

January 18, 2013

Colwyn townhouse fire causes structural damage

No one was injured in an evening fire Jan. 17 that caused structural damage to a three-storey townhouse at 500 Colwyn St. in Campbell River.

The Fire Department received a 911 call about smoke in one of the townhouse units at 6:20 p.m., and the first crew was on the scene by 6:24 p.m.

“The situation required five fire trucks and more than 30 fire personnel, with crews on the scene for more than two hours,” reports Fire Chief Ian Baikie.

Crews found smoke in the unit where the call originated and used thermal image equipment to determine a fire was burning in the wall between two units.

“The adjoining unit was vacant, and crews went in to find heavy smoke and fire burning in the walls, ceiling and floor of that unit,” Baikie continues.

Firefighters used water in both units to extinguish the fire burning inside the walls and floors. Water was also applied outside on the back of the complex to contain the blaze.

“Both units were damaged by smoke, and the walls and floor of the vacant unit will require extensive repair,” Baikie adds.

BC Emergency Social Services will provide food, clothing and lodging for five residents of the occupied suite for up to three days.

Fire investigators continue work today to determine the cause of the fire.

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