



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010

To: The Media

From: Karen Lindsay, Nanaimo Fire Rescue

**Re: Nanaimo Fire Rescue Crews Rescue Female from Rising River**

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On Friday morning at approximately 11:10 am Nanaimo Fire Rescue crews from Stations 1, 2 and 4 were dispatched to rescue a young female from the frigid Millstone River. The call was received from a passerby indicating there was a young female in distress, stranded on a rock in the middle of the Millstone River and water levels were rising as the tide was coming in.

The first crew arrived on scene within minutes of being dispatched. Upon arrival they spoke with the girl who was showing symptoms of hypothermia. Initially a rescue boat was dispatched to attempt the water rescue but in the interest of time and due to the deteriorating condition of the victim, Incident Command determined that the water was manageable and safe for crews to wade out to conduct the rescue. Two members were tethered and entered the water which was approximately 5 ft deep and returned her to shore. The young hypothermic female was then transferred to hospital by BCAS.

At the time crews rescued the individual there was an indication that there could possibly be another person involved. Nanaimo Fire Rescue crews scoured the shore and were unable to find another victim. It was then determined by RCMP that the incident only involved one individual.

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For more information about the response please contact Assistant Chief, Ron Dawley,  
250-268-2093