



HAYES CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE RESCUE June 2018 Newsletter

Hello everyone, a long winter with record snow pack has finally gone and spring came with flooding here for the third year in a row.

Since our Christmas newsletter we have had five emergency and medical calls, one helicopter medical evacuation, one lost snowmobiler, two structure fires and four spot brush fires.

Back to the flooding on April 14th, we were again pro-active and while there was still some snow around with 45 volunteers and 4 tractors filled and placed 2000 sand bags in five locations. We were ready we thought, but the first flooding was April 15th at 4074 Lakesyde (flooded basement) and we placed a pump and fan there for four days. At 2:AM on May 1st Lee Creek came over those bags we had placed on the DeSousa property and between 2 and 4 AM, 10 volunteers and a tractor repaired the two breaks, but not before Meadow Crescent, Lakesyde Road and 4 driveways were severely damaged. At 10:00 AM that same day 27 volunteers and 4 tractors again filled and placed another 2000 sand bags in those same 5 locations. There was further sandbagging May 4th and 5th with 12 forestry firefighters giving a hand, in all we went through 4 truck loads (48 yards of sand).

Remedial Action: Highways has now a work number for us for them to make some changes to the culverts on Lakesyde and Meadow Crescent, when the creek stops running. Work requested is to increase the size of both culverts and add concrete wings to direct the water into culverts and prevent over-flow onto roads.

The second request is to RDOS to deepen and straighten Lee Creek through Flor and Anita's property. This requires a permit and funding from RDOS.

This is very important, because the present creek depth and width cannot accommodate the volume of water flow that the culverts can accommodate and without both improvements made freshet flooding is likely to continue.

The structure fire was at 1705hrs Sunday May 27th reported as a brush fire. Hayes Creek Fire Department was on scene at 1710hrs with 2 trucks, correct address was 4131 Lakesyde Road, Boyd summer home. Fire was through the roof on arrival, tall evergreens fully involved top to bottom. Priorities were to save the adjacent house to the west and stop rapid fire spreading to the east. Final manpower was 38 with 4 trucks from Hayes Creek, 3 from Erris, a helicopter and 4 forestry crew, ambulance, police and Fortis. Big thank you to Hayes Creek support staff for providing food, hot and cold drinks for exhausted members on scene.

Members stayed through the night and found and extinguished 4 spot fires on 4 adjacent properties to the east. Total time elapsed was 21 hours. A big thank you to the area residents who assisted the firefighters.

House and guest house were a total loss and cause undetermined but fire investigators assume because the fire was through the roof on arrival it had been burning inside the house for some time before a window failed, spreading flaming debris to north and east extending fire spread. This was the loud boom before the first 911 call.

(2)

Our hearts go out to the Boyd's for the terrible loss of their home, they were insured and do plan to rebuild.

We are again adding "A House Wildfire Assessment Form". Please read it and do all you can to "Fire Smart" your home.

The second structure fire was 10:30PM, June 11th at 2160 Princeton Summerland Road. This was an Erris Fire Department fire with 2 trucks and 8 firefighters from Hayes Creek mutual aid responding. This was a doublewide trailer home and was fully involved on arrival with fire spread candling trees to the west.

The 4 Erris and 2 Hayes Creek trucks arrived with 8000 gallons of water (40 tons). The 2 Hayes Creek tenders together with 2 Erris tenders made 28 trips from the fire to the creek bringing another 45000 gallons (225) tons to the fire. The fire spread was quickly contained with Hayes Creek crew staying until 3:30AM and Erris crews staying on scene until 9:30PM next night chasing hot spots.

Fire cause is still undetermined, suspected pellet stove issue; one resident suffered burns and was transported to hospital. Erris fire department thanked the 9 members of the Hayes Creek support personnel who kept the 27 fire-attach folk fed, hydrated and warmed through their set-up rehab station. This is an invaluable asset that Hayes Creek volunteers provide as firefighting is physically demanding, dangerous and exhausting work and none of us are spring chickens.

BCAmbulance also set up a rehab station to monitor firefighters vital signs and health, this happens at every working fire.

Hayes Creek Fire Rescue is currently looking for a newer used engine/tender (under 20 years old costing \$35,000 to \$50,000) and this year with our lottery grant monies, will start to buy new turnout fire fighting clothing for our members.

(Our current hand-me-down clothing is over 30 years old and for us to receive certification, this gear must be replaced every 10years). This clothing costs about \$2800 per fire fighter and Yes! It is very expensive.

Just a reminder that none of our volunteers are paid and we receive no government tax funding and rely on your \$100.00 yearly property registration dues to survive and thank those that do support us. To find out if you are paid up call Gail at 295-6898 our calendar year is December 31st to December 31st.

Forestry restrictions are now in place: Only small campfires are allowed and fireworks banned until October 15th, infractions can result in a \$1150.00 fine.

Call Forestry to report forest fires 1-800-663-5555

Directors:

Rob Miller-250-295-6420 *Brent Fraser-250-295-0771

***Norm Quadling-250-295-0044 *Peter Grizer-250-295-0774**

***Gail Dickson-250-295-6898* Vic Bartel-250-295-7592**

Rick Law-250-295-7676* Stan Quinton-250-295-6898

Reminders:

***Garage Sale:** at Stan & Gail's open every Saturday 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon until August long weekend. All proceeds go to the Hayes Creek Fire hall, please come to view and buy some of our gently used treasures.

***Annual Meet & Greet, August 5th:** everyone welcome to our fire hall for hotdogs, hamburgers, drinks, and garage sale, see the fire hall and meet your neighbours

***Pancake Breakfasts:** are cancelled and will restart on October 7th, because of a busy summer schedule

***Property Registration of \$100.00** was due January 1st, 2018 for those who have paid, Thank you, receipts are with this newsletter, if you have questions regarding your property registration call Gail at 250-295-6898.

**HAYES CREEK VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION
RR#1 S14 C23
PRINCETON, BC. V0X1W0
NAME:** _____

Email _____

**MAILING
ADDRESS:** _____

**PROPERTY
ADDRESS:** _____

LOCAL PHONE NUMBER _____

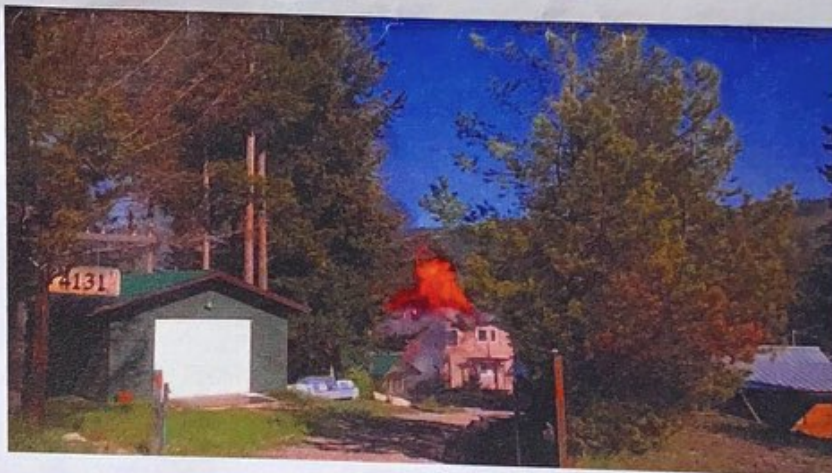
HOME PHONE NUMBER _____



Snow pack 2018



Community Sand bagging



Structure fire May 27th

Individual House Wildfire Hazard Assessment Form

Use this assessment form to determine the wildfire hazard to individual homes located in the Wildland/Urban Interface. Circle the number that best applies to your home.

1. Location of House	Flat ground, slope < 5% below house <u>1</u>	Mid-slope, slope 5-20% below house 3	Crest of hill, upper slope, slope > 20% below house 6
2. Roofing Material	Tile, steel, non-combustible closed soffits open soffits <u>0</u> 3	Treated wood shakes closed soffits open soffits 4 15	Untreated wood shakes 24
3. Roof Cleanliness	No combustible debris on roof or in gutters <u>0</u>	Scattered combustible debris, less than 1 cm deep <u>3</u>	Clogged gutters, roof debris more than 1 cm deep 6
4. Siding Material	Stucco, steel, aluminum <u>0</u>	Logs, vinyl 1	Wood, shake shingle 7
5. Decks & Porches	None or built of non-combustible material <u>0</u>	Wood materials, underside fully enclosed 3	Wood material, underside not fully enclosed 6
6. Wood Piles & Combustible Materials	None or more than 15 m away from house <u>0</u>	3 m to 10 m away from house <u>3</u>	Less than 3 m or against house/under porches 6
7. Utilities	Underground power lines <u>0</u>	Overhead power lines, more than 3 m from trees 3	Vegetation < 3 m from power line/propane tanks 6
8. Coniferous Forest Cover	More than 10 m from house spaced/pruned not spaced/pruned 1 2	3 to 10 m from house spaced/pruned not spaced/pruned <u>3</u> 6	Less than 3 m from house spaced/pruned not spaced/pruned 6 12
9. Surface Vegetation	Green lawn/non-combustible at least 10 m wide around house <u>6</u>	Green lawn/non-combustible 3 to 10 m wide around house 6	Green lawn/non-combustible less than 3 m wide around house 12
10. Access	Driveway more than 4 m wide and less than 10 m long <u>4</u>	Driveway less than 4 m wide and more than 10 m long 3	Narrow, long driveway, no turnaround 6
11. Home Protection Capabilities	Pressurized water, fire tools available <u>4</u>	Other water sources, fire tools available 2	No tools No water 3 6
12. Special Factors	Steep, winding access +3 Roof sprinklers -3	Large windows facing forest +3 Extreme fuel load in forest +3	Address signs poorly visible +3 Bridges holding < 2 tonnes +3

Total Points

12

= Hazard Rating

Low < 18

Moderate 18 - 28

High 29 - 37

Extreme > 37