

Delta Fire & Emergency Services

4645 Harvest Drive, Delta, British Columbia V4K 4J5 Telephone 604-946-8541 Facsimile 604-946-0436

July 14, 2021

Dear Resident,

RE: Mitigating Wildfire Risk in Delta

Each summer as temperatures rise, we see wildfire activity increase across our Province. As Delta's Fire Chief, I want to assure you that City of Delta has plans in place to mitigate the risk of wildfire in our region.

You are receiving this letter because your home is located within or adjacent to a naturally-vegetated area, along the wildland urban interface. As hot, dry summer weather continues, we encourage you to protect your home from risks associated with an interface wildfire by ensuring that your yard is free of dry grass clippings, fallen branches, compost heaps, and needles that could easily ignite. It is important that this yard material be disposed of via Delta's curbside green waste removal program and not deposited into ravines or forests where it can add to the fuel load for forest fires. Residential backyard fires continue to be prohibited year-round in Delta. If you notice any unauthorized activity that poses a fire risk, please call Delta Police Department's 24/7 non-emergency line at 604.946.4411. As always, fires should be reported immediately by calling 9-1-1.

City of Delta is working diligently to ensure that our community is safe and well-protected from the threat of wildfires. Delta Fire and Emergency Services has implemented a Community Wildfire Protection Plan for Delta and is taking measures to reduce community risk, including reducing fuel load in select locations, testing fire hydrants, and coordinating risk and response activities with BC Wildfire Service and Metro Vancouver. Delta's firefighters receive wildland urban interface training annually and the City conducts increased inspections of interface areas such as parks and beaches throughout the summer months.

Keeping Delta safe from wildfires is our collective responsibility - together, we can work to reduce the community's risk of wildfire. Should you have any questions about Delta's wildland urban interface areas or require additional information about FireSmart protection measures that you can implement at home, please do not hesitate to contact the Delta Fire Department Community Fire Liaison at 604.952.3520 or <u>communityfireliaison@deltafire.ca</u>. Additional information on measures that can be taken to protect your home from an interface wildfire is also available in the BC FireSmart Homeowner's Manual: <u>https://homeowners-manual.firesmartbc.ca/</u>.

Sincerely,

Guy McKintuck Fire Chief