



# Lantzville Fire Rescue

Emergency 9-1-1

Non-Emergency 390-2811

[lantzvillefire.ca](http://lantzvillefire.ca)

The community of Enderby, B.C., is grieving after a volunteer firefighter was killed and another was injured by a fire and an explosion that tore through a log home construction business in the north Okanagan region. Firefighters set an incredible standard of heroism. They run toward dangers when the rest of us flee. And they respond to each call knowing they may risk their lives in order to save others, To volunteer for this duty, as Mr. Botkin did and hundreds of other volunteer firefighters do on a daily basis, epitomizes selfless devotion to the safety of their neighbours and communities. Lantzville fire rescue sent a contingent of volunteer fire fighters to pay their respects to the downed firefighter and represent your community.

Congratulations to Tom Whipps who was elected unanimously to serve another two year term as our fire chief. We have taken on six new recruits who will begin their training this month and five officers attended a Fire Safety Officer course in December which helps ensure the safety of firefighters and the public during emergency situations. We are restructuring our fire department organization and have two new Lieutenants, Randy Austin and Pieter John and have established the roles and responsibilities for all positions to bring more accountability into our system and to provide for succession planning.

Over the past year we have been entering data into a new department management software program which will become operational this year and should facilitate record keeping and report writing. Your fire department continues to improve itself in order to minimize risk to the community. We are developing an house accessibility and visibility review process so if your house and driveway is hiding from the fire department don't be surprised if you receive a knock on the door or a visit from the fire department to help you make your property more visible and accessible in case of an emergency.

Our society, the Lantzville Volunteer Fire Fighters Association which provides funding for community events and activities is looking to help with renovating both the firehall and Rotary park with both funding and manpower. We raise our money through donations, calendar sales and garage sales and your generosity is much appreciated. Our garage sale is on Saturday April 21 so hold on to your items until then.

## **Safety Tip**

Avoid hefty fines, injury and possible death. Do not use electronic devices while operating a motor vehicle. It is illegal.