



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 5th, 2009

To: The Media

From: Karen Lindsay, Nanaimo Fire Rescue

Re: Nanaimo to host British Columbia Fire Chiefs Association Convention!

Over 600 delegates and exhibitors from across British Columbia and North America will descend on the Harbour City to attend the annual Fire Chiefs Association of British Columbia (FCABC) conference and Fire Expo being held at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre in Nanaimo this year. The Conference runs from May 31st to June 4th, 2009 and will provide Fire Chiefs with the opportunity to attend education, association and networking sessions.

Residents need not worry when they see numerous emergency vehicles parked at Nanaimo Ice Centre, as it will be home to the trade show portion of the conference. Nanaimo Ice Centre will provide delegates with a venue of over 34,000 square feet of inside space to view the latest tools, uniforms and gear in the industry. The parking lot at Nanaimo Ice Centre will provide an additional 50,000 square feet of space for large apparatus and vehicle display. This will be visible from Third Street however the trade show portion is for conference attendees only and will not be open to the public. In addition, the entire Vancouver Island Conference Centre will be utilized during the week to accommodate the education, association and networking sessions for association members.

Senior staff from Nanaimo Fire Rescue has been invited by FCABC to provide several workshop presentations to delegates on the topics of the Incident Command System, Competency Validation and the use of Business Principals in Resource Management.

According to Ron Lambert, Fire Chief, Nanaimo Fire Rescue, "Nanaimo is pleased that the Fire Chiefs Association of British Columbia selected our community as a venue to host their annual conference and fire expo. It provides us with the opportunity to showcase the community and our department to Fire Chiefs from across British Columbia."

Tom DeSorcy, Conference Committee Chair for FCABC is "...looking forward to the conference and expo in Nanaimo. The new Vancouver Island Conference Centre and the City of Nanaimo is the perfect venue to hold our educational and association sessions. We appreciate the assistance provided to date from The Vancouver Island Conference Centre and the staff at Nanaimo Fire Rescue."

For more information on the conference program visit www.fcabc.bc.ca and click on *Conference 2009*.