people can get to know us! To kick things off Bryant Kemble.....

The Chief: Bryant Kemble

Meet Chief Bryant Kemble — the boss of the Fire Hall and the guy in charge when things get serious. When Chief speaks, people listen (and suddenly find something very important to do).

Chief Bryant keeps the hall running, the trucks rolling, and the crew on their toes. He leads with dedication, experience, and a strong commitment to serving our community.

That said... no one's perfect.

Chief Bryant has a slight issue with organization. Tools may not always live where they're supposed to, paperwork sometimes goes on an adventure, and “I'll find it later” is clearly a well-trusted system.

And even though he looks 100, he still moves around like a guy in his 60s — which honestly impresses all of us. He has served our community for over 40 years

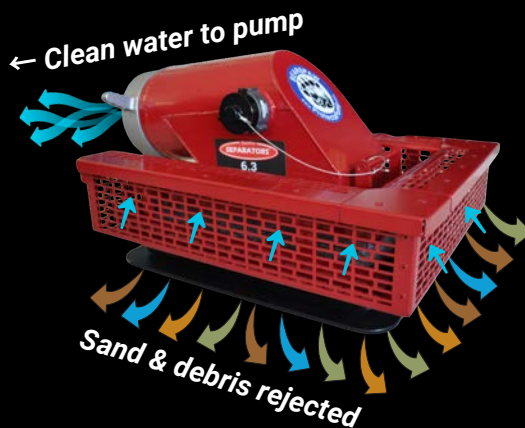
Respected, relied upon, and always there when it counts — we wouldn't have it any other way.

Fire moves... so should your hydrant



Finally, Shallow Water Works!

BearsPaw SEPARATORS® – The “mobile” dry hydrant – made for unpredictable water sources when fighting **Rural & Wildfires**.



Firefighters are switching to Separators... The only technology that drafts clean water from a shallow creek & in less than 6 inches of water. All without risking pump failure - cavitation / losing prime, or impacting aquatic life & habitat.

Separators thrive in shallows, sand, & debris. **What's on the end of your hose?**

Protect your pump • Protect your crew • Protect your community



Mobile infrastructure for a mobile threat



Info & Quotes:
ProtectaPump.com



**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
© 2014 Homewood Health

 **VFIS**
OF CANADA
A Division of CHS, Inc.

 **Homewood**
Health | Santé

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

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.

This is your newsletter

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



Osoyoos Fire Rescue

January 30, 2026

Osoyoos Fire Rescue would like to welcome Everett Cooke as the newly hired Fire Chief.

Chief Cooke has served as Fire Chief and directed emergency and protective services in northern Alberta for over 25 years. He has successfully led teams of both full-time and volunteer firefighters. Among many other qualifications, Everett has a certificate in Emergency Management from the Justice Institute of BC, Certificates in Municipal Management and Leadership from the University of Alberta.

Chief Cooke has family in the Osoyoos area and has been a frequent visitor to the town. In his spare time, Everett enjoys umpiring baseball and spending time with his wife and children. Everett is excited to join our team and lead our paid-on-call Fire Department.

We welcome Chief Cooke to the area and look forward to his leadership to continue providing exceptional service to our community.



Keep space heaters at least 1 metre away from anything that can burn, such as paper, bedding, furniture and curtains.

[Gov.bc.ca/FireSafety](https://www.gov.bc.ca/FireSafety)



BRITISH
COLUMBIA





2026 Fire Department Members		
108 mile, 150 mile, Barlowcreek. Beverly, Blackpool, Bouchie Lake, Bowen IslanF, Bralorne, Burton, Buckhorn, Chimney & Felker Lakes, Cooks Ferry, Cowichan bay, Deka Lake, Ferndale Tabor, Forest Grove,	Gibsons Gillies Bay, Halfmoon Bay, Hixon, Hornby Island, Horsefly, Ilerlakes, Kersley, Lake Country, Lac La Hache, Little fort, Loon Lake, Lone Butte, Malaspena, Miocene, Monte Creek,	Moyie, Mc Bride, McLure, Okanagan Falls, Otter point, Port Hardy, Pritchard, Red Rock Stoner, Radium Hotsprings, Sechelt , South Green Lake, Ten Mile, Tobiano, Tumbler Ridge, Vavenby, West Fraser,
<i>Associate Members</i>		
Dynamic Rescue Systems Inc. Provident-Michael Crowe WFR Wholesale Fire & Rescue Ltd.	Irwin Air ResQtech Systems Inc.	KGC Fire Rescue Inc. Rocky Mountain Phoenix
<i>Individual Members</i>		
Bob Claus Mac Gregory	Bob Dubbert (Firefighters Without Borders) Jake Jacobson (Wildwood Resources)	Scott Porritt



VFABC Spring Seminar - Logan Lake 2026

· **December 12, 2025** ·

Not too many days to go until the Spring Seminar 2026, we have some exciting news to share! We are pleased to announce that FNESS will be hosting a live fire session with their new Burn Trailer at the Logan Lake Spring Seminar! We are so grateful to FNESS for their sponsorship and support!

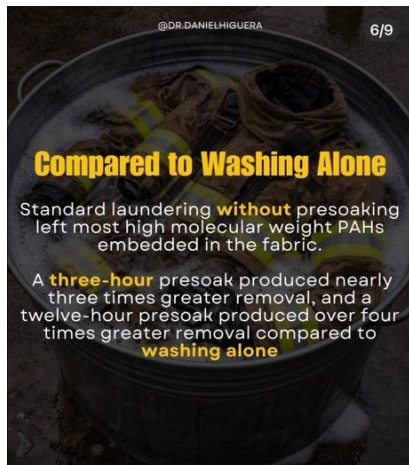
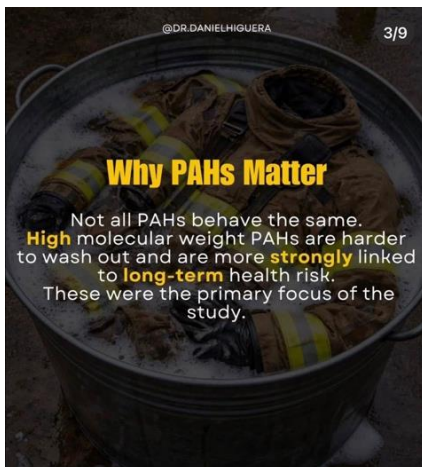
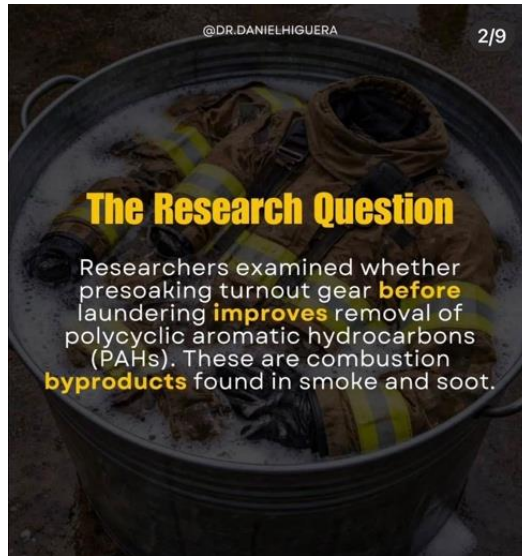
It doesn't end there! Justice Institute of BC live fire trailer will also be on site, doubling the live fire sessions we will offer participants!

A HUGE thank you to First Nations' Emergency Services Society of BC, Justice Institute of British Columbia: JIBC, and FortisBC for their generous support!

As we get closer to the Logan Lake Spring Seminar, we will be highlighting more of the incredible businesses, fire departments, and instructors that will all come together to make the 2026 Spring Seminar a success!



Joshua Carrell
February 8 at 8:56 AM ·





FireSmart™ matching game!

Draw a line connecting each image on the left side of this page to the best-fitting FireSmart tip on the right side of this page!



Move firewood 10 metres from your home.

Keep the gutters on the edge of the roof clean.

Use construction materials that won't catch fire easily.

Keep grass shorter than 10 centimetres.

Prune tree branches within 2 metres of the ground.

Use plants that won't catch fire easily.

Keep your yard free of branches, leaves and other things that can burn.

Remove branches that hang over the roof.





INTERCONTINENTAL TRUCK BODY



**We build 1000+ work trucks every year.
We paint some red.**

NFPA Rescue, Brush & Command; fully customized.

1-888-819-2639 – email john@itb.ca for details WWW.ITB.CA



**CALL FOR
PRESENTERS**



**Kamloops, BC
April 16-19, 2026
www.fswbc.ca**



VIERA

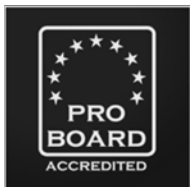
Serving since 2007

ONLINE

- Fire Officer (Leadership 1 & 2)
- FR Instructor Recert
- Fire Service Instructor 1
- Firefighter 1 & 2
- VIERA Evaluator
- Hazmat Awareness
- ICS 100 & 200

FACE-TO-FACE

- Fire Officer (ESM 1 & 2)
- FR Instructor
- Incident Safety Officer
- Hazmat Operations
- Live Fire Suppression
- Driver Operator Challenge
- Technical Rescuer Challenge



YOUR PEOPLE, OUR SERVICE

viera@nanaimo.ca • www.vierafire.ca • 250-755-4551



INTERCONTINENTAL TRUCK BODY



**We build 1000+ work trucks every year.
We paint some red.**

NFPA Rescue, Brush & Command; fully customized.

1-888-819-2639 – email john@itb.ca for details **WWW.ITB.CA**





Office of the Fire Commissioner Headquarters



Get in touch if you need assistance with:

- Fire prevention information and public education
- Training standards
- Fire codes
- Fire incident reporting
- Awards and recognition

Main: [1-888-988-9488](tel:1-888-988-9488)

After hours emergency: [1-800-663-3456](tel:1-800-663-3456)

Mailing address

Email: OFC@gov.bc.ca

Office of the Fire Commissioner

PO Box 9214 Stn. Prov. Govt.

Victoria, B.C.

V8W 9J1



We are pleased to announce Moyle Volunteer Fire Department as the latest recipient of the KENWOOD Cares \$15,000 communications equipment grant. I've attached a formal media release with full details, as well as photos from the Moyle Volunteer Fire Department.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you,

Ashley

Ashley Gallien

Assistant Manager, Corporate Communication Division

JVCKENWOOD Canada Inc.





Volunteer Firefighters Association of BC Directors	
<p>President Dustin Curry president@vfabc.ca</p> <p>North Vancouver Island Geoff Gowans north.island@vfabc.ca</p> <p>South Vancouver Island (Vice-President) Mike Dunn south.island@vfabc.ca</p> <p>Coast Corridor Pat Higgins coast.corridor@vfabc.ca</p> <p>Lower Mainland Vacant lower.mainland@vfabc.ca</p> <p>Okanagan-Similkameen Ash Regner okanagan.similkameen@vfabc.ca</p> <p>Thomson.Okanagan Jeff Camara Thompson.okanagan@vfabc.com</p>	<p>Executive Director Bob Graham executivedirector@vfabc.ca</p> <p>West Kootenay Rebecca Brohman west.kootenay@vfabc.ca</p> <p>East Kootenay Lydon Simmons east.kootenay@vfabc.ca</p> <p>Cariboo Jon Grieve cariboo@vfabc.ca</p> <p>Northwest Justin Lamarcche northwest@vfabc.ca</p> <p>Northeast Dustin Curry northeast@vfabc.ca</p>

THE VOLUNTEER

“THE VOLUNTEER” is the official newsletter of the Volunteer firefighters’ Association of British Columbia. The Volunteer is published 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 loyd_delves@telus.net 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.

Memberships are due for renewal!



THE NEUROMUSCULAR COMMUNITY IN CANADA NEEDS YOU

Help #FillTheBoot



For more than 70 years, Fire Fighters across Canada have partnered with Muscular Dystrophy Canada, ensuring Canadians impacted by neuromuscular disorders receive the support they need.

In 2025, your partnership matters more than ever. Together, we can ensure life-changing treatments, essential services, mobility supports, and groundbreaking neuromuscular research continue to bring hope and progress to thousands of individuals and families across Canada.

This year, we are proud to share Muscular Dystrophy Canada's new website muscle.ca, which includes a dedicated Fire Fighter partner section designed to honour and support our most valued partners. Visit the Fire Fighter page for tools, resources, impact stories, and everything you need to make your #FillTheBoot efforts even more successful.

Keep the tradition of helping to Fill The Boot alive!

Emma Wagner, Community Fundraising Officer
Tel. 604-360-6237 | 1-800-567-2873 | Emma.wagner@muscle.ca

