



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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To: The Media

From: Jason Battie, Nanaimo Fire Rescue, IAFF Local 905 Burn Fund Rep
Karen Lindsay, Nanaimo Fire Rescue

**NANAIMO PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS CONCERNED WITH TELEMARKETING
EFFORTS FOR WORTHWHILE ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT**

Nanaimo Professional Fire Fighters, IAFF Local 905 and The City of Nanaimo would like to advise residents of a fundraising event being supported by Nanaimo Firefighters and some concerns with the telemarketing firm hired by the Nanaimo Professional Firefighters Local 905 to assist in raising funds.

The fundraising efforts are for a charitable event called "Magic and Miracles". The "Magic and Miracles" event is one of the largest fundraising events for the BC Professional Firefighters Burn Fund. The BCPFFA Burn Fund is a charitable organization supported by Nanaimo Professional Firefighters in addition to over 3,600 professional firefighters and 50 locals from all over BC and the Yukon. Nanaimo Firefighters dedicate their time and skills to support burn survivors from their initial injury to helping them along their healing path. In addition, Nanaimo Professional Firefighters work to increase the public's knowledge about fire and burn safety issues through the work the BCPFFA Burn Fund does with its Burn Awareness, Research and Prevention Programs.

The firm hired to assist in raising funds for the BCPFFA Burn Fund operates out of British Columbia and recently Nanaimo Fire Fighters have received reports that some of the methods utilized by the firm when calling Central Vancouver Island residents have been questionable. The event and the fundraising efforts are endorsed by Nanaimo Professional Fire Fighters IAFF Local 905 but members have some concerns with the firms' tactics in calling city residents.

According to Firefighter Jason Battie, Local 905 Burn Fund Rep, "The Magic and Miracles event is one of the largest fundraisers for the Nanaimo Professional Firefighters for the BCPFFA Burn Fund. We encourage residents to support this event and assist us in our fundraising efforts. However we have heard concerns that some of the telemarketers have been aggressive and less than professional in their approach. Members of IAFF Local 905 have since contacted the firm and the issues have been

addressed. We do not want our fundraising efforts for the “Magic and Miracles” event to be impacted as a result.

Battie and all members of IAFF Local 905 encourage you to support this worthwhile cause, however, if you have concerns about the methods being used when contacted to please direct your calls toll free to either Xentel Data Management at 1-800-567-4656 or Jason Battie at 250 713-0742.

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For more information contact Jason Battie, Nanaimo Fire Rescue at 250-713-0742.