



NEWS RELEASE

December 11, 2019

Firefighting Recruitment 2020

The Parksville and Qualicum Beach fire departments are now recruiting for 2020, looking for positive, energetic and community minded women and men to join their team of volunteer paid on-call firefighters. The two departments have joined efforts to conduct a more regional recruitment for firefighters for 2020. New recruit classes begin this spring and applications are now being accepted by Parksville and Qualicum Beach fire departments.

Volunteer paid on-call firefighters are people who care about their community, wish to be actively involved and have more than just a desire to help people. They also have courage and dedication, assertiveness and a willingness to learn new skills and face new challenges. You will be trained, you will be challenged and your life will change.

Both departments provide a wide range of emergency and non-emergency services to their fire protection areas. Services to the community include fire suppression, motor vehicle incidents, response to medical emergencies, hazardous materials incidents, utility emergencies, carbon monoxide alarms and we perform rescue services, along with other public services.

“Ideal candidates care about their community and will be physically fit, energetic, team players, positive and keen to learn new skills,” said Marc Norris, fire chief for Parksville and Qualicum Beach departments.

Firefighting offers both personal and professional challenges. As well as extensive professional training in all aspects of firefighting, the benefits of being a volunteer firefighter include community recognition and personal satisfaction, the chance to make new friends, develop skills as team members and be involved in community activities; from firefighting and rescue to public education. The departments also offer junior programs for those under the age of 19, providing an introduction to life as a member.

If you thrive on teamwork, want to help those in need and have a desire to contribute to your community, consider applying today. Before submitting an application, please take the time to learn all you can about the position and requirements. Familiarize yourself with the tasks and the different steps in the selection process. Once you understand what is involved in being a member of a volunteer fire department, we hope you will be able to make the commitment our communities require.

Do you have what it takes to be a firefighter? Candidates for volunteer paid on-call firefighters should be:

- 19 years of age or older (junior member - age 16)
- Healthy and physically fit (medical and fitness screening required), non-smoker
- Good driver (valid BC drivers licence and good driving record)
- Of good character (RCMP security check required)
- Able and willing to commit to the community
- Live in the Parksville or Qualicum Beach fire protection areas
- Daytime availability preferred
- Able to attend weekly training sessions

Open Practice/Training Nights

The public is welcome to attend a regular practice night; a great way to see firsthand what's involved in training to be a volunteer firefighter; to observe a practice, ask questions and chat with members and officers. Practices run from 7-9 pm, please arrive by 6.45 pm and stay as long as you wish.

Parksville Fire	Monday, February 24
Qualicum Beach Fire	Thursday, February 27

Do you have what it takes?

To learn more about being a firefighter, stop by your fire hall during business hours (Monday to Friday, 8 am to 4 pm) to speak with an officer. Qualified candidates interested in volunteering should submit applications to the department in the area where they live. Closing date for applications is Friday, March 6 at 4 pm. For more information and to access application forms, please refer to recruitment information:

Parksville Volunteer Fire Department

www.parksvillefirerescue.ca

250 248-3242

160 Jensen Avenue West, Parksville

fire@parksville.ca



Qualicum Beach Fire Department

<https://www.qualicumbeach.com/fire-department>

250 752-6232

130 Rupert Road East, Qualicum Beach

firechief@qualicumbeach.com



Media contact:

Deb Tardiff, Manager of Communications

City of Parksville

250 954-3073

dtardiff@parksville.ca