



## **NEWS RELEASE**

August 11, 2020

## Parksville Qualicum Beach Firefighters Needed!

Parksville and Qualicum Beach fire departments are recruiting individuals who demonstrate the personal values of trust, honesty, integrity, compassion and empathy and can perform as part of a team of volunteer paid on-call firefighters. A volunteer firefighter will experience one of the most rewarding, engaging and exciting opportunities within the community. Volunteer firefighters care about their community and are willing to face new challenges.

The Parksville and Qualicum Beach fire departments are once again conducting regional recruitment. The fire departments provide a wide range of emergency and non-emergency services to their fire protection areas which include fire suppression, motor vehicle incidents, response to medical emergencies, hazardous materials incidents, gas/hydro emergencies, carbon monoxide alarms and we perform rescue services, along with other public services. Successful candidates will demonstrate an ability to perform tasks which includes fire protection and rescue services, fire inspection and public education within established policies and guidelines.

"Ideal candidates are physically fit, energetic, community minded team players who are keen to learn new skills," said Marc Norris, fire chief for Parksville and Qualicum Beach fire departments.

Firefighting offers both personal and professional challenges. As well as extensive professional training in all aspects of firefighting, the benefits of being a volunteer firefighter include community recognition and personal satisfaction, the chance to make new friends, develop skills as team members and be involved in community activities; from firefighting and rescue to public education. The departments also offer junior programs for those under the age of 19.

Before applying, please learn about the position and requirements and with the tasks and different steps in the selection process. Qualified candidates should submit applications to the department in the area where they live. Details and applications are on the department websites. To learn more, call your fire hall during business hours (Monday to Friday, 8 am to 4 pm) to set up a time to visit the fire station and speak with a member. Recruit classes begin in the fall and the application closing date is Friday, October 9 at 4 pm.

## Do you have what it takes to be a firefighter?

- 19 years of age or older (junior member age 16)
- Healthy and physically fit (medical and fitness screening required), non-smoker preferred
- Valid BC drivers licence and good driving record
- Good character (RCMP criminal record check required)
- Able and willing to commit to the community
- Live in the Parksville or Qualicum Beach fire protection areas
- Daytime availability preferred and able to attend weekly training sessions

**Parksville Volunteer Fire Department** 

https://www.parksville.ca/ 250 248-3242; fire@parksville.ca 160 Jensen Avenue West **Qualicum Beach Fire Department** 

https://www.qualicumbeach.com/fire-department 250 752-6232; firechief@qualicumbeach.com 130 Rupert Road East

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