

For Immediate release:

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Contact: Gord Schreiner, Fire Chief, Comox Fire Rescue

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Comox Firefighters Awards Night!

Comox Fire Rescue recently held its annual awards banquet. At this banquet firefighters are recognized for their years of service (in five year increments) while others are recognized for other contributions.

Firefighters Elsa Gilroy and Colin Hanes were both recognized for their five years of service. Lieutenants Chris Gytenbeek and Jay Everitt were both recognized for ten years of service. Lieutenants Ron Barrow and Dave Davies were both recognized for fifteen years of service.

Captain Robert Stevens and firefighter Al McMurdo both received a federal long service medal for 20 years of exemplary service.

"Rookie of the Year" was awarded to Jon Watkins. Brent Craven was awarded the "Firefighter of the Year". Captain Pascal Lafreniere received the "Stewart Rennie Memorial Award" titled, "I Made a Difference!". Lieutenant Jerry Snook received the "Kevin Kimler Memorial Award" titled, "Above and Beyond".

Assistant Chief Jim Lariviere was acknowledged for his outstanding dedication and commitment of the organization and community.

Comox Fire Chief Gord Schreiner states: "I am so proud of all of our members. It takes a very special person to volunteer for anything, let alone to be a firefighter and an even better person to serve for many, many years. We are very demanding of our firefighters and expect a very high level of training and effectiveness from them. We are very fortunate, here in Comox to have such a great group of firefighters assisting our community in so many ways. Our firefighters are our most important asset. Combined our three Chief Officers have over one hundred years of service. We are a successful organization because of all the great people we have within the organization. "

Comox Fire Rescue has five full-time and forty-five highly trained part-time members. Together they total about four hundred years of service. They responded to about seven hundred emergencies incidents a year.