

November 7, 2013

Fire fighters join forces for Movember

The power of the Movember moustache is growing on faces of Campbell River fire fighters.

"We currently have a number of members in various stages of moustache growth, along with a large moustache that we have placed on a fire engine to draw awareness to prostate cancer," says Lee Pendergast, fire fighter and member of the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 1668 with Campbell River Fire Rescue. "Together, we're trying to change the face of men's health."

Campbell River Fire Rescue members are proud to support prostate cancer awareness by jumping aboard the Movember train and sporting moustaches for 30 days.

"The growth of a new moustache prompts a conversation, which in turn generates awareness and educates people on the health issues men face," explains Deputy Fire Chief Thomas Doherty. "Awareness and education then prompts people to learn more, take action and change behavior, which is changing and saving lives today."

Members of Campbell River Fire Rescue will attend the Movember wind up at Moxies on November 27 to present a cheque on behalf of IAFF Local 1668.

Did you know?

- Fire fighters have a 28 per cent higher risk of developing prostate cancer than members of the general public.
- Fire fighters are at a higher risk of developing cancers much earlier on in life than the general public.
- Fire fighters can be exposed to contaminants from fires that are known or suspected to cause cancer, including combustion by-products such as benzene and formaldehyde, and materials in debris such as asbestos from older structures just some of the toxic chemicals fire fighters are exposed to on the job that link fire fighters to cancers.

Learn more about the annual Movember campaigns that inspire conversations and raise funds to create and maintain engaging educational resources about men's health risks, how to stay healthy and how to take action. Check out the Movember website at: <u>http://ca.movember.com</u>

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