



# ALERT NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2014

North Galiano Fire Protection Society  
RR2 Site 44, C-47, Galiano, BC, V0N 1P0

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New Fire Hall  
construction  
progress

Community  
Wild Fire  
Protection  
Plan

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Renewal



## FIRE HALL SHAPING UP ! FEBRUARY 2014.....

It seems that it has taken a long time, but the building has been delivered and most of the frame has been erected. The well and septic system are now completed, and most of the civic work is done. The building contract is expected to be finished by late spring. Construction has been progressing relatively smoothly and is on budget.

## FUEL MANAGEMENT PROJECT UNDERWAY

In the November 2013 Newsletter, our fire chief, Tom Darby told us about the history of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan and how, thanks to early planning by the Galiano Island Fire Departments, an area on North Galiano had been selected for the first Fuel Demonstration Project in the Gulf Islands. (The word 'fuel' here refers to all highly combustible parts of the forest: branches, ground debris, etc...)

We all remember the disastrous Okanagan fires of 2003, where many dwellings in wooded suburban areas were consumed by flames travelling through the understory conifers and accumulated dry debris. And of course, on Galiano, we had a big scare with the forest fire of July 2006, when only a change in the weather saved threatened households. The Fuel Demonstration Project is the outcome of planning by the Southern Gulf Islands Emergency Advisory Commission (of the CRD) and the development of a Community Wildfire Protection plan by Davis Wildfire Management Inc.; it aims at reducing the wildfire risk to the Galiano community. The Galiano Conservancy Association, the Fire Departments and your Fire Protection Society participated in the development of this plan (a copy of the report is available in the Conservancy library).

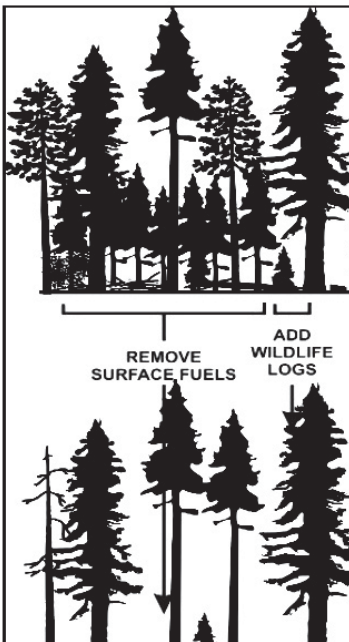
The actual work will take place starting March 3rd 2014 in an area of District Lot 87, with permission from BC Parks, on Cook Road; completion is expected by the end of March.

You are invited to a public information meeting, organized by the SGI Emergency Commission, at which you will be able to learn all about the Fuel Demonstration Project. The meeting will be at the North Galiano Community Hall, Sunday March 2, 2:00-4:00 pm.

You will have the opportunity to meet Bruce Blackwell, whose firm has designed the fuel management plan, and the people who will perform the actual work. There will also be an opportunity to learn how you can protect your own property through fuel management.

Some of the wood removed from the area may be available as firewood through the Fire Department. Please come to the meeting to find out how you can get some. Possible tours of the site will also be discussed at the public meeting.

YOU ARE INVITED  
TO A  
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING  
FOR THE FUEL DEMONSTRATION PROJECT  
AT  
THE NORTH GALIANO COMMUNITY HALL  
SUNDAY, MARCH 2nd  
2:00 - 4:00 PM



#### MONEY MATTERS

Your Fire Commission has recommended to the CRD Board of Directors that the borrowing for the building be capped at \$570,000, well below the \$670,000 authorized by the referendum. The necessary approvals should be in place by the end of March so that the loan can be obtained while interest rates are still low.

NEW NGFPS BOARD MEMBERS- Thanks to Susan Phillips and Julie Gardner who have stepped down, after many years of service as Chair and Secretary of the NGFPS Board and Commission. Doug French and Phillip Buller have been elected the Commission and the Society Board. Doug will look after memberships; Dana Weber has taken over as secretary, and Paul LeBlond is replacing Susan as chair. Roger Pettit is staying on as treasurer.

We are looking for people to fill vacancies: currently we have one vacancy on the Commission and two vacancies on the Society Board. If interested please talk to one of the Board members.

Application for 2014 Membership --North Galiano Fire Protection Society

\* Donations of \$10 or more above the membership fee qualify for a charitable tax receipt \*

Everyone over the age of 17 who is a full or part-time resident or property owner in North Galiano is eligible to join. Annual Membership Fee is \$5.00 per person except Fire Department Personnel and Board are complimentary.

Your name: .....

Mailing address: .....

Galiano Street address or lot number .....

Local phone # .....Other phone..... e-mail.....

Additional members' names

.....	\$.....
.....	\$.....
.....	\$.....
.....	\$.....
Donation for new fire hall	\$.....
Additional donation	\$.....

Please make your cheque payable to NGFPS .....Total amount: \$.....

- I would like to find out about joining the fire department
- I would like to know how I can help

Please mail to NGFPS Memberships, S44, C47, RR2; Galiano, BC, V0N 1P0