

Introducing the Fire and Emergency Medical Training Department

The Fire & Emergency Medical Training Department focuses on four key areas:

Fire Life Safety

- Awareness programs
- Community visits
- First Nations' Fire Life Safety Officers Association (in development)
- School fire education

Fire Services

- **Fire Department Support Program:** this service offers support and guidance for fire officers in all important aspects of running an efficient fire department.
- **Fire Department Level of Service Assessments:** a comprehensive review that assesses a community's fire service requirements and feasibility.
- **Governance and Administration Workshops:** designed to inform the Chief and Council of the responsibilities involved in supporting community emergency service programs.

Fire Service Events

- BC Regional Fire Fighter Competition and training week
- Fire Chiefs Conference
- Fire Fighters Long Service Awards
- National Fire Fighter Competition
- Poster Competition

Training

- **Community Safety Training:** this program targets community members such as band office staff, teachers and health care workers. It provides communities with the knowledge to implement fire safety and prevention.
- **Critical Incident Stress Management Training:** this program covers a variety of topics from common psychological reactions, basic stress management, communication skills, and techniques to accelerate recovery and reduce future stress.

Emergency Medical Training

- Automatic External Defibrillator
- Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation
- First Responder levels one to three
- Spinal Injuries Endorsement
- **Fire Chief Workshops:** these two-day training sessions provide practical training in fire department administration. Topics covered include bylaws, band council resolutions, budgeting, operational guidelines, recruitment and retention, fire prevention, tactics and strategies
- **Fire Fighter Training**
 - Auto Extraction
 - Emergency Vehicle Driving
 - Hazardous Material Awareness
 - Introduction to the Fire Service
 - Incident Command System – ICS 100
 - Live Fire
 - Pumps & Pumping
- **Rural Fire Officer** (in development)
- **Wildland Fire Fighting**
 - Basic Fire Suppression and Safety – S100
 - Fire Operations in the Wildland/Urban Interface – S215

Our training calendar is published each month in *FNESS News* and online at www.fness.bc.ca, where you can download course details and registration forms.



The Fire & Emergency Medical Training Department

Vancouver Office Staff



Emma Strench brings technical and project management skills to administer the department. She has extensive experience in the coordination and delivery of training programs, rolling out large scale programs in Australia and England.



Daren Mini of the Birdtail Sioux First Nation, Manitoba, brings twenty years of emergency services experience to FNESS. In addition to his tenure as an emergency management officer for the Manitoba Association of Native Fire Fighters (MANFF), Daren was a volunteer fire fighter, fire chief, and fire service officer.



Peggy Joe, from the Okanagan Indian Band, joined FNESS in 2007 with the emergency department. Moving into the FEMT department, Peggy brings her passion for emergency management and event planning into her new role with FNESS.

Meet Some of Our Instructors and Program Staff



Cliff Azak has nineteen years of emergency services, corporate and non-profit society experience. He is committed to helping First Nations communities understand the need to support their local emergency services for the protection of life and property. Cliff has a long affinity with FNESS. He carries out fire safety assessments and delivers our governance and administration workshops.



Lance Barnard is a retired fire fighter with over thirty years experience. His training includes Haz Mat awareness, first responder, emergency management, incident command systems, emergency operations and high angle technical rescue. Lance works with FNESS delivering governance and administration workshops, carrying out fire safety assessments and advising on community apparatus, equipment and communications.



Keith Boswell began his professional career with the City of Surrey Fire Department in 1977 and progressed to assistant fire chief in charge of operations. Keith possesses the British Columbia Provincial Instructor Diploma and teaches incident command, fire officer training and general fire fighter training. He also assists FNESS in conducting fire surveys and providing community safety planning services.



Dean Cleave is a dedicated fire captain with more than thirty years of progressively responsible experience with Surrey Fire Services. He is a chief officer with the JIBC Fire Academy and possesses strong qualifications in emergency response, training, and public safety, along with well-developed leadership and analytical skills. Dean delivers Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation, Automated External Defibrillator and First Responder Levels I, II and III.



Camille Colbert is a volunteer fire fighter with Beverly Fire Rescue in Prince George. Camille has worked with the Burn Institute San Diego Fire Safety Public Education Programs and is an advisory board member of SOS Fires. She teaches school and community based fire safety across the province, promoting fire safe communities within First Nations' communities.



Dean Colthorp has been involved with the fire service since 1987 and is currently deputy fire chief in charge of training with the Abbotsford Fire Rescue Service. Dean is an emergency services advisor for FNESS and president of the British Columbia Fire Training Officers Association. He delivers fire training programs to communities through our fire chief workshops and teaches Basic Train the Trainer and ICS 100 courses.



Ken Douglas is a captain with the Surrey Fire Department. A member of Surrey Fire since 1978, he brings with him a wealth of experience in delivering CPR and first responder training. In addition to delivering emergency medical training courses for FNESS, Ken provides CISM peer interventions, drawing upon his experience having been involved with Critical Incident Stress Management since 1988.



Sheldon Guertin joined Merritt Fire Rescue in 1991, moving to Kamloops Fire Rescue in 1998 where he is a life safety educator and fire inspector. A qualified CPR, AED and First Responder I, II & III instructor, he joins the FNESS team delivering emergency medical training to our staff and communities.



Bob Hickey started his fire service career in 1959 in Parksville, B.C. During his time at the Office of the Fire Commissioner he was instrumental in establishing the Provincial Fire Training Program and Provincial Building & Fire Codes. Currently he focuses on fire service administrative reviews, fire protection surveys and fire safety inspections, and emergency preparedness planning and operations.



Rhonda Loewen is from the Lakota Nation and currently resides in Gold River. Rhonda is pursuing an MA in Disaster and Emergency Management with the Royal Roads University in Victoria, B.C. Rhonda facilitates workshops in wellness, Basic CISM, and she is one of our CISM response members.



Dave McCauley's First Nation heritage is Okanagan, and he is a member of the Upper Nicola Indian Band. He has twenty-five years of active structural fire service background, both as a fire fighter and fire chief. Dave is extensively involved with Critical Incident Stress Management, delivering interventions to communities throughout the province.



Wayne Schnitzler started his fire career in 1979 and is now fire chief for the Westside Fire Department. Wayne served on the board of the Fire Chiefs Association of British Columbia as second vice-president for one year and first vice-president for two years. Wayne is a fire services advisor for FNESS and has worked with us since 1994.