



Chief's Chat – Spring Edition April 15th, 2018

Dear Islanders

Three of the main tenants of our volunteer fire department are PREVENTION, MITIGATION and SUPPRESSION. Each has a very valuable roll to play in how we go about our day to day activities as islanders and firefighters. I thought it might be useful for me to update you on our current initiatives.

PREVENTION



Today is the beginning of the Fire Season on Piers. Our by-laws recognize the dangers of wildfire during periods of drought and those days are quickly approaching. We do prohibit all open burning on the island from April 15 to October 15th unless you have a Permit. Permits can be had from: Pauline Olesen, Garth Irvine, Burke Stencil, Jim Merritt or myself. If you have a fire without a permit, you will be asked to immediately extinguish it or the PIVFD will be paged to put it out.

MITIGATION



National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day is scheduled for May 5th, 2018 on Piers Island. If we are prepared for these potential catastrophic events, we can lessen the impact and preserve both life and property. I am very pleased to announce that Pauline Olesen applied for and has now been granted a \$500 award for promoting FireSmart activities and Wildfire awareness on Piers. Stay tuned for some community-based solutions which will greatly help us reduce wildfire risks and damages. *Congratulations to Islanders for their FireSmart work which gained Piers Island Community Recognition again for 2017 from FireSmart Canada.*

SUPPRESSION



After eight years of dedicated and unfailing service, our beloved 1973 fire Tender has now been retired. We have replaced it with Engine 33 previously the main fire engine for the Maple Bay Fire Department. It has several features that will assist us in executing a timely and effective response to any structure fire on Piers. Importantly, it incorporates a transverse control platform and it has the capacity to carry a full team of firefighters to any incident. We will have Engine 33 out on May 5th so you can see it for yourself and have a personal tour from one of our volunteer firefighters. The acquisition and delivery of this special fire vehicle would not have been possible without a lot of help. Good things need great

people at the levers. I would like to single out:

Lenny Green –located, bid and acquired this truck - \$9,100 plus taxes

Brent Schorr – arranged the paperwork and financing in record time

Derek Morrison – inspected the truck prior to bidding and transported the truck from Duncan to Piers

PIID Trustees –came together at a moment's notice and agreed to the proceed with the bidding

Willis Rooke – barged the vehicle here free of charge

Chief Mike Dunn – Maple Bay Fire Dept.

All the best to Islanders this wonderful Spring Season.

Steve Cruise