

Yuułu?il?atḥ Government – Ucluelet First Nation PO Box 699 . Ucluelet . BC . VOR 3A0

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NEWS RELEASE

Yuulu?il?ath Government-Ucluelet First Nation celebrates New Fire Services Agreement with District of Ucluelet

HITACU – The Yuułu?ił?ath Government (YG) and the District of Ucluelet have approved an agreement for the Ucluelet Volunteer Fire Brigade (UVFB) to provide fire protection service to Hitacu and other Treaty Specified Lands (TSL).

The two-year agreement is immediately in effect and covers all YG TSL lands in Wya, the Highway 4 Junction, Clakamucus, Lost Shoe and Hitacu, and calls for the District to respond to fire emergencies with all necessary equipment and personnel to extinguish fire and protect structures from loss or damage caused by structural fires. The agreement runs from February 25, 2019 to February 25, 2021.

YG President Les Doiron says "On behalf of our community and hard-working team, we would like to give a thank you, to the District of Ucluelet Mayor Mayco Noël and his Council and staff. Åeekoo Åeekoo to our neighbours. We have coexisted for many decades with great relationships and it's great to see both municipal and YG governments at work. Our Government looks forward to continued collaborative projects in the future. Thank you again to our friends & neighbours "across the bay".

Ucluelet Mayor Mayco Noël sees the agreement as a positive step for both partners and supports the District's draft Official Community Plan expectations for YG relationships and reconciliation.

The agreement requires transitioning from the previous arrangement where the Campbell River Fire Dispatch Centre was receiving notification of any fires on YG lands, so that the Ucluelet Fire Department will now receive those calls directly, which is expected to result in faster response times.

Celena Cook, Assistant to the YG ER Response Program, says "The Ucluelet Fire Department would like to come into the community for two drills and to tour the community to see all buildings that are non-residential, fire hydrant placements, entrances and exits of the community buildings, and maps of the community."

Cook adds that YG is awaiting grant approvals for the purchase of fire extinguishers for every home in Hitacu.

For further information, contact the Yuułu?ił?atḥ Government – Ucluelet First Nation President, Les Doiron Cell: 250-266-4499 | Email: Les.Doiron@ufn.ca