

**For immediate release
August 19, 2015**

FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE FOR PARTS OF ELECTORAL AREA C:

***Community Information Meeting at the Pemberton & District Community Centre,
Thursday September 3, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.***

Pemberton, BC – Owners of properties located in the Pemberton Fringe, Pemberton Meadows and the Heights neighbourhoods of Electoral Area C of the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) are invited to attend an Information Meeting to learn more about their existing fire protection service. The meeting will take place on Thursday, September 3 from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. in the Great Hall at the Pemberton & District Community Centre.

Currently, the SLRD neighbourhoods of Pemberton Fringe (surrounding the Village of Pemberton), Pemberton Meadows (Pemberton Meadows Road) and the Heights (Ivey Lake, Reid Road, Walkerville, Owl Ridge and environs) receive fire protection service from Pemberton Fire Rescue, under a contract for service between the SLRD and the Village of Pemberton. With the agreement between the SLRD and Village of Pemberton up for renewal at the end of the year, the two organizations felt it was an opportune time to meet with area property owners.

“For most communities, delivering safe, effective and sustainable rural fire services is a growing challenge,” says Russell Mack, SLRD Area C Director and former Chief of Pemberton Fire Rescue. “Service delivery costs and mandates are increasing and insurance premiums are going up. This meeting is an opportunity for the SLRD residents who are currently being served by Pemberton Fire Rescue to find out about their fire service, and to discuss ways they might be able to reduce their insurance premiums and their risk.”

SLRD Area C Director Russell Mack, Pemberton Fire Chief Robert Grossman, SLRD Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Lynda Flynn, and Village of Pemberton CAO Nikki Gilmore will be present to provide information about the existing fire protection service arrangement.

Residents will also learn about the factors that affect their insurance rates, as set by the Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS), including distance of their property from the Fire Hall and fire hydrants, as well as what proactive measures might be taken to fire-smart rural properties and minimize personal risk.

- 30 -

For more information, please contact:

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