



# Prevention Post

Manitoba Office of the Fire Commissioner

ISSUE December 2011

No.1

Acting Fire Commissioner Dave Schafer presents citation to Didier Pignatel at the Provincial Fire prevention week Kick-off.



## this issue

Commissioner's message **P.1**

Fire Prevention Week **P.2-4**

Statistical Update **P.5**

News and Views **P.6-9**

Safety Tips **P.10-11**

## Message from the Acting Fire Commissioner:

On behalf of the Office of the Fire Commissioner, I am pleased to welcome you all to "the Prevention Post". Over the years, Burning Issues has been the communication tool of choice for the OFC to get information out to the Manitoba Fire Service and all of our stakeholders, regarding public education initiatives, training and education programs, changes at the OFC or simply general information that we feel is important to our stakeholders.

With our new focus on prevention, I am very pleased to be able to publish the Prevention Post, and once again get out the message on behalf of the OFC. We have decided to put the responsibility for this publication under our Public Education Unit. We want to take every opportunity to get out those important Pub Ed messages, and we can't think of a better tool than the Prevention Post. I am certain that Kathy Danino will take great pride in this publication on our behalf. As most of you are

all aware, we have undergone some significant changes within the Agency over the past few months. This includes changes at the Executive Management level, as well as changes to the overall structure of the Agency. As a result, the new Management Team has made significant headway in getting some of our important policy documents in place, which will set the frame work for moving forward. These changes were necessary to ensure that the Agency remains on track to meet our responsibilities to our diverse group of clients, as well as meet our obligations on behalf of the Province of Manitoba.

Earlier in October, the Province of Manitoba experienced one of the busiest weekends of wildfire activity in recent

history. The level of fire activity that we experienced is typically observed during the summer season in Northern Manitoba. To experience this level of fire behaviour on a provincial scale in the month of October was to say the least, out of the ordinary for this province.

The Manitoba Fire Service and municipalities from across Manitoba came to the aid of their

neighbours during this time of extreme need. The call for assistance to support the Eastman Mutual Aid District, brought a response of over 160 fire fighters from 28 different fire departments or municipalities. This impressive response has proven that the provincial mutual aid system remains strong, and is committed to, and capable of providing support at both the mutual aid district and provincial lev-

els.

On behalf of the Staff of the OFC, sincere congratulations goes out to all those who provided support during this successful event.

I want to congratulate all of those who were involved in the planning and successful delivery of SARSCENE 2011. We have heard nothing but positive comments from everyone involved, including, and most importantly our Co-Hosts and partners, The National Search and Rescue Secretariat (NSS). We were able to use this opportunity to demonstrate to Canada and the citizens of Manitoba, the success of our provincial Search and Rescue Manitoba (SARMAN) program.

We look forward to working with all of you in the coming months and keeping you updated through the Prevention Post

Sincerely,

David K. Schafer  
Acting Fire Commissioner

I am pleased to welcome you all to "the Prevention Post"

# Manitoba Fire Prevention Week



Above, this year's FPW Kick-off took place at William Whyte School in Winnipeg on Friday October 7th planned in conjunction with Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Services and the Manitoba Firefighter's Burn Fund.

## *Watch What You Heat!*

*The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.*

Below, The Selkirk Fire Department interacts with the schools in Selkirk with Puff and DeeDee from LAFS (Life And Fire Safety) Canada Inc. along with Sparky. A day was set up to talk to all the students from Grades K-3 with help from Puff and DeeDee, helping bring a little excitement and be more interactive with the kids.

*Submitted by Dave Milner*

Stay in the kitchen when you are frying grilling or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.



## Dauphin Draws them in

Saturday October 15 in Dauphin. The Dauphin Fire Department held a fundraising effort over the summer with a "Fire it Up" raffle. The picture shows Sparky assisting Safeway store manager Ken Shaw, with the grand prize draw for \$5,000.00 in Safeway gift cards. Also assisting with the draw are Lt. Darren Killen and FF Ryan Schenk. There were over 200 visitors for the DFD open house to finish off the Fire Prevention Week activities. Along with the draw for the raffle, visitors were treated to a free BBQ lunch, tours of the apparatus and station, and the new Fire Prevention Pub Ed trailer.

*Submitted by Cam Abrey*





# Manitoba Fire Prevention Week



The Erickson District Fire department along with many other departments in the South Central Mutual aid District provided Public education to area schools. The education was enhanced with the exciting help of the recently acquired public education trailer. The realistic rooms, smoke and DVD's and TV's in the unit were a real life training opportunity for many students and their instructors. Live smoke was used for bedroom evacuation out of a window and feeling the heated door looking for exits. The students then proceeded out the bedroom window to their meeting place. Next, they went into the kitchen area for a video. The local departments found the trailers to be a great tool that provided

excellent realistic scenarios. The feedback from students was overwhelmingly positive. Teachers were also very impressed and thought this was the best safety training that they have seen. The South Central and West Central Mutual Aids jointly received a trailer and have put it to good use and are very thankful to have such an apparatus for their districts.

We truly thank the Manitoba Fire Fighter's Burn Fund, Red River Mutual and the OFC for their contribution towards such a great tool for public education.

*Submitted by John Braschuk Jr.*



## EYE ON IT

If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while the food is cooking and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.

Have a “kid-free zone” of at least 1 meter (3 feet) around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

Always keep a lid nearby when you are cooking.

In case of an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed until it is cool. After a fire, the oven should be checked and/or serviced before using it again.



# Manitoba Fire Prevention Week



Grand Valley Mutual Aid District's Fire Chief for a Day held in Brandon on Wednesday October 12, 2011.



## Characters Show up in Arborg - Bifrost

During Arborg-Bifrost Fire Department's open house, community members took fire safety pamphlets from the display booths and asked questions related to fire extinguisher and smoke alarm placement and maintenance. On hand at the booth were three lovable characters, "Talking" Sparky vocalizing fire safety messages, Cinnamon the 911 bear and Smoky the Bear endorsing outdoor fire safety.

Other activities included presentations at the seniors' residence, Fire Hall tours, and electronic fire extinguisher demonstrations and training.

*Submitted by George F Howell*

### "Smoke Alarms Save Lives"

Students are shown the importance of "working smoke alarms" at home with the help of their teachers being made into smoke alarms. Beep! Beep! St. Andrews Fire Dept.

*Submitted by Don Peters*



# STATISTICAL UPDATE

## 2010

During 2010, Manitoba reported 5,664 fires resulting in over \$169 million property damages. Of these fires, 38% were deemed accidental, 20% arson/suspicious, and 42% undetermined. The number of arson/suspicious fires has decreased by 10% from 2009. There was also a decrease in both fire injuries (12%) and fatalities (14%). Of the 255 injuries reported, 186 were civilians and 69 were fire fighters. All 18 fatalities were civilians and 17 of the incidents occurred within the home. For this reason home fires still remain a concern in our province.

In 2010 fire services reported 1,124 home fires. The main 3 causes of a home fire resulting in an injury were found to be: careless cooking, careless smoking, and arson. The number one cause of home fires resulting in a fatality was careless smoking. The chart below outlines other causes of home fires resulting in a fatality in 2010.

Cause of Fatal Home Fires	# of Fatalities
Careless Smoking	6
Arson/Suspicious	3
Children Playing with Fire	2
Electrical Short / Failure	3
Careless Cooking	1
Combustibles Too Close to Heater	1
Undetermined	1
Total	17

Manitoba Home Fires 2010	% of Homes	# of Home Fire Fatalities
No Smoke Alarm Present	19%	4
Smoke Alarm Present - Activated	29%	0
Smoke Alarm Present - Non-Activated	20%	2
Unknown if Smoke Alarm was Present	32%	11

Last year's stats still highlight the importance to continue to advocate and ensure every home in Manitoba is equipped with a working smoke alarm. As seen in the table above, we found that homes equipped with a working smoke alarm resulted in zero fatalities whereas homes without alarms resulted to 6 fatal losses. We also see 32 % of homes where presence of a smoke alarm cannot be determined but lead to 11 fatalities. Although we realize this may be difficult to capture (especially when a structure is completely destroyed), we encourage you to continue to do your best to collect this information with the help of witnesses, police and fire investigators.

Even with the increase of fires in 2010, Manitoba Fire Services still reported ~\$4.7 billion of property saved as a result of containing and suppressing fires.

## Friendly Reminder

2011- To date we've only received 944 rural fire reports. This number is still much lower compared to previous years. To ensure that all fire incidents are accounted for, please forward any outstanding 2011 fire reports to us as soon as possible. Our office receives request for fire information on a daily basis. Without your information, it is very difficult for us to identify trends and address any fire inquiries received from the media and public.

It has also come to our attention that we have not received all 2011 Mutual Aid Response forms. There has been some confusion as to when these reports are filled out and by whom. To clarify please refer to the guidelines below:

For departments who initiated the mutual aid response:

Fill out Mutual Response forms. They can be found on our website at: [http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/support\\_mutualaid.html](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/support_mutualaid.html).

Submit the form to your Mutual Aid Coordinator who will submit the form to OFC

Complete a fire report for the incident and forward it to OFC (either via FDM, Fax , or mail)

For departments who responded to the call:

Complete a fire report for the incident and mark it as a mutual aid response on FDM (ie: Incident Type = Mutual Aid)

If you have any questions or require assistance with your reports, please feel free to contact Paige Dimayuga directly at 945-2001.



# NEWS AND VIEWS

Greetings from the Executive of the Canadian Volunteer Fire Service Association (CVFSA)! The CVFSA was formed in 1999 with a mandate to promote training and education of volunteer firefighters across the nation. We are a voice for the volunteer firefighter promoting the value of your dedicated service at the national level. We have a board of directors who volunteer their time to represent all provinces across Canada with the exception of Quebec, Newfoundland/Labrador and Nunavut. We are actively seeking qualified candidates to assume those positions.

We work closely with the Canadian Fire Chiefs Association actively promoting the interests of volunteer firefighters. As an example, we collectively worked with our CAFC partner to lobby the federal government to enhance and improve the taxable benefit for volunteer firefighters during the "Give Firefighters Credit" campaign. Although too many of you who do receive a monetary reward for your service to your individual communities, this legislation was aimed specifically for those who do not receive any monetary benefit. We continue to work in partnership with the CAFC to lobby the federal government during the labour relations week giving us an opportunity to speak with all federal ministers promoting the interest of volunteer firefighters.

We hold a seat representing volunteer firefighters on the National Domestic Group on Emergency Management promoting the interests of volunteer firefighters.

We work closely with the Canadian Fallen Firefighters Association with a member sitting on their board of directors to raise funds which have been used to have a permanent monument in Ottawa recognizing those firefighters who have paid the ultimate sacrifice to serve. The CFFA raises money to bring to life the annual Canadian Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend in Ottawa every September which includes the families of fallen firefighters. The CFFA is dedicated to promoting education of fallen firefighter's children by offering scholarships and bursaries.

We sponsor the CVFSA Lifetime Achievement Award honouring a dedicated long serving firefighter and their family on an annual basis. This is a prestigious award that is made possible by our major sponsors, Commercial Solutions, Dregar, Morning Pride, Pelican and others who make possible an all expense paid weekend for the recipient and their family to Ottawa during our annual general meeting in consort with the Canadian Fallen Firefighter Memorial weekend. Not only is the recipient of the award showered in gifts and accolades, his/her department receives approximately \$35,000.00 of firefighting gear. The winner of this years award was Terry Diablo

of the Kahnawake Fire Department in Quebec where the department received a \$12,000.00 Dregar Thermal Imaging camera, individual gear bags and flashlights for all members including one full set of Morning Pride gear with integrated harness as some of the prizes. I encourage the Manitoba fire service to check our website at [www.cvfsa.ca](http://www.cvfsa.ca) with a hope that nominations from well deserving Manitoba Volunteer Firefighters participates in the 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award. Those interested in serving on the national selection committee can make application via our website.

We were very proud to have partnered with Duracell Canada this past year launching the very successful "Power Those who Protect Us" national campaign that publicly acknowledged the 88,000 volunteer firefighters who protect 93% of the geographic area of Canada through a series of television commercials which many of you have seen. Not only did this campaign use the



television media, a web site was established highlighting a firefighter from each of our provinces with their amazing personal stories on how they serve their community. This web site saw 14,000,000 hits over the course of the campaign. The Power Those Who Protect Us campaign incorporated a battery promotional component that saw specially marked 20 pack AA Duracell Batteries marketed at your favourite stores. For each 20 pack of batteries sold, two batteries were donated back to the volunteer fire service in Canada with an average of 200 AA batteries donated by Duracell on behalf of the CVFSA back to over 3,000 volunteer fire departments. Although the first year of this project was an enormous amount of work gathering data on all volunteer fire departments in Canada, we anticipate and look forward to this year's initiative with Duracell.

We strive to provide the fire service with opportunities to enhance training and education of its members. We have sponsored several initiatives that have seen as much as \$10,000.00 going to local services that promote training of its firefighters. Our most recent initiative is to award a grand prize to a firefighter and his/her department for their support in a recent fire prevention activity. The winning firefighters department will receive an all expense paid twenty hour

"Firefighter Survival and Rapid Intervention" seminar brought to you by Rapid Intervention Training and Consulting Inc. Commercial Solutions, Duracell and the CVFSA. I am pleased to tell you that many Manitoba firefighters have had their names entered in the draw to be held on November 4th.

We have recently partnered with the Bank of Montreal MasterCard promoting the CVFSA/BMO Affinity MasterCard with a percentage of all purchases made using the card coming back to the CVFSA. We have recently agreed to a 50/50 revenue sharing with a variety of provincial associations if they choose to partner with the CVFSA promoting the card. This is a relatively simple way to raise thousand of dollars earmarked for education/training of volunteer firefighters. The special "Volunteer Firefighter" BMO credit card offer will commence soon. The card has no annual fee with BMO covering your first \$20.00 purchase as a token of appreciation. This is the first time that BMO has offered any monetary reward on a no fee card. Please tell your fellow firefighters, family and friends about the card and visit our website soon to view more information and to make application.

In closing, I want to tell you that we are always seeking new members. This association can only be as strong as the members who support us. We have strived to keep dues at the lowest level possible to keep our organization functioning efficiently. As a department of five or more, you can become a member of the CVFSA for \$12.00. As part of your membership you will be covered by a small personal death benefit and disability insurance plan administered by MEBA out of Ontario.

Warmest Regards,

Mike Purtill

President

**Canadian Volunteer Fire Services Association**

Direct Phone: 604 377-9528

National Toll Free: 1-877-920-2111

National Fax: 416-225-1202

[www.cvfsa.ca](http://www.cvfsa.ca)

# NEWS AND VIEWS

Here is a picture of an addition to the Morden Fire & Rescue response to grass fires and remote emergency medical calls unit. "Ya it's a side by side quad, but it's what you use it for that counts." Enbridge Pipeline and a local Community Service club were generous enough to allow for the purchase of this 4X4 unit. It carries 35 gals of water and is made to carry a stretcher as well for remote medical emergency transport. It has been equipped with an emergency lighting package with siren. It also has snow trax that can be used during our winter months. From left to right, Les Scott, Advisor to Public Relations at Enbridge Andy Thiessen, Morden Fire Chief and Lyle Meena, General Manager of Central-Region .

*Submitted by Andy Thiessen*



## Are You R.E.A.D.Y.?

We know that firefighter's deaths in structure fires can often be attributed to a failure to be completely ready to do the interior fire-fighting tasks. Statistics are telling us that there are fewer structure fires but more line of duty deaths. Fire fighters reach their **point of no return** without realizing the danger they have put themselves in. Two Fire Captains of the Seattle, Washington FD developed the acronym **R.E.A.D.Y** in an effort to reduce the fire fighter fatalities in their Fire Department.

This "**Are you ready?**" question is put to you the firefighter every time you go into a burning structure. But what are they really asking? Do we fully understand what this question means to our safety in an interior rescue or fire attack?

<u>R.</u>	<u>E.</u>	<u>A.</u>	<u>D.</u>	<u>Y.</u>
a	q	l	u	e
d	u	r	t	s
i	l		i	
o	p		e	
	m		s	
	e			
	n			
	t			

*Submitted by Murray Bedford*

<b>R</b> <b>a</b> <b>d</b> <b>i</b> <b>o</b>	Is it on the correct operational channel? Is it transmitting and receiving loud enough to hear over the noise of a fire? What is your call sign? Are you the one tasked to provide communication? Are you capable of communicating in clear, concise, plain language?
<b>E</b> <b>q</b> <b>u</b> <b>i</b> <b>p</b> <b>m</b> <b>e</b> <b>n</b> <b>t</b>	Is your turn out gear approved for entry? Is your turn out gear clean and dry? Is it completely fastened? Does your balaclava cover your face and neck completely? Is your helmet securely fastened? Is your neck cover fastened? Have you checked your partner's turnout gear? Do you have the forcible entry tools you may need? Have you tagged in with accountability? Is your hose line charged, tested and is the nozzle pattern set?
<b>A</b> <b>i</b> <b>r</b>	Has your SCBA been tested and maintained as required? Is your air cylinder supply within 90% of full? Is your SCBA harness securely fastened to your body? Do you have a secure face piece seal? Have you provided your accountability system with your available air cylinder capacity? Is your partners air supply equal to yours? Do you adhere to the Rule of Air Management (R.O.A.M) practise? Know how much air you have to begin entry with. Manage air by ongoing evaluation of cylinder supply. Exit before reserve alarm.
<b>D</b> <b>u</b> <b>t</b> <b>i</b> <b>e</b> <b>s</b>	Is there an effective incident command system in place? Do you know what your assigned task is? Do you know if you have the equipment, skills and knowledge necessary to do the assigned task? Do you have basic understanding of the physical layout of the structure? Do you know that you are responsible for the safety of yourself and your partner? Do you know if back-up or RIT is in place. Do you know that you have to provide command with situation reports (Sit-rep) and personnel accountability reports (PAR)?
<b>Y</b> <b>e</b> <b>s</b>	If you can answer <b>yes</b> to all these questions then you are ready to go in and to get out. If the answer is <b>no</b> then <b>FIX IT</b> .

# NEWS AND VIEWS



## NewsRelease

March 31, 2011

### BUILDING CODE CHANGES TO MAKE HOMES, BUILDINGS SAFER, HEALTHIER, MORE ACCESSIBLE: HOWARD

---

**Most Changes Take Effect April 1**

Manitoba will adopt the 2010 national building codes, which include improved safety and energy-efficiency requirements plus universal design elements that will ensure improved accessibility, Labour and Immigration Minister Jennifer Howard, minister responsible for the Office of the Fire Commissioner and minister responsible for persons with disabilities, announced today.

“We welcome the chance to make homes and buildings safer, more accessible and more energy efficient by working in partnership with industry,” said Howard. “When these codes are fully implemented, Manitoba will have the highest requirements for universal design principles that will improve the lives of people with disabilities.”

The changes are the result of extensive consultations by the Manitoba Building Standards Board and the Office of the Fire Commissioner and included input from stakeholders such as people with disabilities. Among the universal design principles that come into effect Jan. 1, 2012, will be:

- installation of assistive listening systems in large classrooms or theatres;
- installation of visual signals as part of fire-alarm systems;
- expanded requirements for accessible/universal washrooms; and
- improved barrier-free exit requirements.

Other changes taking effect tomorrow are:

- greater protection to prevent falls from residential windows;
- new requirements for smoke alarm placement;
- mandatory installation of carbon monoxide detectors in buildings that require annual fire inspections (including child-care centres, schools and personal-care homes);
- requirements for home designers to consider protection against radon exposure;
- technical updates to plumbing that will accommodate the use of water-conserving appliances and fixtures; and
- requirements for heat detectors as well as smoke detectors will be required in residential buildings (motels, hotels, apartment buildings) that require installation of a fire alarm system.



# NEWS AND VIEWS



## NewsRelease

November 3, 2011

### MANITOBA FIRE CODE CHANGES AIMED AT IMPROVING SAFETY: HOWARD

---

Amendments Take Effect  
Dec. 1

A number of key changes to the 2011 Manitoba Fire Code will make buildings safer, Labour and Immigration Minister Jennifer Howard, minister responsible for the Office of the Fire Commissioner, announced today.

"These important changes will help improve the safety of buildings and keep us up to date with national standards," said Howard. "Through the Office of the Fire Commissioner, we work closely with industry and individuals to be sure these important safety improvements make their way into practice."

The 2011 Manitoba Fire Code, which is the 2010 National Fire Code with Manitoba amendments, includes changes such as:

- \* requiring additional training for people who service special fire-suppression systems and portable fire extinguishers,
- \* including child-care facilities in the definition of a residential-care facility, and
- \* requiring fire safety plans and fire department access at building construction and demolition sites including specific requirements for standpipe systems.

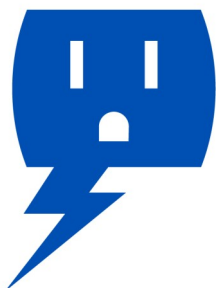
"Buildings such as child-care centres, hospitals, personal-care and residential-care facilities will be required to have carbon monoxide detection devices installed in their facilities if there is a risk of carbon monoxide present in any part of the building," added Howard.

Further information including a complete list of significant changes and a link to the full list of 2011 Manitoba Fire Code amendments will be posted on the Office of the Fire Commissioner's website at [www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca).

# SAFETY TIPS

**SAFETY  
ALERT**

prepared by  
**Manitoba Hydro**



## Prepare Your Furnace for Winter

Is your furnace ready for cold weather? Call your heating contractor to have a qualified technician check, clean and lubricate your heating system as needed. It's important to have it in peak operating condition before the heating season begins for safety, reliability and efficiency. A malfunctioning fossil fuel furnace (one that uses natural gas, propane, wood or oil) can create a potential for carbon monoxide problems. A tune-up can help

prevent this as well as making your furnace run more efficiently, saving you money.

Other ways that you can help keep your furnace ready when you need it are to:

- Inspect furnace air filters regularly; then clean or replace them as required.

- Use the appropriate air filter for your furnace.

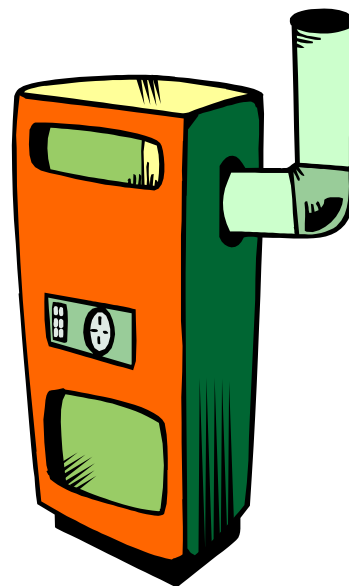
- Keep the area around your furnace clean, clear, and unobstructed.

- Never store flammable materials like paint, solvents, cleaners, or gasoline in the same room as a furnace.

- Have your furnace cleaned and inspected by a qualified professional on an annual basis.

- Always operate in accordance with the manufacturers operating and maintenance instructions.

Keep return air grilles and supply air registers properly vented, clean, and unobstructed.

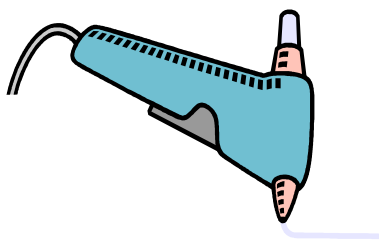


## Counterfeit Products

Trademark counterfeiting has reached the electrical sector. If a price is too good to be true, then it probably is. Bargain glue guns, light bulbs and extension cords have been found in the marketplace. Some of these bargains have caught fire while in use. Obviously this should never happen. But what is even more troubling is that some of the products had fake certification marks. The products were counterfeit.

Lamps, circuit breakers, light bulbs, electrical receptacles, extension cords, power

strips and surge suppressors have all been identified in the market. Although the counterfeit product may appear much the same as the genuine product, many of the products are substandard and fail to pass



minimum safety tests. Such counterfeit products can overheat or cause short circuits and lead to fire or shock hazards.

Often counterfeiters use inferior material and avoid key manufacturing steps to reduce the cost of their product, allowing

them to be sold at prices no genuine brand manufacturer can match. In other cases they recycle old goods by repairing them with faulty or incompatible components, package them to look new, and sell them at rock-bottom discount prices.

Protect your family from counterfeit products by avoiding no name electrical products and bargains too good to be true. Check the packaging for contact information; reputable companies are proud of their product and will provide a phone number and address.

As a consumer, be aware when you spot bargain electrical goods.



# SAFETY TIPS

## CO Detectors/ Alarms for Homes and Small Buildings

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is often known as the “silent killer” because it is a colourless and odourless gas. Once inhaled over a period of time, CO interferes with the blood’s ability to absorb and transport oxygen. CO absorbs 200 times faster in the blood stream than normal oxygen. For every one hour of exposure, it takes the body six hours to rid itself of CO.

CO is produced when fuels such as wood, coal, charcoal briquettes, heating oil, gasoline, diesel, propane, kerosene and natural gas burn without enough oxygen. Some appliances which burn these types of fuels are fireplaces, furnaces, hot water tanks,

Other possibilities are operating a barbeque in an enclosed space or gas stove (range) without turning on the range vent hood and infrared heaters without an exhaust venting



system.

Signs of CO in the home:

Stuffy, stale or smelly air

Condensation on your window (more than normal) may be an indication

Sooting around a fireplace, chimney or other fuel burning equipment

Backdrafting of your fuel burning appliance

A yellow burner flame instead of the normal clear blue flame

A pilot light that keeps going out

An unfamiliar or burning odour in your home

(Sourced from Manitoba Hydro “Carbon Monoxide Safety”)

If you detect any of these signs:

Turn off the fuel burning appliance

Open all doors and windows

Call Manitoba Hydro for an emergency inspection

Evacuate the home

Seek immediate medical attention and let the Doctor know you suspect CO poisoning.

(Sourced from Manitoba Hydro “Carbon Monoxide Safety”)

If you are exposed to CO for a period of time you could experience the following symptoms such as headaches, nausea, vomiting, mental confusion, weakness, drowsiness, vision and hearing impairment, collapse or fainting during exertion or loss of muscle control. In severe causes it can cause brain damage or death. (Sourced from British Columbia Office of the Fire Commissioner and Terasen Gas, “Carbon Monoxide Safety – Understanding the Silent Killer”)

If you believe you or any member of your household is affected, or if any of these symptoms go away when you leave home for a period of time you should suspect CO poisoning and take immediate action. The elderly, children, people with respiratory and heart conditions and/or pets may be particularly sensitive to CO and feel the effects sooner.

For more information on CO detectors/alarms and regulations in Manitoba go to [www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca](http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca)

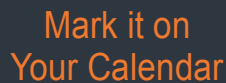


barbeques, gas stoves, camping stoves, cars, lawn mowers, chainsaws, snow blowers or anything with an internal combustion engine or that is gasoline powered.

CO is also produced by humans as they breathe. If you have a CO detector with a digital readout it may indicate small amounts of CO in the air.

CO poisoning is also a risk from outside the home, for example, where a vehicle is left running in an attached garage, next to an open window or near a fresh air intake.





**Fire and Life Safety Educator's  
Conference**  
Hosted jointly with OFC and  
South Interlake Mutual Aid District  
Friday May 25th 2012  
Sunova Centre 9-4 pm  
48 Holland Road, West St.Paul  
...more details to follow...

The Glenboro South Cypress Fire Department have the following items for sale:

1- 12 volt steel Hanny booster reel with FH- 3 roller assembly & 300 feet of 1 inch hose.

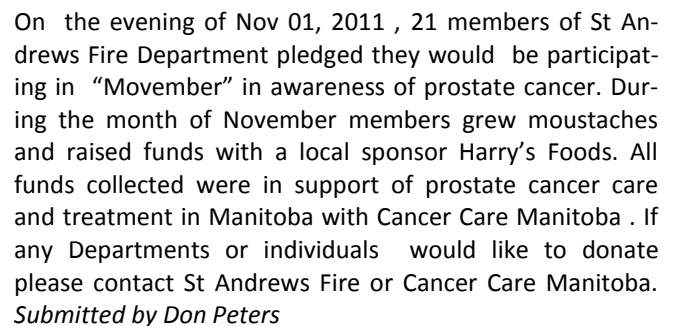
10 ISI Viking breathing apparatus just out of service c/  
w intrigated pass alarm & 2216 psi tanks.

1 – 1990 GMC Sierra SL 4 wheel drive rescue unit with a 16 foot walk in box, open pass through to cab, storage inside & exterior cabinets .Mileage of 10,698 km.

Contact S. Bjornson, chief @ 827-2219 or G McIntyre D.C. @ 827-2308.

Kindergarten:	Melita School , Melita
Grade 1:	Hazel M. Kellington School, Neepawa
Grade 2:	Centennial School, Selkirk
Grade 3:	Bernie Wolfe Community School, Winnipeg

## Movember “sparks” enthusiasm in St. Andrews



The Office of the Fire Commissioner produces ***the Prevention Post*** newsletter. The Prevention Post is a collection of updates from the Office of the Fire Commissioner, news and views from the Manitoba Fire Service and information on public safety.

EDITOR: Kathy Danino

Contributions, news items, events and articles may be submitted to:

Kathy.danino@gov.mb.ca

Any questions contact Kathy at (204-726-6855)

