



**First Nations' Emergency Services Society and British Columbia Wildfire Service**

**Joint Indigenous Fire Knowledge & Prescribed Burning Regional Engagement Workshops**

**Prince George Region**

**Tuesday April 28, 2020 | 08:30 to 16:00**

**Location: venue to be determined**

The First Nations' Emergency Services Society and British Columbia Wildfire Service are hosting 6-Regional Engagement Workshops' through BC. These workshops are based on recommendations within the Abbott/Chapman report [Addressing the New Normal: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Disaster Management in British Columbia](#) and the [Government's action plan: Responding to wildfire and flood risks](#). Each of these reports had high recommendations in reference to Indigenous knowledge, increase of prescribed fire, and supporting First Nations engagement within prescribed burning.

FNESS and BCWS are working together to further recommendations, actions and strategies regarding traditional burning practices and support First Nations' engagement and involvement with the use of prescribed fire.

To assist with this, FNESS recently conducted a gap analysis to identify current status, interest and objectives of First Nations communities through the release of a survey to all FN communities in BC, results will be summarized, and common themes prioritized. Based on this, we will utilize and share findings at regional engagement sessions, to hear from communities; and provide additional information regarding prescribed burning programs. We will also share current planning and prescribed burning processes in BC and further identify opportunities for collaboration.

**Agenda – Prince George Fire Centre Region**

- 8:30 AM – Welcome, Introductions, Overview of the day
- 9:00 AM – Background and overview of project, (FNESS) First Nations Emergency Services Society, Fuel Management Department; (BCWS) BC Wildfire Service, Coastal Fire Centre; and, Regional Operations Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- 9:30 AM – Indigenous knowledge guest speakers: To Be Determined
- 10:00 AM – Coffee break



- 10:15 AM - Provincial Prescribed burn program, current planning status process - BCWS, or Fire Centre Prevention Staff
- Fire Center/Zone overview
  - FN rep to share existing agreements arrangements with BCWS
- 10:45 AM – Indigenous knowledge survey summary - FNESS
- 11:15 AM – Questions feedback
- 12:00 PM – Lunchbreak – provided sharing of Indigenous burning videos
- 1:00 PM – Prescribed burning training, curriculum development and capacity building opportunities – FNESS; and BCWS representative
- 1:45 PM – Opportunities for collaboration between Indigenous communities, FNESS & BCWS and other branches of Government. Moving forward next steps on engagement and the inclusion of Indigenous involvement with Prescribed Burning – FNESS and BCWS.
- 2:15 PM – Break out sessions
- 3:00 PM - Questions and answers.
- 3:30 PM – Closing remarks