



# FireSmart

## Nanaimo Public Safety Committee

June 12, 2024

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### What is the City of Nanaimo's wildfire risk?



#### 2016 Community Wildfire Protection Plan

- "Based on the results from the field work and fire behavior/threat modeling; the study area as a whole has generally low threat from wildfire with some pockets of forested areas rated as 'moderate' fire behavior threat"
- "When reviewing these fire behavior threat classes, it is apparent that the City is not under threat from continuous crown fire but is at risk of surface fires."
- Factors that reduce Nanaimo's risk:
  - The City has different climate, topography, and vegetation than BC's Interior and North.
  - Many wildland areas of the City have been/are being developed
  - 24/7 career department enables a fast response to fires in the early stages.
- That being said, wildfire remains a threat.



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## UBCM Community Resiliency Investment



### Grant initiatives

- Support 2 local neighbourhood FireSmart groups
  - Long Lake Heights and Protection Island
- Spring public information sessions
- Staff attendance at the BC Wildfire Urban Interface and FireSmart conference
- Public education events
- Equipment for a Sprinkler Protection Unit trailer
- Participation in regional Community Wildfire Resiliency Committee meetings (SFN and RDN)
- Completion of a new Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan



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## FireSmart Principles



### Home Ignition Zone



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## Nanaimo Emergency Program



### Actions supporting wildfire protection

- Wildfire Zone coordination meetings
- Emergency communication to the public via Voyent Alert and social media
- ESS program and Reception Centres (Bowen, Beban, Oliver Woods)
- Ongoing regional and provincial partnerships and engagement for mutual support
- Fire weather ongoing monitoring (Mosaic weather station data)
- Climate Hazard Assessment project for full wildfire risk profile update (due 2025)
- Nanaimo Fire Rescue continues to train and equip staff to BC Wildfire standards for wildfire response
- The City has a mutual aid agreement with surrounding fire departments for support

