



WATCH LAKE – NORTH GREEN LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

5771 Green Lake North Road
70 Mile House, BC, V0K 2K1



Summer Newsletter 2021



The New Truck Has Arrived! - All that is missing is you.

Since our humble beginning 50 years ago, full and part-time residents have worked diligently to create a high-quality fire service for this community. Several generations of volunteer firefighters, board directors and auxiliary members can be very proud of their accomplishment. The arrival of the new truck is the pinnacle of their success. As mentioned in previous newsletters, the acquisition of this vehicle is very important in the continued certification of the department. To be recognized by the Fire Underwriters, our main engine must be under 25 years of age. This means that older, affordable trucks must be replaced as they reach their age limit no matter what their condition might be. Fortunately, the Volvo engine is in such good condition that it will continue to serve as the number two, back-up vehicle for many years. It will be 25 years before future members of the department will have to start worrying about a new fire engine. The one-ton pickups are starting to show signs of age, but they don't age-out so we can push them for a few more years.

The truck arrived on June 14th. We will demonstrate its many functions at the Annual General Meeting at Hall #2. It is important to stress that we were able to achieve this purchase without having to use money from the operating budget (that is financed through our annual fire dues). The department is very fortunate to have received a BC Lottery Capital Grant combined with a very generous donation from the estate of Barb Thurston (nee McTavish) in order to accomplish this purchase.

It's time to step up

Since 1971, the WL-NGL VFD has been protecting the area in case of fire and other incidents. The people involved are volunteers, but more than volunteers; they are working to protect their homes too. The age of many of our volunteers means they soon will be retiring and if other residents don't step up to keep the VFD running, then we are all without fire protection. Volunteers are needed as firefighters, but if fire fighting isn't for you, there are still areas where you can support the department.

Mechanically inclined? Great! We need people to maintain our equipment to a high standard.

It is always a lot of fun to help with the social and fundraising events too.

Tracking equipment and maintaining the halls is another area where we can use your help.

There are four main benefits of becoming involved:

1. Reduced insurance costs and ability to obtain insurance. Do you know what the cost of your insurance would be without your fire department? Check with your agent or broker, you might be blown away – that is, if you could be insured with fire protection.
2. Being part of the community. You will meet all kinds of people who care about the area and want to do their part for themselves and the community.
3. Fire department perks range from looking sharp in turn out gear to driving neat vehicles. There are social gatherings where you can meet more of your neighbours who also share a love for the area.
4. To top it off, you can get a reduction in both your fire dues and your income tax.

So, here's your chance to support yourself and your neighbours. Give me, Tom Manion, a call. My number is 250 395 6021. I look forward to meeting you.

Are You FireSmart?

The firefighters have now completed the 2021 Wildfire Training Program, and the FireSmart coordinator is taking a look at dangerous areas within the community. Please do your part to help keep the community safe.

Check fire restrictions before lighting a campfire and, above all, participate in the FireSmart program. Booklets are available at either fire hall or from the government web site at: <https://firesmartbc.ca/>

More information will be also provided at the Annual General Meeting. Answer the questions in the *Assess Your Risk from Wildfire* pages and find your *Home and Yard Hazard Score*.

Are you really prepared for another wildfire summer?



Garage and Bake Sale (cancelled again)

Sadly, the pandemic forced the cancellation of our annual garage and bake sale for the second year in a row. However, by the 2022 May long weekend we should have three times the number of treasures stored-up. That should be the best garage sale ever.

For this summer, please enjoy all of the wonderful activities our lakes have to offer - safely.

Tom Manion

President, WL-NGL VFD

Notification of our Annual General Meeting

The **Annual General Meeting** will be held on **Saturday, July 24th at Hall #2, Green Lake, at 10:00 a.m.** If the Covid restrictions still limited the assembly size at that time, we will hold the meeting in the parking lot.

Check out the VFD website

Director Bob Nathane has done a lot of work to establish a good web presence for us. See more truck photos and learn more about your fire department and the firefighters at the web site:

<http://www.wlnglfiredept.org>

Check the latest department events and fire related news on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/wlnglfiredept>

If you cannot attend the Annual General Meeting on July 24th in person, please forward this proxy to a paid-up member of your choosing who will be attending and can vote for you.



Proxy

No: _____

I, (print): _____

of local area address: _____

as a fire dues- paid member of the
Watch Lake – North Green Lake
Volunteer Fire Department (Society)
give my proxy to:

(print) _____

to vote on motions and resolutions raised at the
Annual General Meeting of the
Watch Lake – North Green Lake
Volunteer Fire Dept. (Society)
to be held on
Sunday, July 24, 2021*
at Hall #2.

Signed: _____

**valid only on date shown above*