



Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Have a safe and spook-tacular Halloween!

As local kids put the finishing touches on their Halloween costume masterpieces, Vernon Fire Rescue Services (VFRS) is offering tips to keep safety top of mind this weekend.

“The number one thing to remember: be visible,” said Deputy Chief Dwight Seymour. “Now that the sun is setting earlier, it’s important that kids’ costumes have some form of reflection on them so drivers see everyone crossing the road or walking from house to house.”

An easy way to stay visible is to carry a glow stick or flashlight and wear lighter coloured clothing. When choosing a costume, it’s also important to think about ease of movement, tripping hazards and an ability to see what’s around you.

“Community safety is our top priority,” said Seymour. “Therefore, Fire Stations 1 and 2 will be available as safe havens for children who may feel uncomfortable and need a place to go.”

When it comes to decorating our homes, VFRS reminds us to:

- Use a battery operated candle or glow stick in your Jack-o’-lantern instead of fire
- Teach children to stay away from open flames, including Jack-o’-lanterns
- Ensure exits are clear of decorations and that smoke alarms are working
- Keep decorations away from flames and other heat sources like light bulbs and heaters

The BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) has also released a number of [Halloween safety tips](#), including a recommendation to skip Halloween parties this year and stay home if you are sick. For those who plan to participate in trick-or-treating, the BCCDC recommends:

- Keeping to our local neighbourhoods
- Trick-or-treating in small groups and leaving enough space between one another
- Washing hands before going out, when we get home, and before we eat
- Getting creative while handing out candy, by using tongs, baking sheets or a candy slide to give more space between individuals

To learn more about the BCCDC Halloween safety tips, please visit: www.bccdc.ca. And for more safety resources, visit the Community Safety Office downtown at 3010 31st Avenue.