



**City of
Prince Albert**

Corporate Communication
Services

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fire Department Urges Fireworks Safety During the Canada Day Long Weekend

Many people use fireworks during their celebrations for Canada Day, but the Prince Albert Fire Department wants everyone to be safe. Fireworks can be dangerous and can cause serious burn and eye injuries. Each year, over 8000 people are injured using fireworks.

The Fire Department would like to share a few safety tips heading into the July long weekend.

Fireworks Safety Tips:

- Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Avoid buying fireworks that are packaged in brown paper because this is often a sign that the fireworks were made for professional displays and that they could pose a danger to consumers.
- Always have an adult supervise fireworks activities. Parents don't realize that young children suffer injuries from sparklers. Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees - hot enough to melt some metals.
- Never place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse. Back up to a safe distance immediately after lighting fireworks.
- Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.
- Light fireworks one at a time, then move back quickly.
- Never carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them off in metal or glass containers.
- After fireworks complete their burning, douse the spent device with plenty of water from a bucket or hose before discarding it to prevent a trash fire.
- Make sure fireworks are legal in your area before buying or using them.

Section 36 of the Bylaw #22 of 2008 - The Fire and Emergency Services Bylaw states that:

- (a) No person shall set off any fireworks in a manner that would create a danger or nuisance to another person or property.

- (b) No person shall set off any fireworks on a street or other public place except as part of a public fireworks display as permitted by this Bylaw.
- (c) No person shall set off any fireworks on a school site without the prior written consent of the Board of Education that owns the site, and without first obtaining a public fireworks display permit from the Department. Only low hazard fireworks may be discharged in a public display on a school site.
- (d) No person under 18 years of age shall set off any fireworks except under the direct supervision of a parent, guardian or other responsible adult.
- (e) No parent or guardian of a child under 18 years of age shall permit the child to set off any fireworks, except when under the direct supervision of the parent or guardian.
- (f) A fee for service shall occur when any costs incurred by the Fire & Emergency Services department when called upon to extinguish such fire when, in the opinion of the Fire Chief or his designate, the fire was a result of fireworks.

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For more media inquiries please contact:

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