

Issue: 38

April 2018

Safety Message

FNESS recently attended the fire sprinkler seminar held on February 22, 2018 with a demonstration on the efficiency of home sprinklers.

<https://youtu.be/TmcqgDIWEI>

Please remember that sprinklers are a suppression device to be used as needed.

A good prevention program will lower the risk for home owners and increase the safety for all.



**First Nations'
Emergency Services Society**

O F B R I T I S H C O L U M B I A

First Nations Emergency Services Society of BC

FNESS Quarterly Responder

Fire Services

In April, Fire Services delivered the Rural Team Leader program to four First Nations' Fire Departments. FNESS staff along with the Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC) has a newly developed program to mentor "Team Leaders" in their roles as first responders. The program teaches decision making techniques and is required for the completion of an accredited (IFSAC, Pro Board) two course ICS program.

The Seabird Island Fire Department facilitated our April 19-22 program, with support from Agassiz Deputy Chief Gerald Basten. Eleven students representing four communities participated in the four days of training.

FNESS and JIBC delivered the Incident Command 100 and 200 courses during the first two days of the training and the Rural Team Leader decision-making course on the second two days. Topics covered included ICS (structure) and organization, organizational development, implementation of ICS, unified command, command boards and decision making on scene. Along with the major topics listed above, the last day included hands on instruction and scenario-based scenes to help participants implement newly developed skills, in line with the OFC's "Playbook".

Participants from Upper Nicola were able to measure the usefulness of this program very soon after they completed when they were called upon to implement their new skills to manage emergency responses to the flooding that the community is currently experiencing.

Leigh Tom, the (Upper Nicola Fire Department / Risk Management Officer) expressed her thanks for the skills and confidence provided by the course. Leigh now feels comfortable making decisions for the department and her community.



**FIRE SPRINKLER
INITIATIVE**

Bringing Safety Home

NFPA's Fire Sprinkler Initiative is an advocacy campaign aimed at increasing the number of new, one-and two-family homes protected by fire sprinklers.

NFPA's Fire Sprinkler Initiative helps stakeholders navigate the code-making and legislative process to get fire sprinkler requirements for new homes passed in their communities. The initiative offers an array of free research, resources, and on-the-ground support that can help sprinkler advocates underscore the life-saving impact of home fire sprinklers. NFPA also assists sprinkler coalitions by convincing the public and their decision makers that sprinklers are needed in homes, where people have the greatest risk of dying from fire. These resources are complemented by NFPA's Fire Sprinkler Initiative blog that distributes news related to the home fire problem and shares tactics for successful advocacy and sprinkler code adoption.

Home fire sprinklers are a crucial, life-saving technology because they can reduce the risk of dying from home fires by 80 percent and can reduce the risk of property loss by 70 percent. If you have any questions, please contact us.

NFPA President Jim Pauley gives an overview of NFPA's Fire Sprinkler Initiative

FNESS is planning one more delivery of the program this year. For more information contact Fire Services for more information at 1.888.822.3388.

Special thank you to Seabird Island and Upper Nicola and OKIB



Forest Fuel Management:

First Nations Adapt Project

Dr. Natasha Caverley, Dr. Amy Christianson, and Darrick Andrew, BNRS of FNESS enjoy the kick-off meeting at Shackan Indian Band with FN Adapt team, and Lennard Joe, RPF (front right), Chief Jordan Joe (back right), and associates April 24th.





Bonaparte – Community Champion Workshop

On April 5th, 2018, 14 community members in Bonaparte participated in a Community Champion Workshop. This workshop educates the students on Hazard Assessments, the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program and how to engage their community in FireSmart Activities. Participants completed most of the steps required to become recognized and have an action plan to move forward. Good Job Bonaparte!!

Wildfire News & Information

The information presented originates from other agencies so I encourage you to view the hyperlinks and follow up with the information source if you have any specific concerns.

Wildfire Prevention

Courtesy of BC Local News [Do what you can to be fire smart](#)

Courtesy of The Co-operators [Communities across Canada participate in national effort to build wildfire resilience](#)

Courtesy of KamloopsMatters.com [What a Controlled Burn looks like](#)

Courtesy of BC Gov News

[Quesnel district permitted road deactivations begin June 1, 2018](#)

[Overwintering fires, hotspots may reappear in Interior | BC Gov News](#)

[Wildfire Science...courtesy of Science Daily](#)

[High wildfire severity risk seen in young plantation forests](#)

[Controlled burns limited severity of Rim Fire](#)

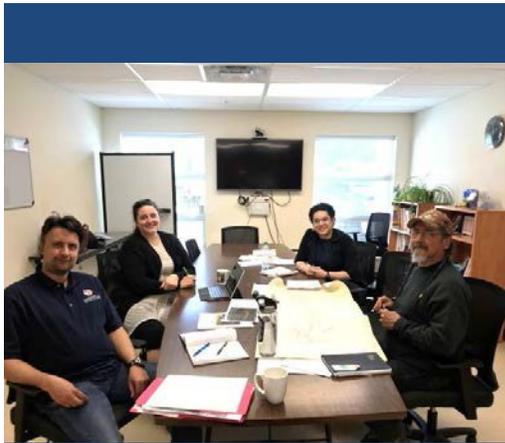
Emergency Management:

Networking and Research:

We have covered over 57 First Nations communities, building trust and understanding regarding needs, challenges and solutions in the process of recovery and emergency planning with a First Nation perspective. We are currently involved with the PROC efforts during this period of floods to represent, advocate, support, liaise and inform FN Communities such:

Tl'etinqox (Anaham) Government
 Williams Lake Indian Band (T'exelc)
 Ulkatcho First Nation
 Nazko First Nation
 Xat'sull (Soda Creek) First Nation
 Lhoosk'uz Dene Nation (Kluskus)
 Upper Nicola
 Lower Nicola
 Bonaparte
 Upper Similkameen
 Lower Similkameen
 Osoyoos Indian band

In addition FNESS has taken part in numerous committees, conferences, conference calls and networking events including Master of disaster, Freshette conference call, after action reviews.



Bridge River Indian Band – FN Adapt Project

FN Adapt team meeting with Gerald Michel at Bridge River Indian Band April 25th.

Contact Us

FIRST NATIONS' EMERGENCY SERVICES SOCIETY OF BC

Vancouver Office | Squamish Nation Traditional Territory

102-70 Orwell Street

North Vancouver, BC, V7J 3R5

Phone: 604-669-7305 or

1-888-822.3388

Fax: 604-669-9832

E-mail: info@fness.bc.ca

Kamloops Office | Tk'emlups te Secwepemc (TteS) Traditional Territory

A274 Halston Road

Kamloops, BC, V2H 1P7

Phone: 250-377-7600 or

1-888-388-4431

Fax: 250-377-7610

E-mail: ffminfo@fness.bc.ca

Website: www.fness.bc.ca

Partnership Tables:

We have produced a tool to bring communities together to plan for regional emergencies/recoveries and to build up capacity, confidence and partnership between neighbouring communities.

We are looking to partner with different levels of government to develop a holistic approach, to planning in which FN communities set their own priorities, and take the lead in determining solutions, and we facilitate the process by providing training, resources and mentoring, and by advocating for FN communities with different agencies, organizations and levels of government.

CISM:

We have a strong team of certificated people trained in CISM to support FN communities (available on request); to support communities while suffering critical incidents to protect the emotional health and safety of those involved in a traumatic event, such fires and floods in the community.



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