

August 24, 2009

Dear Fire Chief:

**Re: 2009 Fire Prevention Week Program**

Thank you for participating in the 2009 Fire Prevention Week Program. This year's theme is "**Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned**" which focuses on ways to keep homes fire safe and prevent painful burns. Additionally, the campaign focuses on how to plan and practice escaping from a residence, should a fire occur.

**Fire Prevention Week Partnerships**

We are very pleased to announce our partnership with the Insurance Brokers Association of British Columbia (IBABC) and the British Columbia Safety Authority (BCSA), which helps provide Fire Prevention Week (FPW) activity booklets to classrooms throughout the province.

Our partnership with IBABC is a multi-year financial agreement and will allow us to reach a larger audience with our fire and life safety messages, as well as achieve collaboration and outreach opportunities, getting important fire and life safety messages into communities and homes across the province. FPW materials will be on display in up to 625 insurance broker's offices in the province.

**Fire Prevention Week 2009 - A Few Changes**

The Office of the Fire Commissioner will **not** be mailing out FPW Implementation kits. All resource materials will be available online from the OFC website for fire departments to print materials specific to the activities they are undertaking.

The OFC computer contest is offered again this year to those fire departments who want to participate. The separate entry form allows parents to participate in the fire safety message. See entry form on the OFC website <http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/firecom/pubed/fpw.htm>.

The latest *Fire Safety Starts With You* activity booklet has a new look and feel, focusing on children in grades 1 through 4, while continuing to highlight and identify fire and burn hazards, smoke alarms, knowing what to do in case of a fire, and home escape planning. The booklet is not time sensitive, as the computer contest is not included in the activity booklet.

**Online Fire Prevention Week Implementation Kit**

The *Fire Department Implementation Kit* provides guidance on how to maximize the effectiveness of the FPW program materials. All FPW materials are posted and available to download on the OFC website at <http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/firecom/pubed/fpw.htm>.

The kit includes:

- A Fire Department Guide to FPW activities complete with links
- Fire Chief for a day materials/info
- Teacher lesson plan
- Teacher/family letters
- School fire drill information
- Media templates
- Safety stars
- FPW activities - community fire drill
- FPW posters
- Additional fire prevention information

### **Prizes**

The OFC is providing a laptop computer to be won by one lucky child, and two \$250 cash prizes: one for the school, and one for the winning child's classroom to purchase educational materials and/or activities.

Contest entry forms are included in the online kit. Entry forms are designed to be printed double-sided, four per page. Each entry form must be filled out by a child and signed by the child's parent/guardian. The classroom teacher and the school name must be placed on the entry form for the school to be eligible. Completed entry forms must be dropped off at the local fire department before October 26, 2009. Each fire department must draw one entry form by October 30, 2009 and send the entry form to:

Office of the Fire Commissioner  
Attention: Ellen Pelto  
PO Box 9491 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC V8W 9N7

**Note: Entry forms MUST be received by the OFC by November 20, 2009.**

### **Fire Prevention Week Evaluation Form**

Your feedback on the 2009 BC FPW Program is essential for planning FPW in 2010. Please take a few minutes to complete the FPW Evaluation Form included in this kit and fax it to **the Office of the Fire Commissioner, fax (250) 356-9019 by November 7, 2009.**

If you require additional information about FPW materials, please contact Ellen Pelto at (250) 387-0109 or email [Ellen.Pelto@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ellen.Pelto@gov.bc.ca).

Thank you for your continued support of public fire and life safety education in British Columbia.



Jeff Lambert, Chair  
BC Public Fire and Life Safety  
Advisory Committee



Rebecca F. Denlinger  
Fire Commissioner  
Office of the Fire Commissioner