



Fire Prevention Week is October 6 – 12:
Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan & Practise Your Escape!

Date: Friday, October 4, 2019

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – Fire Prevention Week is Sunday, October 6 – Saturday, October 12, 2019. *Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practise Your Escape!* is this year's campaign, designed to educate the public about the small but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

Data from Statistics Canada shows that home fires continue to pose a significant threat to safety. In a typical home fire, you may have as little as one to two minutes to escape safely from the time your home smoke alarm sounds.

Below are some helpful tips for your family to plan and practise to escape a home fire.

- **Map it out** - Draw or map out the layout of your home, marking two exits from every room (typically a door and a window) and a path from each exit to the outside.
- **Smoke alarms** – Mark the location of all smoke alarms in your home on your map. There should be at least one smoke alarm on every level, in each bedroom, and near all sleeping areas.
- **Meeting place** – Pick a meeting place outside the front of your home where everyone will meet after exiting.
- **911** – Make sure everyone in your family knows how to call 911 from a mobile phone or a neighbour's phone once safely outside.

During Fire Prevention Week, the Victoria Fire Department will visit elementary schools to participate in fire drills and promote fire prevention and protection in the home.

The Victoria Fire Department offers a free smoke alarm to residents who need one to ensure every Victoria home has a working smoke alarm. Learn more, visit: www.victoria.ca/fireprevention.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY:

Proclamation Ceremony – Monday, October 7 from 8:50 a.m. – 9:15 a.m., Victoria City Hall

Immediately following a fire drill at City Hall, a ceremony will be held outside the Pandora Avenue entrance where Acting Mayor Charlayne Thornton-Joe will proclaim it to be *Fire Prevention Week* and speak to its significance.

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For More Information:

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