



Cowichan Valley Regional District

Fire Safety Act Update

Cowichan Valley Regional District

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Fire Safety Act Key Impacts

Effective: 1 August 2024 (Fire Services Act repealed)

Regulations: In progress (some issued)

Powers/authority

- ❖ LAFC powers no longer exist
- ❖ Inspection and investigation powers through RD appointments
 - Including Improvement Districts
- ❖ No new inspection requirement for RDs
- ❖ Fire Investigations and reports required for **all fires** in RD (Death, injury, property damage)

Action Required

Appointment of Fire Inspectors / Fire Investigators

- RD needs to appoint persons to these roles (asap)
- All powers/authority flow from the appointment under the new Act
 - OFC staff will support those services upon request
- New OFC training standard has 1 yr grace period before in effect

Fire Bylaws (currently under review)

- Updating will be needed to reference current Act
- Powers/authority replicated from the Act need to reflect changes

Recommendations

1. Board to appoint Fire Inspectors and Fire Investigators.
2. Staff to prepare a report for Electoral Area Directors that provides an overview of the Fire Safety Act and explains the obligations and authorities.
3. Update Fire Establishment Bylaws for all RD fire departments to reflect legislative changes.

Questions?