



# STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Trustees  
SUBMITTED BY: Fire Chief Arjuna George  
DATE: July 15 2017

## **Fire Chiefs Association of British Columbia Education Summit 2017**

I have been an active member of the Fire Chiefs' Association of British Columbia (FCABC) conference committee for several years, but in 2017 I was selected to be the chair of education for the entire conference. As part of this new position I created and managed all education sessions over the four days. This role allows me to meet and work with many fire service leaders worldwide and utilize my management and organizational skills. As recognition of the work the conference committee does for the association my travel, and accommodations are paid for by the association. This is a significant cost savings to the Fire District.

### **Education Summit Highlights**

#### **Toronto Labour Lawyer John Saunders on Fire Chief Liabilities:**

- Bill C-45 Westray Tragedy and how it impacts all supervisors in the Fire Service (Trustees to Frontline Fire Officers)  
"Everyone who undertakes, or has the authority, to direct how another person does work, or performs a task is under legal duty to take responsible steps to prevent bodily harm to that person, or any other person, arising from that work or task"
- Dealing with Coroners Inquests as Fire Chief
- Preparing for Court

#### **Toronto Labour Lawyer John Saunders on Collective Bargaining:**

- 24 Hour Shift vs traditions shifts
- Wage comparison in BC vs Canada

### **Don Lidstone Lawyer presented “Relations with Elected Official”**

- Boards and Councils
- Budgets
- Policies
- Rogue Officials

### **Community Wildfire Pre-Plans**

- How to develop useful operational pre plan for wildfires

### **BCEHS First Responder Program Update**

- New Policies being development regarding the First Responder program

### **Jane Clapp**

- Mental health and prevention workshop

### **University of Alberta**

- Paid on Call Part Time Physical fitness programs

### **Retired Fire Chief Darby Allen**

- The Fire Chief from Fort McMurray sharing his experience and lessons from the massive 2016 wildfires in Alberta

There were a host of other sessions held starting at 07:00 each day. As always there was a wealth of information and skills to bring home to our department and our operations. This conference along with the Canadian Fire Chief’s provides Fire chief’s with the skills and knowledge to be successful.

Next year’s FCABC Education Summit is located in Victoria BC.

Arjuna George  
Acting Fire Chief  
Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue

