



KANANASKIS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

March 2009

2008 Call-out Firefighter of the Year



It is with great pride that KID Emergency Services announces that Mr. Matt Pequeno was chosen by the department as the 2008 Firefighter of the Year. Since 1987 the department membership has had the difficult task of choosing only one member of the department that exemplifies dedicated service to the residents of the KID. Matt joined the department in 2007 and has quickly moved through the department training programs to the rank of Senior Firefighter recently completing his 1001 professional firefighting accreditation. Matt is well known by his fellow team members as a hard worker, always taking the time to teach skills to the new recruits and has an exemplary attendance record. Matt received his award at the annual friends and family dinner hosted by the Kananaskis Firefighters Association at Nakiska Ski Area where he was presented with a plaque and a name shield for the KID trophy.

Congratulations Matt!

Kananaskis Emergency Services

STATISTICS

January 2009

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|----------------------|----|
| Parks/Dispatch Calls | 54 |
| EMS Transport Calls | 23 |
| EMS Non-Transport | 18 |
| Fire Response Calls | 21 |

February 2009

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| Parks/Dispatch Calls | 65 |
| EMS Transport Calls | 31 |
| EMS Non-Transport | 20 |
| Fire Response Calls | 32 |

KID Continues Commitment to Firesmart

On March 11 and 12th the Banff Centre hosted the 2009 FireSmart Community Series conference that continued to pull a cross section of membership from Western Canadian Provinces, Government, Municipalities and other interested stakeholders. The KID was represented by Fire Smart Committee Members Connie Nielson, Derek Small and Chief Shawn Polley. Mr. Small was invited by the conference organizing committee to present five 45 minute tabletop segments discussing the topic of "Residents taking action: the Kananaskis experience." In his presentation Mr. Small discusses the processes that have enabled the Kananaskis Lower Lakes Cabin Association to work towards building a successful FireSmart safe community in cooperation with a multitude of government stakeholders within Kananaskis Country. The strategies that have been put into place are seen as a model for other communities throughout Western Canada in developing systems to enable the work to be completed on each cabin owner's lease.

Alberta Sustainable Resource Development and Alberta Emergency Management Agency recently announced the 2009-10 FireSmart Community Grant application was receiving applications until

March 31, 2009. In coordination of a newly announced deadline the KID FireSmart Committee met on March 16th, 2009 to decide on the next set of project priorities that will be derived from the Wildland Urban Interface Plan that was developed in 2008. The Committee is confident even with the shortened timelines that a strong grant submission will be ready for KID Council approval on March 24, 2009. Since 2007 the KID has received \$100,000.00 from the FireSmart Community Grant Program that has been returned into the municipality through vegetation management programs, emergency planning and long term FireSmart planning strategies all being the top funded projects.

The KID recently developed a FireSmart tab on the KID website and that is a great first step to learn about the FireSmart program. If you are interested in receiving additional information about the programs please contact a member of the KID FireSmart Committee through the Kananaskis Emergency Services Centre (403) 591-7755. Twenty four hour information is always available at the KID website:

www.kananaskisid.ca/firesmart.php

The Kananaskis Improvement District is a proud member of E911.

To report an emergency:

- ▣ Fire
- ▣ Ambulance
- ▣ Police
- ▣ Mountain Rescue

Dial 911

Tax Roll Assessment Information

The 2009 Tax Roll Assessment information for the Kananaskis Improvement District is now available on our website at: www.kananaskisid.ca.

The Kananaskis Improvement District Annual General Meeting was held in the Charlie Beil room on February 3, 2008. The Council attendees were Chairman and Large Business Representative Dan DeSantis, and Jamie Tiessen and Ken Kelly representing Albertans-at-Large. A number of community members were also in attendance. Representatives were also present from Kananaskis Emergency Services, RCMP, Foothills Regional Emergency Services, Kananaskis Operations Support and the Kananaskis Improvement District.

HIGHLIGHTS

In his presentation Council Chairman Dan DeSantis noted several highlights throughout 2008. These included:

- ◆ Council accepted recommendations from the FireSmart Committee including Terms of Reference and also appointed Jamie Tiessen to Chair this Committee.
- ◆ KES participated with the Calgary Emergency Medical Assistance Task Force Program February 19-21, 2008 at the Tim Horton's Children's Ranch.
- ◆ The Budget and Audit Committee approved a \$1,000 donation to BVVSA.
- ◆ A donation of \$15,000 was received from the TDL group for the Emergency Services Programs.
- ◆ An unconditional municipal grant of \$1,341 was received.
- ◆ The Kananaskis Community Recreation Association, in cooperation with the KID ES and SRD Forestry, conducted a FireSmart Stewardship and Residential Clean-up Day at the KCGC Housing development.
- ◆ A new Public Works Utility Tractor tender was awarded to Tractorland. The tractor replaced two antiquated tractors and the funding came from the Alberta Municipal Sustainability Initiative Capital Funding Grant.
- ◆ Several FireSmart awareness events were held and were very successful. As a result KID is being presented by SRD as a poster child for FireSmart Communities across the Province.
- ◆ The KID Wildland/Urban Interface Plan was reviewed and approved by the KID FireSmart Committee and Council.
- ◆ Fire Prevention Week was held October 5th to October 11th with an Open House at the Kananaskis Emergency Services Center October 7th.

Grants received in 2008 included:

- ◆ An unconditional municipal grant of \$1,341 was received.
- ◆ The KID received notification from Alberta Municipal Affairs that the Municipal Sponsorship Program Grant application for the BullEx Fire Extinguisher training system was approved for \$10,978.
- ◆ AB Municipal Infrastructure Program—\$100,000 of which 88,453 was applied to Fire Apparatus and the balance to restricted Capital Reserve
- ◆ AB FireSmart Community Grant Program \$50,000.00 Grant \$50,000; KID Cash \$8,173.73; Contributed Services \$21,526.45
- ◆ AB Health and Wellness Ground Ambulance \$10,811.00 Applied to Foothills Regional EMS allocation
- ◆ AB Municipal Sponsorship Program \$11,453.00 Applied to Emergency Services Portable Radio Replacement Project
- ◆ AB Municipal Sustainability Initiative Capital \$140,134.00 Public Works Utility Tractor Project \$48,513.00 balance to restricted Capital reserve
- ◆ AB Municipal Sustainability Initiative Operating \$31,793.00 •Applied to Foothills Regional EMS ground ambulance service
- ◆ New Deal for Cities and Communities \$15,907.00 •Applied to restricted Capital reserve fund
- ◆ AB Community Crime Prevention Grant Program \$8,000.00 •Grant \$8,000; KID cash \$14,400; KCRA contributed services \$5894.

Heli-Signing

Are you familiar with the appropriate signs to use in the case of a helicopter assisted emergency? We never head out into the mountains of Kananaskis Country planning to have an accident but on occasion, they do occur. If you find you are in an emergency situation the best thing you can do is call Kananaskis Country Emergency Services Center for help. Cell phones do not work all over Kananaskis but where they do, dial 911 and tell the dispatcher that you are having an emergency situation in Kananaskis Country.

On some occasions, a helicopter may be used in order to extract the injured parties from the backcountry. Obviously the helicopter and the injured party on the ground cannot communicate verbally so it is important to know some standard non verbal communications that can be used when signalling the helicopter that will help to eliminate confusion. Dispatchers will help "Coach" you through how to make these signals but having an idea of what they are before heading into the backcountry may also be valuable. Take care and enjoy the mountains!

When signalling stay in position, remain still and do not wave

