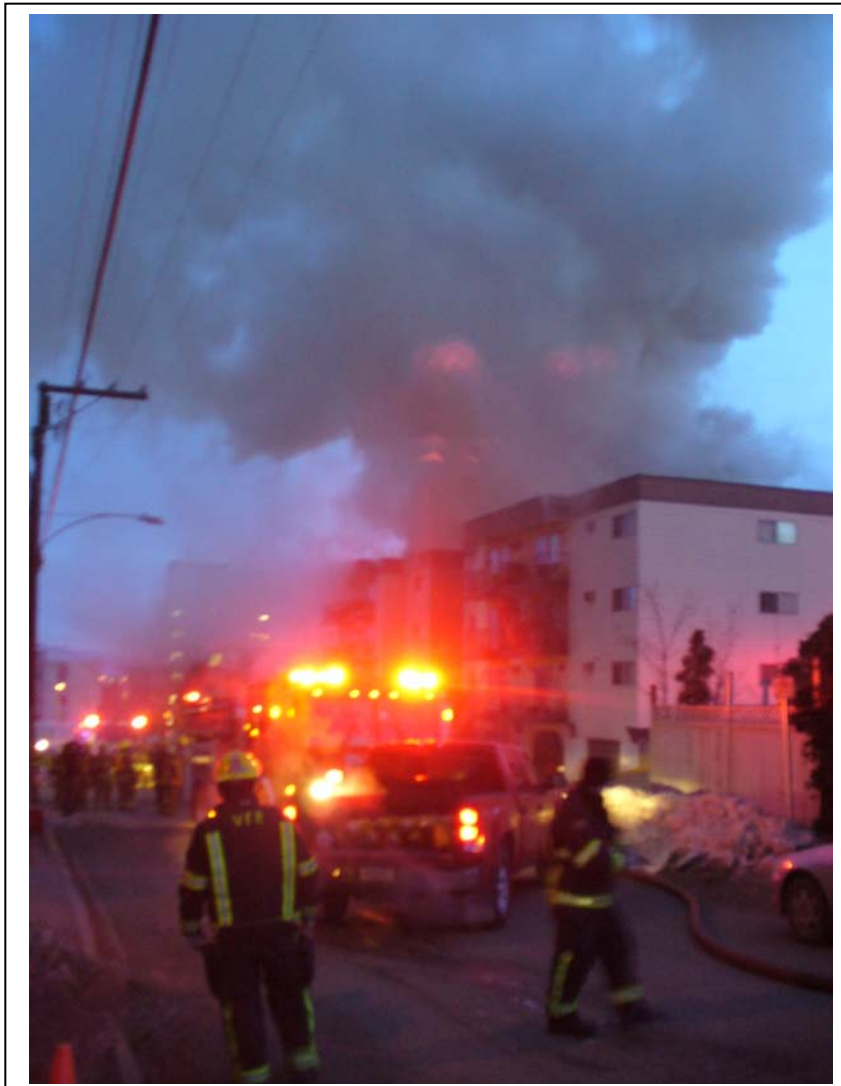




# City of Vernon Fire-Rescue Services

## Paid-on-Call Firefighter Application Package



**City of Vernon Fire-Rescue Services  
3401 30<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vernon, B.C.  
V1T 5E7**

**Administration phone 250.550.3565  
Administration fax 250.550.3562**

**Web [www.vernon.ca](http://www.vernon.ca)**

The City of Vernon is committed to providing the most effective and most efficient fire protection for our area. You will find that participation as a Paid-on-Call Firefighter will bring personal reward and satisfaction, a tremendous sense of accomplishment and significant community service. Vernon Fire-Rescue Services objective is to save lives and property, and as a Paid-on-Call Firefighter dedication to meeting this objective is critical.

Service as a Paid-on-Call member of our Department requires serious commitment. Careful consideration of all components of service should be undertaken, and this application has been designed to provide information that will assist you in determining whether Paid-on-Call Firefighting is a suitable pursuit for you.

Thank you for your interest in serving our community as a Paid-on-Call Firefighter. If you require further information, please contact the Deputy Chief at 250.550.3564 or by email to [jblair@vernon.ca](mailto:jblair@vernon.ca).

Jack Blair  
Deputy Fire Chief Operations  
City of Vernon Fire-Rescue Services

## Mission Statement

**Vernon Fire-Rescue Services works in partnerships to provide and promote a safe environment, and to preserve life and property through the provision of fire suppression, fire prevention/education, hazardous materials response, rescue services and emergency medical services to the citizens of, and visitors to, the City of Vernon and surrounding areas.**

### The Nature of Our Business

The Fire Service is a diverse and challenging profession in a paramilitary environment. It is this diversity that inspires men and women to enter the service, as a Career or a Paid-on-Call employee. Firefighters train to be prepared to respond to many different emergency situations, including structural fires, motor vehicle incidents, hazardous material incidents and medical emergencies. The skills required to cope with these incidents may be needed at any time of the day or night, under difficult and emotional circumstances. The business of emergency response, and the protection of lives and property may be potentially stressful, but the rewards are considerable.

Our primary goal is to protect the public, which is accomplished two ways:

- To prevent fire emergencies from occurring, through public education, fire safety and code enforcement programs
- To be prepared to mitigate emergencies and assist medical emergencies through ongoing training, education, pre-planning, and equipment maintenance

Character traits generally considered to be desirable for Firefighting include:

- A strong desire to help people
- Courage
- Dedication and perseverance
- Assertiveness
- Willingness to learn new skills and face new challenges
- An ability to control emotions during times of crisis
- An ability to perform strenuous work in hot and sometimes hazardous conditions

The success of a Fire service is measured by how much damage has been prevented and how many lives have been saved.

## Profile

The City of Vernon Fire-Rescue Services is a combination Career / Paid-on-Call service consisting of 4 Administrative staff, 24 Career Firefighters, 4 Communication Operators, a Fire Inspector and a Training Officer, and 26 Paid-on-Call Firefighters.

The Department operates under the direction of the Fire Chief who is responsible to the Mayor and Council through the CAO. The Chief is assisted in the smooth running of the Department by the Deputy Chief Operations and Training, Deputy Chief Fire Prevention/Public Education and the Administrative Assistant. The Deputy Chief of Operations is responsible for the Department's delivery of emergency services for fire, rescue and medical assists. He is also responsible for training. The Deputy Chief Fire Prevention /Public Education is responsible fire prevention and public education.

The City of Vernon Emergency Program is also part of Vernon Fire – Rescue Services and is overseen by the Emergency Program Coordinator and the Emergency Social Services Coordinator, along with their program assistant.

Over the years, Vernon Fire-Rescue Services has evolved into a public safety agency providing highly technical and diverse services. The general public has come to rely on the Department as a first responder and we respond to approximately 3500 calls per year.

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## **Paid-on-Call Firefighting**

Paid-on-Call Firefighters directly participate in fire and rescue operations. Upon acceptance, and regardless of prior training or experience, all Paid-on-Call Firefighters must complete a Recruit Training program. In order to ensure the Department is prepared at all times, training standards have been developed to maintain the skills required. Vernon Fire-Rescue Services practices on Tuesday nights, of which 75% attendance is mandatory.

# FAQ

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the cost of the required training?**

*The required training for Paid-on-Call Firefighters is provided by the Department. Transportation to and from accredited additional training is also funded by the Department.*

### **How much do I have to pay for protective clothing?**

*All required protective clothing is provided by the Department.*

### **What about Insurance coverage?**

*Workers Compensation Board coverage is in effect whenever the individual is working for the Department. The City also has insurance coverage, as well as accidental death and disability coverage.*

### **How are Paid-on-Call Firefighters paid?**

*Paid-on-Call Firefighters are paid for required training and for all emergency call-outs at a rate set out in the agreement between the City of Vernon and the Vernon Volunteer Firefighters Association. The Human Resources Dept. can provide pay rate details.*

### **Upon successful completion of Recruit Training, how much time could a Paid-on-Call Firefighter expect to devote to being an active member?**

*Time requirements may vary, but the average training and call-out time is at least 10 hours per month. There is no limit on the time you may spend on optional or volunteer duties (e.g., public relations duties).*

### **How often will a Paid-on-Call Firefighter be on call to respond?**

*Our system depends on the Paid-on-Calls being available to answer to all emergencies, therefore the Department expects that, unless out of town, Paid-on-Calls will be on call 24/7/365. This aspect of Paid-on-Call Firefighting is a major commitment and must be considered carefully. Although the Department realizes that no one can be available every second, the Paid-on-Calls are relied on heavily and the success of the program depends on commitment and availability.*

### **How quickly does a Paid-on-Call Firefighter have to respond to a call?**

*It is expected that available members would respond immediately to page out as normally the first apparatus is enroute at the time of the page.*

**How long do emergency call outs last?**

*The average call out lasts less than an hour. A working structure fire may last 3-4 hours and a major multi-alarm fire may last 8-10 hours.*

**Will prior fire/rescue training and/or experience be credited towards Vernon Fire-Rescue Services requirements?**

*Participation in all programs is mandatory in order to demonstrate proficiency, however prior experience or training may reduce the time necessary to develop the minimum skills required by the Department.*

**Is it possible for a recruit or full member of the Paid-on-Call service to specialize in one area?**

*All members are generalists, proficient in all areas of fire or rescue. Specialist training may be available but not to the exclusion of requirements for regular duties.*

**Is there a medical/physical examination prior to acceptance?**

*There is a medical exam and a physical exam, and there is a medical form provided by the Department that must be completed by your doctor.*

**Will there be written or physical testing prior to acceptance?**

*Successful completion of a series of physical tests will be required in order to demonstrate the ability to perform the tasks of a firefighter.*

**Is a criminal record check required prior to acceptance?**

*A criminal record check is required at the time of shortlisting.*

**Is a copy of my driving record required prior to acceptance and is there a cost?**

*A copy of your drivers abstract must be provided at the time of application and prior to acceptance. Any cost to secure a copy of your drivers abstract is your responsibility.*

**How are Paid-on-Call Firefighters integrated with Career staff?**

*Operational procedures dictate the training levels required in the Department, and these standards apply to Career and Paid-on-Call staff.*

**Is there a social aspect to being a member of the Paid-on-Call staff?**

*In addition to the contribution to community safety, Paid-on-Call Firefighters often participate in community public relations, socials, fishing derbies, parades and competitions.*



THE CITY OF VERNON

# PAID-ON-CALL FIREFIGHTER

| Telephone Numbers |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Home              |  |
| Business          |  |
| Message           |  |
| Fax               |  |

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

|   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| NAME:   |   |  |  |
| Address:  |   |  |  |
| City:   |   | Postal Code:   |  |
| Height (without shoes):   | Weight:   | Do you smoke? (✓) Y <input type="checkbox"/> Amount? N <input type="checkbox"/>              |  |
| Visual Aids Y <input type="checkbox"/>  | If Yes, describe (i.e. contacts/glasses):   |  |  |
| Required? (✓) N <input type="checkbox"/>  | Visual acuity without aids (i.e. 20/20. Please specify):  |  |  |
| Any medical conditions or disabilities that would impair your ability to perform all aspects of the job applied for: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> . If yes, please describe your limitations: |   |  |  |
| BC Drivers License Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>  | In the event you are short listed will you provide a drivers abstract Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> |  |  |
| Air Brake Endorsement: Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>  |   |  |  |
| Are you a Canadian citizen? Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>   |   | If no, are you a landed immigrant? (✓) Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> |  |

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY (list most current first)

|                        |  |                   |                 |
|------------------------|--|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Company Name:       |  | Type of Business: |                 |
| Address:               |  |                   |                 |
| Supervisor's name:     |  | Phone #:          | Dates employed: |
| Job Title:             |  | Rate of pay:      |                 |
| Description of Duties: |  |                   |                 |
| Reason for leaving:    |  |                   |                 |
| 2. Company Name:       |  | Type of Business: |                 |
| Address:               |  |                   |                 |
| Supervisor's name:     |  | Phone #:          | Dates employed: |
| Job Title:             |  | Rate of pay:      |                 |
| Description of Duties: |  |                   |                 |
| Reason for leaving:    |  |                   |                 |
| 3. Company Name:       |  | Type of Business: |                 |
| Address:               |  |                   |                 |
| Supervisor's name:     |  | Phone #:          | Dates employed: |
| Job Title:             |  | Rate of pay:      |                 |
| Description of Duties: |  |                   |                 |
| Reason for leaving:    |  |                   |                 |

|  |
|--|
|  |
|  |

**EDUCATION / TRAINING**

|                                     | School<br>(name/location) | Years Attended<br>(dates) | Highest Grade<br>Completed | Major Subjects | Did you graduate?<br>Y/N |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| High School                         |                           |                           |                            |                |                          |
| University or College               |                           |                           |                            |                |                          |
| Vocational/Trade<br>Business School |                           |                           |                            |                |                          |

First Aid Training: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Can you swim? (✓)    Y        Certification (provide details/dates)  
                                   N   

Other related training (e.g. scuba certification)

**LEISURE AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES** (specify if past or present activity and time spent on fitness/current interests)

Current leisure/physical fitness activities (describe your fitness program)

Team sports:

Hobbies/Volunteer work:

**REFERENCES** (give three references [not relatives] that have knowledge of your character and ability)

|   | Name | Address | Phone<br>Number | Occupation | Years<br>Known |
|---|------|---------|-----------------|------------|----------------|
| 1 |      |         |                 |            |                |
| 2 |      |         |                 |            |                |
| 3 |      |         |                 |            |                |

**GENERAL**

1. What are your reasons for wanting to become a Firefighter?

2. Why do you feel particularly suited to this occupation?

3. Additional information important to your application:

I hereby certify that all information given in this application is true and complete. I agree that any misstatement or misrepresentations herein may cause forfeiture on my part to all rights to any employment with The City of Vernon. I further release to the District the authority to check records and files relevant to my applications and to contact employers with regard to work references.

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|--|--|

|           |      |
|-----------|------|
| Signature | Date |
|-----------|------|