



## TOWN OF VIEW ROYAL

# Protective Services & Community Services Report

**TO:** Committee of the Whole

**DATE:** January 12, 2010

**FROM:** Paul Hurst, Fire Chief

**FILE NO:** 7200-70

### FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2009

#### RECOMMENDATION:

*THAT the Committee receives this report for information.*

#### CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER COMMENTS

I concur with the recommendation

#### PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To update the Committee on the operations of the Fire Department.

#### DISCUSSION:

##### Fire Prevention Inspection & Public Education:

- The department delivered 5 Public Education tours, 69 children and 46 Adults, and 1 session on Fire Extinguisher Training to 20 Adults.
- Regular fire inspections are being conducted as per our frequency of inspection guideline.
- The department is currently reviewing plans and attending meetings with municipal staff and developers on 3 projects.
- During this period no fire investigations were conducted.
- For the period of January 2009 to December 2009 our Podcast had over 4000+ people login for information of view podcasts.

Development of our website and podcasting station continues to move forward so as to provide the public with the most current and relevant information possible. Currently the department is working on how to Install a Smoke Alarm/Carbon Monoxide Detector+video for broadcast.

*Robert G. Marshall, Fire Prevention Officer*

##### Training Division:

- Four Members completed written portion of Module 4 1001 Training.
- Six Members completed written portion of Module 5 1001 Training.
- Three Members completed practical portion of Module 5 1001 Training.
- Three Members completed Red Cross First Responder with AED, CPR, Spinal Management and Child Birth endorsements.
- Seven Members attended a one day Air Management seminar put on by the Greater Victoria Training Officers Association.
- Thirteen Members attended Recruit Day evaluation for potential new members.

*Heath Bevan, Training Officer*

## **Emergency Program:**

The following are the most noteworthy activities and events for the Emergency Program this reporting period:

- Delivered Earthquake Response Awareness Workshop for View Royal out of School Care. Approx 40 children.
- EOC Training for Town Hall staff . two 45 min sessions.
- Attended two Local Government Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee (LGEPAC) meetings plus participation on the LGEPAC Terms of Reference Working Group.
- Work continues to update Emergency Plan. 75% complete.
- Royal Roads University agreed to conduct Emergency Management capstone project for View Royal (No cost).
- Emergency Radio conducted communication net checks from Town Hall, EP Trailer and Fire hall. Jack Dennet has performed minor upgrades to improve the emergency communications system. They have also gained one new member.
- H1N1 had minimal impact on municipality. Most firefighters were vaccinated and exposure to influenza was moderate. No reports of firefighters or ESS contracting H1N1.

## **Emergency Program Training:**

- Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) 3 Operations . 1 FF, 1 ESS
- ESS Group Lodging . 2 ESS
- ESS Documentation . 3 ESS

## **Emergency Social Services**

There were no callouts for this reporting period. One meeting was held and very well attended. Training on form completion was conducted. ESS has gained one new member, but is losing two who are moving out of the area.

*Troy Mollin, Emergency Program Assistant*  
*Cindy Heslop, Deputy Emergency Coordinator*  
*Janet Cambrey, Emergency Social Services Director*

## **Chiefs Comments:**

I am once again impressed and humbled by the level of commitment to the Town by my staff and volunteers over the past year. 2009 had some significant moments for the fire department; these included several high profile emergencies, increases in staffing and equipment, and reduction and stabilization of membership vacancies.

Our automatic aid agreement with the City of Colwood continues to be a massive success. The delivery of staffing and equipment to appropriate emergencies meets, and usually exceeds NFPA and Worksafe BC requirements. This Council endorsed initiative (2007) was highlighted in the recent *Transforming the Fire Service+* report to UBCM as a key recommendation for Fire Departments in BC. View Royal and Colwood are well ahead of the curve and are seen as progressive organizations in the delivery of emergency services. This agreement compliments the 2007 integration of the two Emergency Social Services teams, which has also been a resounding success. The combined team, under the direction of Ruth Reynolds and Lt Troy Mollin are regarded as one of the most efficient and competent teams in the Greater Victoria region.

Our Fire Departments success is based on a reliance of its Council to endorse recommendations by its Fire Chief. View Royal Fire has progressed significantly over recent years, much to the envy of neighboring jurisdictions. Modern equipment, a cost effective budget and dedicated staff make the current composite model an excellent fit and value for the Town. Your Fire Department is highly regarded and works hard to balance compliance with regulatory agencies with the delivery of a responsible, cost efficient service.

I look forward to another progressive year and would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee for their trust and reliance in my judgment with their Fire Department.

**SUBMITTED BY:**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Hurst, Fire Chief

**REVIEWED BY:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Anthony Brennan, Chief Administrative Officer