

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE  
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**  
TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY June 12, 2019 at 7:00 pm  
IN THE PORT ALICE COUNCIL CHAMBERS



**(1) CALL TO ORDER**

*We are privileged to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Quatsino First Nations.*

**(2) RESOLUTION TO PROCEED TO CLOSED MEETING (6:30 pm)**

*THAT the meeting be closed to the public to consider matters pursuant to the following sections of the Community Charter:*

*Section 90 (c) Labour relations or other employee relations;*

*Section 90 (1) (l) discussions with municipal officers and employees respecting municipal objectives, measures and progress reports for the purposes of preparing an annual report under section 98 [annual municipal report];*

**RECONVENE**

**(3) ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

*THAT the Agenda for the Meeting of the Village of Port Alice for June 12, 2019, be approved; AND THAT all delegations, reports, correspondence and other information set to the agenda be received for information.*

**(4) DELEGATIONS:**

**a) Western Forest Products – Update activities around Port Alice**

June 4, 2019, Delegation request from Jonathan Flintoft and Dave Steele

**b) Role of Community Paramedic**

June 5, 2019, Delegation from Andrea Keenan, Community Paramedic, Port Alice

**(5) MINUTES:**

**a.)** *THAT the minutes for the Regular Meeting held on May 22, 2019, be adopted.*

**b.)** Minutes of the May 1, 2019 Committee of the Whole Meeting

**(6) OLD BUSINESS: N\A**

**a.) Dragon Boat Moorage**

May 22, 2019, Email from Andrea Keenan, Community Paramedic

**(7) COMMUNICATIONS: N\A**

**(8) NEW BUSINESS: N\A**

**(9) REPORTS:**

**(10) BYLAWS: N\A**

**(11) QUESTION PERIOD:**

**(12) ADJOURNMENT:**

*THAT the meeting of the Village of Port Alice Council held June 12, 2019, be adjourned.*

Pg 3

Pg 5-6

Pg 7-8

Pg 9

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE  
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**  
TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY June 12, 2019 at 7:00 pm  
IN THE PORT ALICE COUNCIL CHAMBERS



**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

1. May 22, 2019, Letter and Western Forest Products 2018 Sustainability Report – *Report on table*
2. May 30, 2019, Email from Cathy Peters, BC anti-human trafficking educator, re New Canadian Human Trafficking hotline
3. May 31, 2019, Coastal Fire Centre Wildfire News, Issue 3
4. June 5, 2019, Vancouver Island News Release re VIRL's 2018 Annual Report Bridges Divides and Tells our Story

# VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE

INCORPORATED A.D. 1965



## Delegation Request Form

Request to Appear as a Delegation  
Regular Council Meeting

TO BE HELD June 12th, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M.  
Date Time

NAME OF PERSON MAKING PRESENTATION: Jonathan Flintoft & Dave Steele

NAME OF APPLICANT IF DIFFERENT THAN ABOVE: n/a

NAME OF ORGANIZATION (if applicable): Western Forest Products

Mailing Address: Bag 5000, Port McNeill, BC, V0N 2R0

Phone: 250-956-5200 n/a  
Business Home

Fax: 250-956-5230

DETAILS: Please provide complete information on the nature of your presentation. If applicable, provide one set of submission documents in letter size format for copying purposes. All requests and documentation must be received by the Corporate Officer by 5pm on the Thursday prior to the meeting date for consideration. Delegation requests that do not meet the criteria of Procedure Bylaw #595 will not be processed.

Update to Mayor and Council on WFP activities around Port Alice.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Office Use Only

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date & Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Not Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ for Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
WEDNESDAY MAY 22, 2019  
IN THE PORT ALICE COUNCIL CHAMBERS



**Present** Mayor Kevin Cameron  
Councillor Holly Aldis  
Councillor Bruce Lloyd  
Councillor Angela Yunker  
**Absent** Councillor Warren Beatty  
**Staff** Bonnie Danyk, CAO / CFO

**CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 pm**

Mayor Kevin Cameron called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

65/19  
Adoption of  
Agenda

MOVED by Councillor Aldis / Seconded by Councillor Lloyd

***THAT** the Agenda for the Meeting of the Village of Port Alice for May 22, 2019, be approved:  
**AND THAT** all delegations, reports, correspondence and other information set to the agenda be received for information.*

CARRIED

**MINUTES:**

66/19  
Minutes  
May 8, 2019

MOVED by Councillor Lloyd/ Seconded by Councillor Aldis

***THAT** the minutes for the Regular Meeting held on May 8, 2019 be adopted.*

CARRIED

67/19  
Minutes  
May 22, 2019

MOVED by Councillor Lloyd/ Seconded by Councillor Yunker

***THAT** the minutes for the Special Regular Meeting held on May 14, 2019 be adopted.*

CARRIED

**REPORTS:**

a.) Housing Needs Report

May 15, 2019 Report from Bonnie Danyk CAO/ CFO

68/19  
Housing  
Needs Grant

MOVED by Councillor Lloyd/ Seconded by Councillor Aldis

***THAT** the Council of the Village of Port Alice, supports the proposal whereby the Regional District of Mount Waddington would act in the capacity of project coordinator to coordinate and oversee the work necessary to complete a housing needs report as part of the "Housing Needs Report Project" on behalf of itself and its four municipal partners, namely the District of Port Hardy, Town of Port McNeill, Village of Alert Bay and Village of Port Alice, in order to satisfy the Province's requirements for preparing said report as per Bill 18 and related regulations.*

***AND FURTHER THAT** the Council of the Village of Port Alice, authorizes the Regional District of Mount Waddington to apply for, receive and manage the Housing Needs Reports Program grant funding administered by the Union of British Columbia Municipalities in relation to the Housing Needs Report Project."*

CARRIED

**b. Accounts Payable Listing for April 2019**

May 15, 2019, Report by Bonnie Danyk, CAO / CFO

**c. Summary of Revenue and Expenses for April 2019**

May 15, 2019, Report by Bonnie Danyk, CAO / CFO

**BYLAWS:****Bylaw 656-Port Alice Park Closure**

MOVED by Councillor Yunker / Seconded by Councillor Lloyd

69/19  
Bylaw 656***THAT the Bylaw 656-Port Alice Park Closure be given first, second and third reading.*****CARRIED****RESOLUTIONS:**70/19  
Resolution  
AAP

MOVED by Councillor Yunker / Seconded by Councillor Aldis

**Alternative Approval Process*****WHEREAS the Village of Port Alice Council has given three readings to Port Alice Park Closure Bylaw No. 656 which proposes to authorize the disposal of the lot shown as dedicated Park on Plan 17098;******AND WHEREAS the Village of Port Alice Council cannot adopt Bylaw No. 656 until the approval of the electors has been obtained;******THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Corporate Officer undertake an alternative approval process to determine the opinion of the electors with regard to the matter;******AND THAT IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that thirty five days for submitting receiving elector response forms is established.*****CARRIED****ADJOURNMENT:**71/19  
Adjourn

MOVED by Councillor Lloyd / Seconded by Councillor Aldis

***THAT the Regular meeting of the Village of Port Alice held May 22, 2019, be adjourned at 7:15 pm*****CARRIED**

I hereby certify the preceding to be a true and correct account of the Regular meeting of the Village of Port Alice Council held May 2, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Administrative Officer

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY MAY 1, 2019  
IN THE PORT ALICE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**



Present Mayor Kevin Cameron  
Councillor Holly Aldis  
Councillor Bruce Lloyd  
Councillor Angela Yunker  
Absent Councillor Warren Beatty  
Staff Bonnie Danyk, CAO / CFO

**CALL TO ORDER: 4:00 pm**

Mayor Kevin Cameron called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm

COTW 04\19 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**  
MOVED by Councillor Lloyd

*It was duly moved that the agenda be adopted as presented.*  
CARRIED

COTW 05\19 **MINUTES:**  
MOVED by Councillor Lloyd

*THAT the minutes of the April 3, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting be approved.*  
CARRIED

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

1. Rumble Beach Marina Rates  
Bylaw 652-2019 Schedule N-Marina Rates

COTW 06/19 MOVED by Councillor Yunker

*THAT a recommendation go to Council: that the rate for an Annual parking / launch pass be increased to \$80 per year for Port Alice resident's only, that non-resident's be charged a fee of \$10 per day for parking/ launch and further that a new fee of \$5.00 be added for trailer parking after 24 hours.*

CARRIED

2. Road Use Agreement

*It was agreed that a meeting be set up with both WFP and Murdoch to discuss logging trucks traveling through town.*

3. Goal & Objectives

2018 Goals & Objectives with Outcomes

4. Doug Bondue Arena

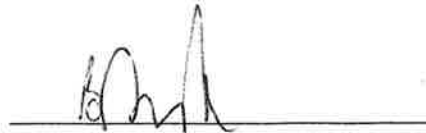
*It was agreed that the ammonia be removed from the arena*

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm

Certified Correct

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "R. [unclear]", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "A. [unclear]", written over a horizontal line.

Chief Administrative Officer



**From:** Keenan, Andrea EHS:EX <Andrea.Keenan@bcehs.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 22, 2019 5:33 PM  
**To:** XT:PortAlice, Village ENV:IN  
**Subject:** Dragon Boat moorage

Hello,

I spoke with Tanya last week and she described a potential slip for the dragon boat. I went and had a look. Unfortunately it won't work. The dragon boat is 40 feet long. If it is stored under the gangplank, it will hit the ground on low tide and hit the gangplank on high tide. Plus it wouldn't be moored against a dock, but instead the bars that go around the supporting gangplank pole. It wouldn't be secure and hard to get in and out of.

I was hoping it could be moored where the old fueling slip is. The RCMP boat leaves plenty of room for the dragon boat to be moored on the other part of the 'L' shaped slip.

Please let me know your thoughts on this suggestion. I would have had the dragon boat in the water by now so that those who were interested could enjoy this lovely weather we've been having. I won't put it in the water until it has a place to stay for the season. If we can't find a place, I will have to send it back to Port Hardy. It's such a great sport and can get so many people out on the water exercising and having fun. It would be a shame to lose it.

Thank you for your time.

*Andrea Keenan*

Community Paramedicine  
Port Alice  
BC Emergency Health Services  
Provincial Health Services Authority  
T: 250-284-6244 C: 250-209-6551  
E: [andrea.keenan@bcehs.ca](mailto:andrea.keenan@bcehs.ca)

**BCEHS** | BC Emergency  
Health Services



Virus-free. [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)





# INFORMATION ITEMS



May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

Village of Port Alice  
1061 Marine Drive  
Port Alice BC  
V0N 2N0

**Re: Western Forest Products First Annual Sustainability Report**

Dear Mayor and Council,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and to share with you Western Forest Products' 2018 Sustainability Report.

I recently joined Western as Vice President, Corporate Affairs with responsibility for both communications and government relations. It is a new position for the company and I look forward to getting to know you and your communities in the coming months and years ahead.

Attached is our first annual sustainability report which outlines Western's commitments to safety, environmental, social responsibilities and achievements. It also outlines the company's governance practices and our approach to continuous improvement. My intention is to share this report with you on an annual basis.

The report is also available on our website at [www.westernforest.com](http://www.westernforest.com).

The support of local government helps provide stability for our 3500 employees and contractors as we continue to manage through the ups and downs of the coastal forest business. My goal is to help ensure the open lines of communication with communities continues to be a priority.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at my number below. I look forward to meeting you in person.

Sincerely,



Susan Dolinski,  
Vice President, Corporate Affairs  
604-648-4500



**From:** Cathy Peters <ca.peters@telus.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 30, 2019 11:31 AM  
**To:** 'Cathy Peters'  
**Subject:** new Canadian Human trafficking hotline number  
**Attachments:** Preventing Child Sex trafficking.docx

**Importance:** High

Dear BC Mayors and City Councillors,  
The Canadian Human trafficking hotline number was announced yesterday on National media: 1-833-900-1010 or: canadianhumantraffickinghotline.ca

Please alert all of your community service providers, frontline service providers, educators, health practitioners, law enforcement and constituents of this number.

BC Council for Families asked me to write an article on how to stop Child Sex Trafficking in BC.  
Please see attached document and share with your contacts.

**ASK:** Please email me if you support my work and advocacy to stop sexual exploitation/human sex trafficking/child sex trafficking in BC.

Sincerely, Cathy Peters

BC anti-human trafficking educator, speaker, advocate  
#302-150 W. 15<sup>th</sup> St., North Vancouver, BC V7M 0C4  
Phone: 604-828-2689



Virus-free. [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

# Preventing Child Sex Trafficking in BC

**Buying and selling children for sex is one of the fastest growing crimes in Canada, and it is happening in communities across BC.**

**Globalization, unregulated technology, lack of law enforcement and inadequate prevention education** is allowing this crime to grow globally.

Human sex trafficking (HT) involves the recruitment, transportation or harbouring of people for the purpose of exploitation through the use of force, coercion, fraud, deception or threats against the victim or person known to them. It is known as modern day slavery. According to the US State department's annual global report on trafficking in persons (TIP), Canada is a source, transit and destination for sex trafficking. (<https://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/>)

Child sex trafficking is a lucrative crime. It has low costs and huge profits; a trafficker can make \$280,000 per victim, per year. The average age of entry into prostitution in Canada is 12-14 years of age, although traffickers are known to target younger children. Traffickers seek young victims both to service the demand for sex with those who look young, and because these victims are easier to manipulate and control.

The biggest problem in Canada is that people do not know there is a problem; therefore, child sex trafficking is expanding in the dark. Every child can be a target and a potential victim, but learning about this issue is the first step.

**Five things that parents can do to help prevent their children from being lured into sex trafficking:**

## **1. Set a high standard of love within your home**

The way you define and express love shapes your children's self-image, confidence and opinions of future relationships. Treat them the way you want their future partners to treat them. Help them to distinguish between real love and empty promises or cheap gifts.

## **2. Talk to your children about sexual abuse**

According to the US Department of Justice, someone in the US is sexually assaulted every two minutes, of which 29% are between the ages of 12-17. Let your children know that if anyone has or ever does hurt them, they can talk to you. This is the most important thing you can say. Don't assume they have not been hurt by sexual violence before. Leave the door open for your child to talk about past circumstances that they haven't shared with you.

## **3. Talk to your children about sex trafficking**

Discuss ways children and teens are targeted for sex trafficking. Let them know that traffickers specifically try to woo young girls and boys with promises of a better life – whether it's promises of love and attention, or promises of nice things and trips. Traffickers can be male or female, even classmates. Traffickers may even use kids to recruit other kids.

## **4. Talk to your children about the dangers of social media**

It is important to provide practical safety tips, such as: don't share personal information on the internet; don't accept Facebook requests from unknown people; NEVER share naked photos of yourself with anyone; and tell a parent or a trusted adult if you feel threatened or uncomfortable online. Children also need help defining friendships. Teach them that a friend is not someone you met yesterday and that a "friend" on Facebook is not the same thing as a friendship.

## **5. Pay attention to your children**



Monitor your children's social media accounts. Look for ways to meet their friends, their friends' parents and those they hang out with. Be alert to boyfriends who are much older, or friendships that tend to isolate your child from other friends or family. Notice if your child has new clothing items, makeup products, cell phone or other items and ask how they acquired them.

#### **Resources and Links:**

- Covenant House (crises program for ages 16-24): [info@covenanthousebc.org](mailto:info@covenanthousebc.org), 604-685-7474
- Internet Safety Tips: [www.Cybertip.ca](http://www.Cybertip.ca)
- Fraser Health Forensic Nurse Service
- Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868
- Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons (OCTIP): 1-888-712-7974 (24/7 interpretation available), 604-660-5199, [octip@gov.bc.ca](mailto:octip@gov.bc.ca)
- Plea Community Services Society (assisting youth 24/7): [onyx@plea.bc.ca](mailto:onyx@plea.bc.ca), 604-708-2647
- Vancouver Rape Relief and Women's Shelter (24/7): 604-872-8212, [info@rapereliefshelter.bc.ca](mailto:info@rapereliefshelter.bc.ca)
- RCMP: Victims of Human Trafficking National Headquarters (24 hours): 1-866-677-7267
- Trafficking Resource Centre (USA): [www.traffickingresourcecenter.org](http://www.traffickingresourcecenter.org)
- VictimLinkBC (24/7): 1-800-563-0808 Ministry of Public Safety, BC
- Youth Against Violence (24/7): [info@youthagainstviolenceline.com](mailto:info@youthagainstviolenceline.com), 1-800-680-4264

#### **Authorities Contacts:**

- RCMP: [www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca](http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca); 1-855-850-4640 OR 1-800-771-5401
- Ministry of Child Protection Services: 1-800-663-9122 or 604-660-4927 (24 hours) or 310-1234 if a child is in danger to reach Ministry of Child and Family Development
- Crime Stoppers : 1-800-222-TIPS (8477)

**National Human Trafficking Crisis Hotline Number: 1-866-528-7109**

#### **About the Author:**

Cathy Peters raises awareness of Child Sex Trafficking to all three levels of government in British Columbia, police agencies and the public. She is a former inner city high school teacher and has volunteered for two Members of Parliament (John Weston/BC, Joy Smith/Manitoba). She has made hundreds of presentations, including to City Councils, School Boards, Police Boards, high schools, universities and law enforcement agencies.

For information about her prevention education presentations, please contact Cathy Peters at [ca.peters@telus.net](mailto:ca.peters@telus.net)

#### **Additional Resources:**

**Children of the Street Society (Coquitlam)** provides prevention education in BC schools; 25,000 students last school year Grades 3-12. They have an excellent website with tools/resources listed for every community in BC:

<https://www.childrenofthestreet.com/>

**Joy Smith Foundation (Manitoba)** provides prevention education, resources and an overview of human sex trafficking Canada: <http://www.joysmithfoundation.com/>

**Shared Hope International (Washington State)** sponsors The JuST (Juvenile Sex Trafficking) Conference in the USA; an event that spotlights the most pressing issues in the anti-trafficking field. Visit: [www.justconference.org](http://www.justconference.org) for more information.

**A MODERN EQUAL SOCIETY DOES NOT BUY AND SELL WOMEN AND CHILDREN.**



## In this Issue:

FireSmart  
Discipline:  
Education

A Prescription  
for a Healthy  
Home

Category 2 Open  
Fire Prohibition

Jurisdiction

Prevention Blog

At Coastal

Fire Weather

## FireSmart Discipline: education



The FireSmart program has been around for a number of years, but it was originally called "Beware and Prepare" in B.C. It was handed over to a society in Alberta (Partners in Prevention) to better develop the program's concepts and resources. The result is the national FireSmart Canada program. This program is based on both scientific and anecdotal information from a variety of sources, including the American Firewise program.

A renewed focus on fire prevention in B.C. has been accompanied by new tools and concepts to share with the public. Although education has always been a large part of the work performed by the BC Wildfire Service, it is exciting to have new tools and a new framework to work from.

One of the central tenets of the FireSmart program is that fire prevention is a "shared responsibility" and that fire prevention and/or fire risk mitigation can only be fully successful if everyone at every level is an active participant in those efforts.

Education is the driving force behind the program, so course material has been developed for anyone who wants to promote the program with Local FireSmart Representative workshops. These workshops have been delivered throughout the province and more will be held in future. You can check when upcoming workshops will be held in various B.C. communities by visiting: <https://firesmartbc.ca/events/category/course/>

Another initiative that promotes peer-to-peer education is the "Become a FireSmart Canada Community" program. Local organizers can work together in their communities to promote FireSmart principles and help mitigate wildfire risks locally. For more information, visit: <https://www.firesmartcanada.ca/firesmart-communities/firesmart-canada-community-recognition-program/>

New FireSmart educational materials were developed this year for kids attending Kindergarten all the way up to Grade 12

students. The learning materials and activities are aimed at four different age groups:

KinderSmart (Kindergarten-aged children)

FireSmart Junior Officers — (Grades 1-3)

FireSmart Ambassadors — (Grades 4-6)

FireSmart Leaders — (Grades 7-12)

The new educational materials can be used at events, or teachers can request a BC Wildfire Service staff person to

present the material directly to students.

Interactive Magnetic Boards

However, since June is a busy time of the year for our staff, the hope is that teachers or other people involved

with youth will borrow the materials and deliver the programs themselves. All the necessary instructions and guides are included. For more information, visit <https://firesmartbc.ca/discipline/education/> or contact your local fire zone office to discuss borrowing the education packages.

Digital material has also been created to support fire prevention efforts, with a new website introduced by the BC FireSmart Committee (<https://firesmartbc.ca/>) and the production of several videos that can be used to educate the public about FireSmart and promote the program. The BC FireSmart Committee website offers a host of information and an online ordering platform to order FireSmart materials from ([see link on left of page](#)).

There's an adage that says, "You can't do better if you don't know better." We hope that by doing our part to educate Coastal Fire Centre residents about fire prevention, we can help everyone "do better", reduce person-caused wildfires and learn how to mitigate fire risks around their homes and communities.

How can you help? Pass it on. Send the FireSmartBC link to a friend, check out the BC Wildfire Service's Facebook site at <https://www.facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo/> for FireSmart tips every Friday, and set a good example in your own neighbourhood.



To obtain copies of the FireSmart Homeowner's Manual to share with your community go to: <https://firesmartbc.ca/resource-ordering-form/>

## A prescription for a healthy home

According to the *Dictionary of Natural Resource Management* by Julian and Katherine Dunster, a **prescription** is a written statement defining objectives to be attained and factors involved in activities such as prescribed fire and silvicultural treatments. The objectives are generally expressed in terms of what you want to accomplish (within certain parameters) in a particular area.

Writing a **prescription** for your own home is no different. A **prescription** is simply a plan. FireSmart provides guidelines to help you develop that plan, and you don't need a lot of money or specialized tools to take the first steps. Over time, you can continue to safeguard your property by building on your plan.

### FireSmart on a budget

If you're on a budget, start with things that cost very little to do but pay big dividends. Clear woody debris away from your home and pile it up for burning, chipping or disposal. Remember to clean out your gutters. Removing fine fuels (e.g. branches, twigs, tree leaves and needles) from your property is essential to mitigating wildfire risks.

Ember transfer is the most common way for a home to catch on fire during a wildfire. Embers from a wildfire can become airborne and these burning fuels can cause "spot fires" if they land in flammable materials that weren't removed from the property. While you are removing dry debris from around your home, take note of where most of the leaves and small twigs have collected. These are the often the same areas where embers will likely be blown during a wildfire. Take special care to keep these areas clear, so that falling embers will have less of this material available to burn.

Look at the vertical arrangement of vegetation on your property. Is there continuous fuel (e.g. grass, leaves, branches) reaching from the ground up into the crowns of trees? These are called ladder fuels because they provide a "ladder" for a fire to climb from the ground to the crowns of trees. Eliminate these ladder fuels by mowing tall grass, trimming shrubs, and pruning the lower branches of trees up to three metres above ground level.

A good resource for learning about FireSmart priority zones (and where to concentrate your FireSmart activities) can be found online at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k0ClodnHp2c>

### Forward thinking

If you're planning to do any renovations on your home, consider mitigating potential wildfire risks in the planning phase of your project. Use non-flammable or fire-resistant construction materials wherever possible when building or renovating your home's exterior. Consider replacing vinyl gutters and downspouts with nonflammable metal gutters and downspouts.

Use Class A roofing material. This includes tiles, slate or asphalt.

You can also use Class B pressure-treated shingles or shakes, but poorly maintained roofs with curling or broken edges will allow sparks or embers to come into direct contact with the wood below and could ignite it.

After comparing costs, you may find that the cost difference is nominal, so it would be worth the extra investment to choose a product that is considered to be FireSmart. For more information, go to: <https://www.firesmartcanada.ca/mdocs-posts/firesmart-home-assessment/>

### A FireSmart landscape

The majority of home ignitions that occur during a wildfire are the result of embers or small flames reaching the structure. Homeowners can take steps to reduce that risk, with the most important efforts occurring on and immediately around the home.

- ⇒ **Remove combustible plant materials:** Fire needs fuel to burn, so remove any unnecessary plant materials. Also, space trees and shrubs at least three metres apart and keep branches trimmed back (at least three metres clear of your roof). For trees or shrubs taller than about six metres, prune lower branches within two metres of the ground and remove dead leaves, twigs and branches from below these plants. For trees or shrubs less than half a metre high, prune branches from the lower third of the plant.
- ⇒ **Choose plants carefully:** Some plants are more resistant to burning than others. Plants that contain high amounts of resins or oil are extremely flammable and are known as pyrophytic plants. These pyrophytic plants include juniper, pine, spruce and fir trees. The natural oils and resins in conifers make them burn quickly and easily. The shape and spread of conifers also create what is known as a fire ladder — a route along which a wildfire can climb and spread.
- ⇒ **Water wisely:** Although all plants will eventually burn to some degree in a wildfire, green plants will burn less quickly. Make sure that you give your plants the amount of water they need to stay healthy, without overwatering (which can promote excessive growth).
- ⇒ **Maintain your landscaping:** Dried-out, wilting or dead plants can be a fire hazard. All plants in your landscaping should be regularly pruned, trimmed and deadheaded to remove dry, dead, flammable plant material.

For more information, visit the FireSmart Canada website and download the "FireSmart Guide to Landscaping" guide at: <https://www.firesmartcanada.ca/resources-library/manuals/>

## Category 2 open fire prohibitions

In 2018, a Category 2 open fire prohibition went into effect in the Coastal Fire Centre on May 16, while in 2019 the prohibition took effect on May 30. As BC Wildfire Service staff like to think of it, that gave homeowners an extra two weeks to clean up dead and dry fuels on their properties.

A number of questions arise whenever a Category 2 open fire prohibition goes into effect. The most common questions are:

- 1) **Can I still have a campfire?** Campfires have not been prohibited as of May 31, but please monitor the BC Wildfire Service website for any changes to prohibitions, at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/fire-bans-and-restrictions>

Remember that a campfire can't be any larger than half a metre wide by half a metre high. Be responsible, be aware and be safe.

- 2) **Our community is scheduled to have a Canada Day fireworks display. Will we be able to do that?** Under the Category 2 open fire prohibition, the use of fireworks has been restricted. Local governments who do not have a burn bylaw can apply for an exemption. The organizers of the fireworks display likely have already applied for an exemption through their local BC Wildfire Service fire zone office.

Open fire prohibitions are put in place when weather indices indicate a marked change in the dryness of forests. They also take into account local knowledge, including your local fire department's input, and the experience of our staff. Implementing an open fire prohibition is not a step that is taken lightly, so we ask for your cooperation to help keep your community safe.

## Smoke

We have received a number of calls recently asking if there is a wildfire nearby, because of smoky skies in the region. The smoke that is currently being experienced throughout the Coastal Fire Centre is a result of the large wildfires burning in northern British Columbia and Alberta.

Wildfire smoke drifts at a very high altitude, eventually reaching distant urban centres. In this case, smoke has been reported in Vancouver and in Campbell River. To gain a better understanding of how smoke drifts, you can visit the FireSmoke Canada website at: <http://firesmoke.ca/> For more information about wildfires and air quality, visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/wildfire-situation/air-quality>

## Grad Fires

Many graduation events take place at the end of May and into June. They often include a late-night or overnight grad party, where the festivities may or may not include a large bonfire.

A bonfire, due to its size, would be classed as a Category 2 open fire and they are currently prohibited throughout the Coastal Fire Centre. We are asking parents to have a conversation with family members about this prohibition. To avoid a visit from police, Natural Resource Officers or Conservation Officers — and the possibility of an \$1,150 fine per person — they should only light a smaller, campfire-sized fire in a cleared area and have the means available to fully extinguish it (e.g. a shovel and at least eight litres of water).

## Prevention Blog—Alan Berry, Senior Wildfire Officer-Prevention

Hello,

On May 28, the Coastal Fire Centre implemented a Category 2 open fire prohibition to limit the risk of a wildfire occurring. Category 2 open fires include "backyard burning" fires no larger than two metres high and three metres wide. Category 2 open fires are a leading cause of wildfires in the Coastal Fire Centre when they're not managed properly.

The most common ways that backyard burning causes wildfires are:

1. The fire is lit but changing conditions cause the fire to escape.
2. The person managing the fire leaves it unattended and it spreads beyond the intended burn area.
3. The fire is incorrectly thought to have been extinguished, only to reignite and spread later on.

This third cause has been occurring more frequently this spring, due to the unseasonably dry conditions — causing people to think that their fires are extinguished when they're really still smouldering underground and can start burning again when people have left the burn site. I'm asking folks to revisit any areas where they were conducting open burning this spring to make sure that the fire is completely out and dug-up ashes are cold to the touch.

Campfires are still permitted within the Coastal Fire Centre's jurisdiction, but remember to check with your local fire protection agency, since many communities manage open burning through local bylaws.

## Fires to Date Since April 1, 2019

Total 33

Lightning 0

Person 33

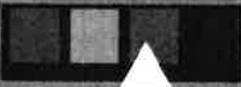
## Number of fires since May 16, 2019

Total 6

Lightning 0

Person 6

## Fire Danger Rating today



Current Prohibitions  
(within BCWS  
jurisdictional area)

Category 2 Open  
Fire Prohibition  
Throughout the  
Coastal Fire  
Centre

# Coastal Fire Centre

# Wildfire news

## At Coastal

There have been 33 human-caused wildfires in the Coastal Fire Centre since April 1, 2019. There have been no lightning-caused wildfires. At midday on May 28, 2019, a fire was reported to the Coastal Fire Centre. It was located on Nelson Island, near Annis Bay. The fire was originally reported to cover about one hectare, but was subsequently downsized to 0.6 hectares. Firefighting resources assigned to this incident included: one officer, one three-person initial attack crew, and two helicopters. The helicopters bucketed the fire on the first day and were able to knock it down to a Rank 1 wire (a rolling ground fire) so the ground crews could work on it. By the second day, the fire's status was listed as "being held".

On May 29, 2019, a wildfire exercise was completed near the top of the Fitzsimmonds Express chairlift at Whistler Blackcomb Resort. Similar exercises have been held at the site for the past 10 years and they are great learning and training opportunities for fire response staff at the resort, the Whistler Fire Rescue

Service and the BC Wildfire Service. A fire on a ski hill is unique, since firefight-

ers must work around (or use) existing infrastructure. A ski hill often has plumbing in place for snow-making equipment, so it may have a water supply available. However, there are also overhead hazards due to chairlifts and other overhead cables, and networks of hiking and biking trails that have to be taken into consideration.

Currently, the Coastal Fire Centre is supporting firefighting efforts in Alberta with the provision of two Unit Crews (20 firefighters per crew), one Initial Attack Crew (three people) and three other personnel (radio operator, division supervisor and a taskforce leader). We also have staff assigned to Incident Management Teams that are currently in Alberta and in Dease Lake.



## Weather

**SYNOPSIS:** (Today-tomorrow) Little change in pattern or weather today except the instability along the eastern border has moved further east and no lightning will pop up today. Temperatures increased a few degrees yesterday and will remain at that level again today. Humidity is for the most part moderate and values less than 20 percent are unlikely today. Afternoon inflow winds reach 15 and possibly 20 km/h through the usual windy inland mainland valleys. These gusty winds trigger a Fire Behaviour Advisory again today. Tomorrow the upper ridge begins to weaken while the surface pressure gradient increases resulting in decreasing temperatures and somewhat stronger winds. The ridge weakens because a Pacific trough crosses the Mid-coast late today causing the ridge to shift eastward. Patchy clouds move into the Bella Coola area and a few shows reach the outer mainland coast and Haida Gwaii. Shower bands drift down the coast but then the system appears to dissipate early Saturday. Very warm weather continues south of a Menzies Camp to Scar Creek line all through

Saturday afternoon. Also expect the usual afternoon inflow winds in the eastern Fraser zone.

**OUTLOOK:** (Sunday-Tuesday) Sunday starts mostly sunny except up Haida Gwaii way but with the ridge pattern collapsing, afternoon temperatures fall off a few degrees and by late in the day a more general cloud band drifts in ahead of the advancing weak frontal trough. However, this system then weakens early Monday and mostly warm (but not hot) dry weather continues for southern zones through Tuesday. Haida Gwaii, the Mid-coast and northern Vancouver Island see a few showers through this period but significant rainfall is unlikely.

**6 TO 10 DAY:** (next week) Around next Wednesday a stronger frontal band reaches the coast to bring a few days of cloudy and cool and showery weather.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **VIRL's 2018 Annual Report Bridges Divides and Tells Our Story**

*Wednesday, June 5, 2019, Vancouver Island, BC:* Vancouver Island Regional Library's (VIRL) 2018 Annual Report, which was passed by VIRL's Board of Trustees at the June 1, 2019 meeting, is a reflection on the year that was, a celebration of our successes, and an opportunity to tell stories of how we positively impacted lives and encouraged lifelong learning and literacy in the communities we serve.

"Whether it was the dance program in Nanaimo that helped six teen girls discover the expressive and healing power of dance, the system-wide Indigenous Voices initiative that swept across our service area, the entire month catered to our LGBTQ2+ community, or the adult-focused shadow puppet show on Haida Gwaii, 2018 was a year to celebrate," says VIRL's Executive Director Rosemary Bonanno. "Libraries reflect back to us our potential, our challenges, and our opportunities — they're the bridges that connect us all."

The 2018 Annual Report has the theme of *Bridging the Divide*. Coupled with rich imagery and graphics, the 2018 Annual Report tells story after story of the many ways our libraries brought people together, made people feel welcome, helped share new ideas and perspectives, and promoted diversity and learning.

"At its core, the report is a reflection of our staff's passion for library services and community," says Bonanno. "I would like to thank everyone at VIRL for inspiring creativity and creation, expanding access and awareness about our system and services, developing transformative and thought-provoking programs and initiatives, and ensuring that our spaces were open and welcoming to everyone. Our staff are the drivers of our success and impact."

Here's a snapshot of some of the stories found in the report:

- VIRL's Indigenous Voices initiative that swept across our service area
- LGBTQ2+ programming and promotions
- An adult-themed shadow puppet show that drew big crowds in Masset
- The transformative power of dance for teens in Nanaimo
- A state-of-the-art new website for VIRL
- The roadshow that brought STEAM awareness to rural and remote communities



The 2018 report is entirely digital and web-based, making it accessible and attractive on any device or platform.

Follow this link to view the [2018 Annual Report](#).

#####

**For more information**

David Carson, Director, Corporate Communications and Strategic Initiatives

Direct: 250.753.1154 ex 248

Cell: 250.327.3651

Email: dcarson@virl.bc.ca