



Fire Prevention Week Open House at Parksville Firehall on October 15

Each year, the Parksville Fire Department participates in Fire Prevention Week and again this year will open its doors to the public on **Sunday, October 15 from 10 am to 2 pm**. Fire Prevention Week will be recognized from October 8 to October 14. The open house takes place at the fire hall which is located at 160 Jensen Avenue West.

Residents are encouraged to drop by for a little fun and to learn some possible lifesaving strategies for fire prevention. Firefighters will be giving tours of the station, including trucks and equipment so be sure to bring your camera. The RCMP will be on site with a child restraint technician to conduct inspection of car seats for the public. If you would like your car seat inspected, please bring your car manual as well as the restraint manual so these can be referenced during the inspection. Also, the seat should be installed in the vehicle prior to arriving at the fire hall.

The theme for this year's fire prevention week is **Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!** In a fire, seconds count and can mean the difference between residents of our community escaping safely from a fire or having their lives end in tragedy. This theme reinforces why everyone needs to have an escape plan:

- Draw a map of your home with members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Practice your home fire drill twice a year; one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home and practice using different ways out. Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for the fire department to find.
- Close doors behind you as you leave; this may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire
- Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

Only a small percentage of people know the age of their smoke alarms or how often they should be replaced. The PVFD works to educate the public about basic but essential elements of smoke alarm safety:

- There should be working smoke alarm in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of your home, including the basement.
- Test your smoke alarm every month!
- Make sure you know how old all the smoke alarms are in your home. To find out how old a smoke alarm is, look at the date of manufacture on the back of the alarm; alarm should be replaced **TEN** years from that date.
- When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. You need working smoke alarms to give you time to get out.

The Parksville Fire Department would like families to focus on prevention by planning ahead and integrating a few simple fire safety behaviours into everyday lives. By paying attention and eliminating potential fire hazards in your home, you can make a difference that will prevent or reduce fire related injuries, deaths and property damage.

RECRUITMENT: Reminder to residents – the PVFD is looking for enthusiastic men and women to become volunteer firefighters. For information stop by the fire department, call 250 248-3242 or www.pvfd.ca

For more information:

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| Fire Chief Marc Norris | 250 954-4695 |
| Assistant Fire Chief Tyrone Heigh | 250 954-3071 |