

## **PIVFD Trustees Report – June 8, 2021**

- **Vaccinations:**

- On April 7th, we hosted the first Covid Clinic on Piers Island enabling our elderly and First Nations Piers residents to receive their 1<sup>st</sup> dose of the Covid 19 vaccination.
- On May 12, everyone over 18 years of age was eligible to attend a Clinic on Piers for their 1<sup>st</sup> dose.
- On June 29<sup>th</sup>, Island Health's immunization team will return to Piers Island to conduct a *COVID-19* vaccine clinic to provide second doses, along with first doses for those who have not yet been vaccinated, including 12-17 year olds.

- **Petition:**

- Petition in support of Bill C-264 asking the Government of Canada to increase the Federal Tax Credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000 for volunteer firefighters.
- A total of 63 signatures were provided by Piers Island residents and owners. The petition has been submitted to Gord Johns, the MP presenting Private Member Bill C – 264 and we wait to hear the results.

- **Siren:**

- The tree supporting the siren adjacent to the old firehall is nearing the end of its life and a decision will have to be made to relocate the siren to another tree or install a pole or retire the siren.
- Steve Cruise is looking for help from islanders who might be willing to assist in relocating the siren. We need to determine a cost before considering how best to proceed. Please contact Chief Cruise if you can help.
- The audible siren system does provide an extra level of redundancy over and above the reliance on cell phone/pager notification (often off in the middle of the night / not everyone has smart phone, etc.). Siren ongoing costs are minimal with no monthly fees. The fire department members have been canvassed and all support keeping the siren system.

- **Pagers:**

- PIVFD is reviewing the use of pagers as part of our notification system. Soon we will need to replace the analogue Motorola units with the digital Swissphone ones at a cost

of about \$500 each. The cost will be significant as we currently have 15 active members.

- **Burn Permits:**

- Effective April 15 and through to October 15, burn permits are required for all open fires on Piers Island. Currently, we are limiting open burning to campfires only. All permits will be cancelled when our Fire Hazard Rating moves to HIGH.

- **Fire Training Practices:**

- The PIVFD practice sessions follow Covid protocols and for the winter/spring months we moved to two practices per week with half of the members attending one night and the other half the next night. Currently we are offering just one practice per week but for the June, July and August, members will attend one of three specialized sessions: Structural Fire Fighting, Forest Fire Fighting and Sprinkler Protection Units. This keeps the groups small and allows everyone to join one unit for a full month of specialized training. If anyone wishes to attend a practice if only to view how the department functions, you are welcome to join us any time. Please let Chief Cruise know if you would like to audit one of our sessions.

- **Fire Rating:**

- As of June 5<sup>th</sup>, the Fire Hazard Rating is Moderate.

- **Buildings:**

- We are in the course of painting the old fire hall and we will also be cleaning and sealing the engraved pavers at the new fire hall. Both projects should be completed this month. All the work is being done by volunteers. Paint and cleaning products are the only costs incurred.