

Hayes Creek Firefighters Fall/Winter Newsletter

November 2, 2024

CHRISTMAS CRAFT & BAKE SALE

Please join us on - **Sunday, November 10, 2024** - 10:00am to 3:00pm at the Hayes Creek Community Hall - Shop for beautiful handmade items made by our local Artisans, Bakers, and Crafters. A light lunch will be available by donation. You may also purchase tickets for the coveted 78" x 80" Queen size Quilt made by the Real Crafty Ladies. Tickets are \$10 or 3/\$25. [Click here for full details](#). All proceeds go to Hayes Creek Fire.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Our next breakfast is this **Sunday, November 3**. The pancake breakfasts have been a big success. Thank you to everyone who joined us for breakfast and especially to the ladies working so hard in the kitchen, giving us the beautiful smiles to go with the pancakes. The HCF pancake breakfasts had great turnouts during the summer months, but as expected, attendance has dropped off this fall. Most property owners have been able to take advantage of these monthly breakfasts, but if you have not, please come to the Hayes Creek Community Hall and enjoy a great breakfast with your neighbours - There is a full breakfast of pancakes, sausages, scrambled eggs, muffins, coffee/tea. Everyone has been very impressed. Adults \$15.00 and Children 10 years and under \$ 5.00. The breakfast is the first Sunday of most months from 9:30-11:00 am. Due to conflict with our craft sale and Christmas dinner, there will not be a December or January breakfast, but please try to attend our next one on February 2, 2025.

HAYES CREEK FIRE COMMUNITY DINNER

Saturday, **December 7, 2024** - 5:30 to 10:00pm - Hayes Creek Community Hall - This annual event is open to all residents and their guests. Turkey, dressing, potatoes and gravy will be provided, but please bring a food item to share, and any 'special' beverages you want to drink. Please RSVP to: events@hayescreek.ca by November 15 if you will be attending, and what food item you plan to bring. The evening will include draws and live music by "The Lone Stranger".



FIREHALL ACTIVITY

We had planned on the 'Community Burn' celebration on November 2, but due to dry conditions, the fire risk is still too great, so it had to be cancelled. This summer forest fire season was luckily not as busy as last year, so Hayes Creek fire department was not called on to help with BC Wildfire Services. This gave us time to get things done at the hall. We have been busy enclosing the open area on the west side of the building by preparing the space for the new Side X Side. This will be our new space for the rescue vehicle which will have winter tracks and give us the ability to access all properties for medical emergencies. This side x side has the space to carry up to six responders, whether bringing up EHS to the patient or bringing the patient down to the ambulance.



The hall has been painted and working on FireSmarting the immediate zone. Thank you Steve and Peter for all your hard work. We've also taken down some dead trees. Thank you Lenny for doing this and to Tommy for removing the stumps that were in the way. We now have winter storage for the fire boat. The west and south side of the building is now very usable. The new area for "RETURN IT" refundables drop off has been relocated. It is now in the front area near the road on the east side. We have put a new roof over the entrance. Please put your bags inside the room. Remember no cream containers or garbage. When there is garbage it is a loss for the hall.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

Just another reminder of our updated 'hayescreek.ca' email addresses. These should make it easy for you to contact the fire chief, confirm 'event' attendance, send your property registration fees or answer any questions in general:

hayescreek.ca - our new web address

firechief@hayescreek.ca - contact Cindy Gamache directly

treasurer@hayescreek.ca - registration fees and financial enquiries

events@hayescreek.ca - info about pancake breakfasts, dinners, HCFire community events

Info@hayescreek.ca - general information



NEW TENDER

Hayes Creek Fire recently purchased a 1998 1,700 gallon tender that is now in service. We sold the 1974 tender and Engine 291. Thanks to everyone involved for getting it repaired, updated, and ready. This is a great addition for Hayes Creek - this unit is 24 years newer than our old T291.

HCF FIRST RESPONDERS

Last summer we unfortunately had two unrelated 911 calls where we lost 2 members of our local community. We sincerely send our condolences to the families and friends.

Hayes Creek Firefighters responded to a bush fire on private property. This property owner was following the rules set by Kamloops Fire Center on October 4 when the category 3 open burning prohibition was rescinded. Due to very dry conditions, this category 3 fire got away and went into the duff. At 3:30am on October 13, Hayes Creek Firefighters were dispatched to this fire with 2 tenders and one engine. attending this incident for 6 hours. Then for the next 24 hours one tender stayed on site putting out spot fires. The message I would like to send to all of the community is even though the fire bans have been removed, it doesn't always make it safe to light a category 3 fire. The best time to burn our piles of branches is after we've had some snow. Please be safe and stay with all fires that you light.

REMINDER

Your \$100 annual 2025 Hayes Creek Fire Property Registration Fee is now Due. This can be e-transferred to: treasurer@hayescreek.ca, paid at any Pancake Breakfast, or mail a cheque to: Hayes Creek Fire, 3950 Princeton Summerland Rd., Princeton, BC, V0X1W0.

NEW UTILITY VEHICLE & WATER SOURCE

We purchased a 2020 Polaris Side X Side earlier this year. This is a great addition to our fleet of rescue vehicles and we have recently equipped it with snow tracks. This was done in conjunction with Osprey Snowwheelers who will also use it to tow their 'drag' trail groomer. The addition of 'tracks' will permit us in an emergency to drive directly to 'up hill' properties and attend 'trial side' emergencies - neither of which were accessible using our main fire trucks.

Our mutual aid partner, Erris Fire, have recently installed a large 6,600 gallon water tank to allow 'quick fill' of their trucks. This also has the potential to help Hayes Creek Fire, allowing us access to their 'full' fire trucks, especially for those properties toward the west end of our district.

BE READY FOR WINTER

Clean your chimneys!

Travel with an emergency kit:

A winter travel emergency kit should include items to help you stay safe and warm, as well as tools to help you change a flat tire or fix your car, if it breaks down:

- **Safety:** A high-visibility jacket, reflective triangles or flares, a flashlight, candle with matches, and a whistle to attract attention
- **Warmth:** A blanket, extra socks, gloves, boots, and hand and foot warmers.



Sincerely

Hayes Creek Firefighters Assoc

Cindy Gamache,
Fire Chief