

## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 13, 2013



### **Fire Rescue Departments Collaborate to Improve Recruitment and Retention**

**Duncan, BC** A new unique collaboration is occurring in the Cowichan Valley Regional District which will see six volunteer fire rescue departments working together to develop a recruitment and retention program to raise the awareness of the need for dedicated, keen volunteers who have the time and commitment to provide this essential service to their communities.

### **Annual Recruitment Drive Kick Off Open House**

Date: September 28, 2013  
Time: 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm  
Location: Sahtlam Fire Hall, 4384 Cowichan Lake Road, Duncan

Interested individuals are invited to attend the open house to ask questions, receive information and hear firsthand accounts of how rewarding being a volunteer can be.

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## Backgrounder

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### IS THERE A FIRE IN YOU?

#### Advantages to Joining Your Local Fire Rescue:

- Developing confidence and self- satisfaction in your own ability
- Self-respect for providing an essential and often life-saving service
- Developing leadership skills
- Professional training in fire suppression and rescue techniques
- First aid training including defibrillators
- Comradeship and a sense of belonging to a community
- Increased capability to handle stressful incidents

#### What Keeps Us Interested?

- Giving back to community, paying it forward
- Training
- Community service – helping people and our communities
- Desire to make things better
- Personal experiences of loss
- Family and social activities
- Excitement, thriving on chaos

Being a volunteer firefighter is a big commitment. On top of the weekly training and equipment checks, is an expectation that no matter when the pager goes off or the siren sounds, you'll get to the fire hall to help. You will be pushed physically and emotionally by many aspects of the job but the personal, professional and wider community rewards are immense.

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