



Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON
3400 – 30 Street
Vernon, BC
V1T 5E6

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: January 26, 2020

MEDIA CONTACT: Christy Poirier, Manager, Communications & Grants

TELEPHONE: 250-550-3539

Structure fire on Valleyview Place Tuesday evening

Vernon Fire Rescue Services (VFRS) was called to a structure fire in a residential area Tuesday evening.

At approximately 5:00 p.m., firefighters received reports that flames could be seen coming from a house in the 4500 block of Valleyview Place. Upon arrival, firefighters found a fully-involved fire in the basement area of the structure, which was extending to the main floor of the house. Crews attacked the fire from the backyard and were able to knock it down quickly to gain control.

“Thanks to the quick response and aggressive efforts of our firefighters, the fire was contained and extinguished without incident,” said Deputy Fire Chief Scott Hemstad. “No injuries were reported; however, the occupants of the house have been displaced and are receiving assistance from the City’s Emergency Support Services (ESS) program tonight.”

Two engines, a rescue unit and approximately 20 firefighters responded to the incident. There is extensive fire, smoke, and water damage to the house.

“During the event, firefighters learned a family cat was missing, but the pet was found safe and sound just a few hours later,” said Deputy Chief Hemstad.

As firefighters were establishing a response at the scene, a civilian drove over a hydrant supply line, which has prompted a reminder for residents to please slow down and avoid areas where an emergency response is taking place. Driving over a fire hose is against the law and can be very dangerous for the public and emergency responders.

No cause of fire has been determined yet and the incident is under investigation.