



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **TIPS FOR STAYING WARM AND SAFE THIS FALL AND WINTER**

The days are getting shorter and a chill is in the air.

As autumn approaches and people gather inside and turn up the heat, the Township of Langley Fire Department recommends steps that can be taken to ensure you and your family stay cozy and safe:

- Have your furnace inspected and serviced by a qualified professional at least once a year.
- Have chimneys and vents cleaned and inspected by a qualified professional at least once a year.
- If you are using a wood fireplace or wood stove, make sure the wood is dry and seasoned.
- Make sure the fireplace screen is metal or made of heat-tempered glass. Ensure it is in good condition and secure in its position in front of the fireplace.
- All children should know to stay at least three feet away from the fireplace, wood stove, or space heaters.
- When using a portable space heater, make sure it has an automatic shut off, is plugged directly into an outlet, and is placed at least three feet from anything that can burn, including bedding, paper, walls, and people.
- Test all your smoke alarms to make sure they are working and change the battery if needed.
- Smoke alarms should be placed on every level of the home, inside each bedroom, and outside every sleeping area.
- For best protection, the smoke alarms should be interconnecting so when one sounds they all sound.
- Carbon monoxide alarms should be on every level of the home and outside each sleeping area.
- Test carbon monoxide alarms to make sure they are working.

For more information, call the Township of Langley Fire Department at 604.532.7500.