

# British Columbia Structure Firefighter Minimum Training Standards

Office of the Fire Commissioner

Electoral Area Directors' Forum
Union of BC Municipalities Convention

**September 13 • 2022** 



#### **Outline**

- Mandate
- History
- Background
- Highlights
- Content
- Implementation



#### **Mandate**

- Minimize the loss of life, injury, and damage to property from fire by administering and enforcing British Columbia's fire safety legislation
- Lead provincial fire prevention and fire reporting programs, promote fire safety awareness, and establish minimum training standards for fire services personnel
- Provide structure fire expertise and coordinate fire services during large scale emergencies



## **OFC Team**

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\* Shared resource



#### **Training Standards: 2019 Committee**

- Chair—OFC
  - Original Committee members
  - WorkSafeBC
  - Fire Chiefs' Association of BC
  - Training academies/providers
  - Local Government Management Association

- First Nations Emergency Services Society
- BC Professional Fire Fighters' Association
- Fire Prevention Officers' Association of BC
- Volunteer Fire Fighters Association of BC
- BC Fire Training Officers Association



#### **Training Standards: History**

- Required in legislation since 1979
- 2003 Minister order requiring training to NFPA standards
- 2014 creation of the 'Playbook'
- 2019 BC Structure Firefighter Minimum Training Standards 'Training Standards'
- 2022 completion of the Training Standards; beginning of implementation



## **Training Standards: Background**

- Start date: 2019—Committee established
- Goals:
  - Address previous challenges in the Playbook—'parking lot' issues
  - Review and adopt the new NFPA standards
  - Re-organize and restructure the existing content



### **Training Standards: Document Highlights**

- Playbook renamed BC Structure Firefighter Minimum Training Standards—'Training Standards'
- Separate documents—manual, polices, procedures, annex, FAQs
- Updated to relevant NFPA standards
- Integration of relevant statutes and regulations
- Clarification of Service Level scope and definition
- More detailed definitions of fire scene operation roles/functions



### **Training Standards: Content**

- Manual and policy separated
- Policies/terms and definitions align with all OFC policy
- OFC policy work in alignment with other government programs' practices
- Associated NFPA standards re-organized and updated in Training Standards



## **Training Standards: Implementation**

#### Support

- Provincial commitment
- OFC Fire Service Advisors

#### **Communications**

- Regional fire department meetings
- Association Annual Conferences



### **Training Standards: Implementation cont.**

#### **Materials**

- Training providers and department training officers' materials underway
- Documents available on OFC website

#### **Funding**

Community Emergency Preparedness Fund—approx. \$5M



## Thank you!

**Questions?** 

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