



First Nations' Emergency Services Society

O F B R I T I S H C O L U M B I A

Mitigation Department: Wildfire Division

Within the First Nations' Emergency Services Society (FNESS) Mitigation Department, the Wildfire Division works with First Nations in B.C. to help build community wildfire capacity (the ability to protect your community and other communities from wildfire). Building wildfire capacity can include wildfire training for community members, as well as opening employment opportunities within your community, the contractor community, and BC Wildfire Service (BCWS).

Our team is passionate about understanding the unique goals and needs of each Nation and helping them navigate the programs and resources available to build wildfire resiliency.

Contact us to learn more about how we can help you build wildfire capacity.



Contact us:

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Wildfire Division: Programs, Training, and Guidance

Wildland Firefighter Training Program

Developed by FNESS and funded by BC Wildfire Service (BCWS) and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), this program provides industry-recognized classroom and field-based Wildland Firefighting Training courses in your community. Courses are targeted to meet the Type 2 Fire Crew standard and exceed the Type 3 Fire Crew training requirements, which includes courses that develop general forestry and incident command systems knowledge/skills.

Wildland Fire Equipment Purchasing Program

Developed by FNESS and funded by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), this program complements the Wildland Firefighter Training Program by providing communities with the necessary wildland fire equipment and personal protective equipment to safely and effectively work in the wildland fire environment. Eligible applicants may be reimbursed up to \$75,000 for purchasing program equipment, which meet operational wildfire response scenarios and WorksafeBC requirements.

The Wildfire Division also provides guidance and recommendations on the following:

- Networking with local BCWS zones and fire centres to build meaningful collaboration and partnerships.
- Awareness of economic opportunities through standing arrangement contracts with BCWS for single resources, wildfire crews, heavy equipment, and more.
- Mentorship for community crews responding to wildfires.
- Training for community members who have the desire to become BCWS Type 1 Wildfire Fighters.
- Community wildfire instructor development and recognition.
- Wildland fire personal protective equipment, fireline equipment and suppression vehicles.



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