



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 Fire Chief David Lind. “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 Chief Lind. “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 your homes, VFRS reminds you 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) also has a number of [Halloween safety tips](#) for trick-or-treating:

- Hand out treats from the bottom of your stairs or at your curb-side.
- If you can, stand outside your door to hand out treats so that children won’t need to touch the door or doorbell.
- If you’re unable to sit outside to hand out treats, clean and disinfect doorbells and knobs, handrails, and any other high touch surfaces.
- If you are decorating, avoid props that can cause coughing, such as smoke machines.

For more safety resources in Vernon, visit the Community Safety Office downtown at 3010 31st Avenue.