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December 13, 2024

BY EMAIL TO [REDACTED]

Eugene Duruisseau, Volunteer Firefighters Society Seton Valley

RE: Future of the Seton/Shalalth Fire Protection Service Area

Dear Society Board:

As you are aware, since the Society was stood down in September 2019, residents of the fire protection service area seamlessly started receiving fire protection services from the SLRD's current fire protection services provider, Tsal'alh. The SLRD considers itself extremely fortunate that Tsal'alh has been ready, willing and able over the past 5 years to provide this service. This seamless transition also ensured that the residents in the service area have continued to receive affordable homeowner fire insurance due to the maintenance of the FUS dwelling protection grade of 3b. I wish to reiterate that the Board has always had and continues to have full confidence in Tsal'alh's ability to deliver fire protection services.

The Board had been hopeful that the Society would work collaboratively with SLRD staff to develop a reasonable plan to remove Society-owned apparatus and fire equipment from the Seton Fire Hall. The removal of Society-owned assets is a critical step to the SLRD being able to finalize the long-term fire protection services agreement with Tsal'alh. It is the Board's view that this continues to be in the best interests of the community, both for fire protection purposes and for receiving affordable homeowner fire insurance due to maintaining the community's current FUS grading.

Since the Society has advised staff that it will not be cooperating with removing its apparatus and equipment from the Seton Fire Hall as requested, I am writing to advise you that the Board has provided strong direction to staff to continue to facilitate the removal of Society-owned assets from the Seton Fire Hall. In the coming days, the SLRD will be finalizing a plan to do so.

In addition, the Board has directed staff to continue to update the community about this situation.

Once Society-owned assets are no longer in the fire hall, the SLRD will be able to finalize the long-term fire protection services agreement and fire hall lease with Tsal'alh, resulting in Tsal'alh being able to move its apparatus into the fire hall which will reduce delays in fire protection response time and maintain the community's current FUS grading. This community update will occur shortly.

The SLRD will be in contact with the Society shortly with more details about the SLRD's plan to remove Society assets from the Seton Fire Hall. The Board strongly encourages you to reconsider your position and to start cooperating with the SLRD for the benefit of the community. Our Chief

Administrative Officer Heather Paul is available at [hpaul@slrd.bc.ca](mailto:hpaul@slrd.bc.ca) and (604) 894-6371 ext. 231. The SLRD's toll-free number is 1-800-298-7753.

Sincerely,



Jen Ford

Chair, Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

cc. SLRD Board of Directors

Heather Paul, SLRD Chief Administrative Officer  
Mark Phillips, Director of Protective Services