

May 28, 2015

Campbell River hosts hazardous materials training for regional emergency crews

More than two dozen Vancouver Island firefighters attended a training session earlier this month to help them deal with hazardous materials in the line of duty.

First responders such as fire, rescue and emergency medical service crews who might face chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or hazardous materials in the line of duty were invited to attend the training hosted by the Campbell River fire department and developed and delivered by the International Association of Fire Fighters.

The cost for this level of training for 26 fire fighters could be as much as \$30,000, and funding was provided at no cost to local fire departments by Public Safety Canada.

“This is an excellent example of building partnerships that provide cost-effective training for our own community and to nearby agencies,” says Councillor Charlie Cornfield, who holds the public safety portfolio for Council. *“We commend the hard work and dedication from the International Association of Fire Fighters that provides this training initiative for both career and volunteer emergency responders across Canada.”*

“The course provided emergency responders with the knowledge, skills and personal health strategies to safely and effectively respond to hazardous materials in a range of incidents, from motor vehicle crashes to more routine calls that might involve exposure to household chemicals spilled during a residential fire,” says deputy fire chief Thomas Doherty.

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