



BE PREPARED



THE SCOUTS MOTTO - IS AN ESSENTIAL SKILL FOR MUNICIPALITIES TO HAVE.

From forest fires to flooding to law and order, quick and effective safety management has direct bearing on peace of mind that the community is safe, limiting damage when events happen, and generating good outcomes when life itself is in the balance.

[This edition features City protective services initiatives.](#)

Mastering DISASTER



The City made an investment in community preparedness with participation of 12 staff in a two-day **Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) essentials course** facilitated by the Justice Institute of BC. City of Nelson staff also participated, enabling both cities to help each other in case of an event. Think of an EOC as a decision making and communications headquarters should disaster strike.



THE LAW'S ON A ROLL



Fun fact: translated, the French motto “**Maintiens le droit**” on the RCMP regimental badge means “**defending the law.**” The “**D**” will become a little stronger with the City’s purchase of **two electric bicycles (\$9K)** that will establish a **Castlegar RCMP Bike Patrol**. Benefits include ability to patrol areas that are otherwise difficult to access, and more personal interaction with the public.



FIRING AWAY

AT KEEPING FIRE AWAY



Many of us are familiar with Smokey the Bear's advice: "only you can prevent wildfires."

With the collective "you" in mind, Council has authorized a \$30K application to the 2019 Community Resiliency Investment Program to update the City of Castlegar Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

The City of Castlegar has a **Risk Class 1 rating**, meaning the City is located in the wildland-urban interface, and is surrounded by high hazard fuels.

The City's existing Wildfire Protection Plan (2007) has implemented numerous recommendations but it's in need of an update. The City would like to update this plan every five years moving forward to ensure maximum preparedness.

A Plan update will include identification of critical at-risk infrastructure and fuel types, wildfire threat assessment, and design and prioritization of fuel treatment units. The City will continue to partner with Selkirk College Forestry program to conduct FireSmart assessments for private property owners, and hands-on fuel reduction using prescriptions on public city land. The City will also continue to partner with the Regional District of Central Kootenay in their Wildfire Mitigation Planning Strategies.

PROGRESS BY THE NUMBERS



+18

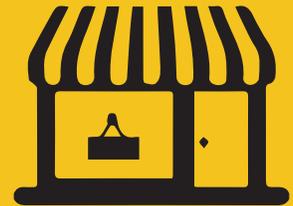
Residential starts year to date through November vs 10 in all of 2017

THE HIGHEST TOTAL SINCE 2012



+37%

Building permit values year to date through November vs 2017



+684

business licenses up 5 over 2017

Building permit activity has accelerated through the latter part of 2018.

These numbers are important to all residents given new residents contribute to our economic and social vibrancy, and new tax revenue helps pay for services, amenities, and infrastructure re-investment.