



NEWS RELEASE

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July 28, 2022

New Rescue Truck for Parksville Fire

In June, the Parksville Volunteer Fire Department received delivery of a new rescue truck which will be designated as *Rescue 45* and will enter service in early August. This truck will replace the previous apparatus which has been in service for 25 years, five years beyond recognized frontline service standards.

Rescue 45 is a walk-around style rescue apparatus, built by the Canadian manufacturer, Fort Garry Fire Trucks of Winnipeg, Manitoba. From the time of order, delivery took about fifteen months following a lengthy process which involved research, detailed specifications, request for proposals, proposal evaluation, and Council approval. The approved budget for this project was \$791,100.

This new rescue truck is equipped with improved braking ability, safer crew compartment, enhanced scene lighting, and larger compartment space to house rescue and specialty equipment. The truck will provide auto extrication, hazardous materials, confined space, technical rope rescue, and other special rescue capabilities within the Parksville Fire Protection Area and be available to assist our mutual aid partners when required.

The Parksville Volunteer Fire Department provides a wide range of emergency and non-emergency fire rescue and public safety services to the Parksville Fire Protection Area. The Parksville Fire Protection Area encompasses the City of Parksville and contract areas within the Regional District of Nanaimo which include San Pareil, Morningstar, Columbia Beach, French Creek, and the Fourneau Road, Wildgreen Way, and Martindale Road areas. Parksville Fire is a composite department with predominantly on-call firefighters and a small complement of career staff. The population of the fire protection area is about 20,000, increasing substantially during the summer months.

Quote Fire Chief Marc Norris

“As Parksville and surrounding area continues to grow, so does the need to renew and update our infrastructure which includes our fire rescue apparatus fleet. *Rescue 45* will provide the community as well as our firefighters, with the most up-to-date, safe and versatile piece of fire rescue equipment. Residents are welcome to stop by the Parksville firehall during regular hours to view this new vehicle.”

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For more information:

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