



Town of Edson
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For Immediate Release

News Release

Edson Expands Fire Training

Edson, Alberta, April 7th, 2015 – Twenty three members of the Edson Fire Department are gaining valuable knowledge and skills to keep our community safe from the threat of fire and other emergencies. NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 1001 is the Standard for Professional Firefighter Qualifications - the same standard followed by career fire departments across North America. The goal is to certify all Edson firefighters to this rigorous training standard.

Typically, this is a 12-week full-time program offered by training institutions such as Lakeland College Emergency Training Center. “Due to our member’s work and family commitments, it can be difficult to send firefighters away to training institutes, so we’re bringing the training to them.” said Deputy Chief Tyler Robinson. “Although we already have a very comprehensive in-house training program, we felt it was important to actually certify our firefighters to a Standard that is internationally recognized”.

The Edson Fire Department is offering this training to its members locally during regular Tuesday night training, as well as several weekends throughout the year. In addition to the 23 firefighters who will become certified to NFPA 1001 through the Office of the Fire Commissioner, Edson already has 14 firefighters certified to this Standard. Several of these members have received additional training and are certified Fire Service Instructors, who will be utilized in the delivery of this program.

Fire Chief Al Schram believes in making this training available and convenient for his crews. “When dealing with volunteers, it is important to remember they already have full-time jobs. They are providing a service in their spare time to the community they live in simply because that’s the kind of people they are. These are exciting times for us here at the Edson Fire Department, and we’re extremely proud of our membership and the dedication they exhibit to our community each and every day”.

Through a combination of classroom lectures and practical evolutions, firefighters will learn everything from basic fire behaviour and emergency vehicle operations, to fire control, search & rescue techniques and protecting fire scene evidence.

For information on becoming a member of the Edson Fire Department, contact Chief Al Schram or Deputy Chief Tyler Robinson at (780) 723-3178.

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