

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Advanced training program designed to rescue firefighters

#### Summary

Earlier today, Nanaimo Fire Rescue held a training exercise for their Rapid Intervention Team Program. The scenario, held at the old Madill's paint booth, demonstrated what would occur in the event that a firefighter became trapped or lost at an incident and the subsequent required rescue.

During the exercise, fire crews were tasked with locating a mock fire inside the building and extinguishing it. At the same time, the Rapid Intervention Team was deployed to locate and rescue trapped or hurt firefighters.

*Strategic Link:* Taking Responsibility to be an excellent municipal government

#### Key Points

- The Rapid Intervention Team is a program developed by firefighters to ensure that a process is in place to prepare firefighters for the expedited rescue of on-scene personnel.
- The Rapid Intervention Training program was developed by an advocate group consisting of Nanaimo Fire Rescue members.
- Nanaimo Fire Rescue is on the forefront of Rapid Intervention Training for its suppression staff.
- The City of Nanaimo and Nanaimo Fire Rescue are committed to the safety of our citizens and employees.

#### Quotes

"First responders like firefighters put their lives on the line when they are responding to emergency situations. It is important to ensure their safety and this training program is a big step towards that goal."

Diane Brennan  
Councillor  
City of Nanaimo

"I am extremely pleased with the dedication and leadership demonstrated by the firefighters that have been involved with this project from its inception and to what it has become today."

Brad Wood  
Assistant Fire Chief  
Nanaimo Fire Rescue

Continued... Advanced training program designed to rescue firefighters

**Contact:**

Brad Wood  
Assistant Fire Chief  
Nanaimo Fire Rescue  
250-755-4554



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