



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010

To: The Media

From: Karen Lindsay, Nanaimo Fire Rescue

**Re: Rapid Attack by Nanaimo Fire Rescue crews at Multiple Residential Fires Limits Structural Damage**

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Fire Rescue crews responded to two serious back to back fires within a ten minute period early in the morning of the 28<sup>th</sup>. Nanaimo Fire Rescue (NFR) crews were quick to respond and both incidents were quickly brought under control. However, both homes experienced extensive damage resulting in the displacement of 9 occupants.

The first structure fire occurred on Beverly Drive in central Nanaimo at 1:23am. Upon arrival NFR crews made an aggressive interior attack and extinguished a fire originating in the basement of the residence. NFR Community Assistance Program assisted three occupants who were displaced from the home due to heavy smoke damage from the fire. Two children were taken to hospital for treatment from smoke inhalation and two family pets succumbed to the fire. The cause of this fire is under investigation this morning.

At approximately 1:32 am while crews were still operating at the Beverly Drive structure fire they were dispatched to a second structure fire on Howard Avenue. Upon arrival, crews again made an offensive fire attack in the garage. Structural damage to the home was limited, although the residence experienced extensive smoke damage. Occupants were treated for smoke inhalation and five occupants including a guest staying at the location were displaced. NFR Community Assistance Program assisted five occupants. NFR continues to investigate the cause and once completed the file will be turned over to the RCMP.

Fire Investigators have determined that the two incidents are not related.

-30-

For more information contact Deputy Chief Operations, Bob Simpson, 250-755-4556