

## FNESS Safety Message

## How to Prevent Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

**C**arbon monoxide (CO) is a colourless, tasteless and odourless poisonous gas. It is produced when fuels such as natural gas, gasoline, oil, propane, wood or coal are burned, and it's undetectable by the human senses.

CO can build up to dangerous levels when fuel-burning generators, space heaters, barbecues, grills or other appliances intended for use outside or in well-ventilated spaces are brought into less ventilated areas such as garages or homes.

Make sure you take these vital safety steps to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning:

- Install a carbon monoxide detector.
- Regularly maintain all fuel-burning appliances such as furnaces,

water heaters, fireplaces and wood stoves.

- Regularly check the ventilation of these appliances, ensuring it isn't blocked by snow or leaves.

Contact FNESS or AANDC to find out how you can get the new dual (smoke/CO) alarms, donated by Kidde Canada, for your community!



## Fire Services

**F**ire Prevention Week, held October 5-11, has been a major focus during this second quarter. The Fire Services Department is holding our annual BC Poster Contest where First Nations students in pre-kindergarten to Grade 8 can submit a fire prevention poster. Students in Grades 9-12 can submit a multimedia project using the Fire Prevention Week's theme, "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month!"

The poster contest awards prizes to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in each age category. 1st place receives a \$100 gift certificate, 2nd place \$50 and 3rd place \$25. Please see the Fire Services Events webpage (<http://fness.bc.ca/fire/fire-services-events/>) for download-

able information packages. The deadline for schools to submit posters to the FNESS North Vancouver office is November 28, 2014.

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) and the Aboriginal Firefighters Association of Canada (AFAC) have launched the #BeFireSafe education campaign to increase fire prevention education in First Nations communities through seasonal fire prevention and safety tips, among other initiatives. The risk of fire is one of the greatest threats to health, safety and property in any community. Education is key in preventing the loss of life and property from house fires. Remember: Working smoke alarms save lives, so test yours every month!

## Emergency Preparedness and Response

**T**he Emergency Preparedness and Response Department has continued to see an increase in Critical Incident Stress Management debriefs. Please let your community know that help is available in a crisis and urge them to call the Crisis Centre Hotline at 1-800-784-2433 before it's too late! Remember that FNESS is available to you if you or your community need support.

The wildfire season has seen 1,441 fires to date with 359,274 hectares burned. The Wildfire Management Branch is asking the public to remain vigilant with any fire use including campfires.

**ATTENTION Emergency Program Coordinators:** We urge you to update your contact information with FNESS. We receive valuable

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information from the Wildfire Management Branch, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Emergency Management BC, just to name a few, and it will benefit your community to receive the same information.

**Need an emergency plan update?**

Need to create one? Does your Emergency Management team need training? Contact our office at 1-888-822-3388 and ask to speak with the Emergency Preparedness and Response Department. Let us help you!



**Remember:** If your community has a house fire and the family is displaced, call Emergency Management BC (1-800-663-3456), ask for a task number and request Emergency Social Services Support (ESS). ESS will help the family with lodging, food and clothing.

We send a big shout-out to the communities that participated in ShakeOutBC's earthquake drill on October 16th!

"By failing to prepare you are preparing to fail" —Benjamin Franklin

## Forest Fuel Management

The Forest Fuel Management Department continues to move forward with communities in the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative program (SWPI) on their Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) and Prescription Development and Operational Fuel Treatment Projects. To date we have 99 First Nations communities with complete and approved CWPPs in this program. Currently we are working on 77 active files in all three phases.

### 2014/2015 Fiscal Year – 2nd Quarter

Stage	Number of Projects Completed	First Nations Community
CWPP	1	Soowahlie Indian Band
Prescription Development	1	Chawathil First Nation
Operational Fuel Treatment	1	Upper Similkameen Indian Band

### Completed Projects for First Nations SWPI Program 2006-2014 as of September 30, 2014

SWPI Program	Projects Completed
CWPPs completed	95
CWPP updates completed	3
First Nations communities completed a CWPP (4 communities were joint plans with their local government and not counted in the 95 above)	99
Prescription Development Projects completed	63
First Nations communities completed Prescription Development Projects	46
Operational Fuel Treatment Projects completed	40
First Nations communities completed Operational Fuel Treatment Projects	29
<b>1267.6 hectares treated to date</b>	



Providing Capacity Building through Industry Partnerships and Job Readiness Training at the Okanagan Indian Band

We are working with communities on achieving their FireSmart Canada recognized community status. Three applications have been submitted for Nooaitch Indian Band, Shackan Indian Band and Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band for 2015.

We submitted two successful ATEP applications for the Okanagan/Cariboo regions, and have initiated training in both areas with 15 students in each area.

The Forest Fuel Management team would love to work with your community on these initiatives. Please contact our Kamloops office at (250) 377-7600 or [ffminfo@fness.bc.ca](mailto:ffminfo@fness.bc.ca).

**The Forest Fuel Management Department is:**

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