



Peace River Regional District REPORT

To: Chair & Directors

Date: June 13, 2012

From: Steve Munshaw, Fire Chief Charlie Lake

Subject: Charlie Lake Fire Department Update

FOR DIRECTORS' INFORMATION:

Since April 1, 2012, the Charlie Lake Fire Department has undergone a drastic transformation in a positive direction. This update will provide you with an overview of some of the activities conducted by the Department, and the general view of the Department members, as well as the community.

- As identified in the Dave Mitchell report, volunteer recruitment and retention is extremely difficult in today's society. To date the Charlie Lake Fire Department's roster sits at 25 volunteers and two staff, for a total membership of 27.
- Daytime response to calls has an average membership response of six to twelve volunteers at the initial page out with an additional five members responding within an hour.
- 17 members have completed the 32hr BC Basic Firefighter's Course, Incident Command System 100, S100 Wildland Firefighting and are now able to respond to calls.
- Since April 1st, the Department has responded to 15 calls including medical, natural gas, and fire. In addition, Department staff has conducted inspections, responded to complaints, as well as conducted public fire education.
- Advanced training in ice rescue, vehicle operation, fire service instructor, wild land firefighter, air brakes and train the trainer have been taken by a large cross-section of the Department and has been well received.
- Media coverage (print, radio, and TV) has all been extremely positive. Between media and word of mouth, the positive status of the Department is known throughout the province and other areas of the country.
- Inter-department relations are at an all-time high. The Charlie Lake Fire Department competed in the hose-lay competition held in Taylor and earned the respect of their peers as well as four trophies including the most sportsmen like team and a standing ovation from all the departments.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE: The transfer of the Charlie Lake Fire Department from the Charlie Lake/Grandhaven Fire Protection Society to the Peace River Regional District is listed as priority for the Community Services Department under "Operational Strategies" in the 2012 Strategic Plan.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S): none

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S): none

Staff Initials: SM

Dept. Head:

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CAO:

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