



NEWS RELEASE

October 4, 2010

2010 Fire Prevention Week in Parksville

National Fire Prevention Week is being recognized by the Parksville Volunteer Fire Department from October 3 through to October 9. The theme for this year's Fire Prevention Week is **"Smoke Alarms: A sound you can live with!"**

Despite the fact that fewer fire losses are reported in Canada, still, on average, eight Canadians die from fire every week. Most of these fires, caused by careless behaviour, are preventable -- which is why education and public awareness is so critical. During this week, fire departments across Canada will promote public awareness of the dangers of fire and the ways we can protect ourselves from fire. Fire Prevention Canada's updated website at www.fiprecan.ca contains fire prevention and educational material.

Parksville Fire Chief Doug Banks says, "This year's theme underscores the importance of making everyone aware of the simple preventative measures they can take to prevent disaster from occurring to them. Statistics reveal that most fires are caused by careless behaviour. An ounce of prevention in this case will save lives, homes and everything that we hold dear. It is the responsibility of every Canadian to educate themselves on the simple fire prevention measures they can take."

The Parksville Fire Department encourages residents are to participate in the nation-wide Great Canadian Fire Drill public safety campaign that runs for the entire month of October. To participate, residents should plan and practice a home escape plan during Fire Prevention Week or any time during the month of October. The community fire drill will take place on Wednesday, October 6 at 6.30 pm - residents can practice their fire escape plan when they hear the sirens. Visit www.safeathome.ca/drill - register to be counted then print off your Great Canadian Fire Drill certificate.

Because the firehall renovations are well underway, the PVFD will not be hosting its annual open house. If residents or businesses have questions about fire prevention, please call the department at 250 248-3242.

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For more information:

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