



# CITY OF ABBOTSFORD FIRE RESCUE SERVICE

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## NEWS RELEASE

### Holiday Safety Tips

ABBOTSFORD, BC. December 11, 2009 – The Abbotsford Fire Rescue Service is pleased to present a series of weekly Holiday Safety Tips to help encourage a safe holiday season. This is the time of the season when holiday gatherings and parties have more people entertaining in their homes. This will be the subject of this week's tips.

#### General Home safety

- If you must travel in bad weather, drive slowly and let someone know your route and anticipated arrival time.
- Carbon monoxide kills. Don't warm up your car in the garage.
- Ensure that if you have wood, natural gas, propane or oil heating appliances you also have a working Carbon Monoxide detector.
- Ensure that your smoke alarms are in good working condition. Put in a fresh battery if your smoke alarm is the battery operated type. If your smoke alarms are wired into your homes electrical system remember that they may not work during a power outage.
- Have and practice a Home Escape Plan and make sure that if you have family or friend staying during the holidays that they also know your Home Escape Plan.

#### Cooking Safety

- Stay in the kitchen while you are cooking. If you must leave, turn down the heat on appliances and return quickly.
- Do not get distracted by the telephone or television while cooking.
- Keep items that can catch fire, such as dishtowels, paper or plastic bags at least 1 meter (3 feet) away from the stove.
- Avoid wearing losing-fitting clothing when cooking; clothing can easily ignite if it comes in contact with appliance burners.
- Always turn pot handles inward to prevent small children from reaching up and pulling down a hot pot.
- If a pot fire or oven fire occurs, remember to cover the pot with a lid or baking sheet and turn the heat off always use an oven mitt, if the fire is in the oven leave the oven door closed and turn the heat off.

For additional information, please contact:

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*The Abbotsford Fire Rescue Service is “making a difference in our community”  
through prevention, response and safety.*