



NEWS RELEASE

parksvillefirerescue.ca

September 7, 2022

Parksville Fire Prevention Open House - October 16

In support of Fire Prevention Week from October 9 to October 15, the Parksville Volunteer Fire Department members will host an open house on **Sunday, October 16** from 10 am to 3 pm at the firehall at 160 Jensen Avenue West. Residents will learn about fire safety including home fire sprinklers, smoke alarms and home escape plans along with educational displays as well as interactive activities where you will learn how to use a fire extinguisher, how to perform CPR, try hose and target practice, and of course, a ride in a fire truck.

This year's Fire Prevention Week theme, *"Fire won't wait. Plan your escape"*, is about educating everyone to the simple but important actions to keep ourselves and those around us safe from home fires. 2022 is also the 100th anniversary of Fire Prevention Week.

Today's homes burn faster than ever. You may have as little as two minutes (or even less time) to safely escape a home fire from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Your ability to get out of a home during a fire depends on early warning from smoke alarms and advance planning. The Parksville Fire Department wishes to share these key home fire escape planning tips:

- Make sure your plan meets the needs of all your family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.
- Smoke alarms should be installed inside every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home. Smoke alarms should be interconnected so when one sounds, they all sound.
- Know at least two ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows open easily.
- Have an outside meeting place a safe distance from your home where everyone should meet.
- Practice your home fire drill at least twice a year with everyone in the household, including guests. Practice at least once during the day and at night.

QUOTE - FIRE CHIEF MARC NORRIS

We encourage residents to embrace the 2022 Fire Prevention Week theme. It's crucial to plan and practice a home fire escape for everyone in the home. This year's theme, *"Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape"* reinforces the critical importance of developing a home escape plan with all members of your household and practicing it regularly.

RECRUITMENT: We are gearing up for 2023 recruitment and seeking enthusiastic men and women to become volunteer firefighters. For info, stop by the department, call 250 248-3242 or visit parksvillefirerescue.ca.

MORE INFO: Contact the Parksville Fire Department at 250 248-3242 for info about Parksville activities. For more general information about Fire Prevention Week and fire prevention in general, visit nfpa.org/fpw, sparky.org and parksvillefirerescue.ca.