



## **A MESSAGE FROM YOUR FIREFIGHTERS**

***We are excited to present!***

### ***What's Going On?***

The present cinder block constructed fire station has served the department for 61 years. In 2007 a Fire Station Feasibility Study was conducted; it was found that the existing fire hall is inadequate. Unfortunately, it does not meet today's seismic requirements and cannot guarantee the safety of around 4 million dollars' worth of equipment and fire truck apparatus. The ramifications of a structural collapse are more severe and long lasting than one might think. Responding to calls in our community during such a disaster would be impossible with the loss of 4 apparatus. It is also important to note, households not covered by fire protection over the 2–3-year rebuilding process could see a minimum of \$2,500 increase to their annual home insurance during that period.

We have utilized the fire hall to its full capacity, a new facility is essential for the continued safety and well-being of our community. It provides our firefighters with the facilities required for a quick and effective response, reducing the risk of property damage, injury, and potential loss of life.

### ***What's The Plan?***

Our goal is to construct a 6,500+ square foot, steel fabricated fire station with 5 bays. The facility will feature essential support rooms such as a workshop, utility room, offices, and training room. The objective of this project is to design a building that is resilient in disaster scenarios.

We are currently in the process of finalizing our building budget of \$2 million. Cherry Creek will receive \$600,000 in GasTax funding support from the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD), which needs to be spent by March 2024 or we risk losing this grant. The department has \$400,000 in savings from working for the province during the wildfire season, bringing our total to \$1 million. We will be seeking residential support to finance up to \$1.5 million in debt. The extra \$500,000 of potential borrowing would be a contingency should construction costs exceed the budget. BC fire departments can finance capital projects through low-interest tax requisitions, which would result in a projected yearly increase of approximately \$125-to-\$165 on individual provincial property tax in Cherry Creek. The loan would expire on completion of payment at 10 years and the province would stop collecting for this project.

### ***What Does it Mean to You?***

The Cherry Creek residents have always taken great pride in our community. We are demonstrating a commitment to the future and ensuring the continued success of Cherry Creek, a community that we can all be proud of. Please send any questions, positive or negative thoughts to [ccww.info@shaw.ca](mailto:ccww.info@shaw.ca).

***Please Join us for our AGM at the Cherry Creek Community Hall April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm to vote on financing our new fire station.***

**CHERRY CREEK FIRE DEPARTMENT**

