PRESS RELEASE

**TNRL Distributing Free Smoke & CO2 Alarms for Fire Prevention Week**

**Kamloops, BC – October 11, 2022 –** In partnership with Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) Fire Protection Services, the Thompson-Nicola Regional Library (TNRL) is celebrating the 100th anniversary of Fire Prevention Week, from October 9 – 15, 2022.

The TNRL is giving away free First Alert Smoke & CO2 Alarms to encourage residents to embrace this year’s Fire Prevention Week theme: “Fire won’t wait. Plan your escape.”

“Today’s homes burn faster than ever. You may have as little as two minutes – or even less – to safely escape a home fire from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Your ability to get out of a home during a fire depends on early warning from smoke alarms and advance planning,” said Jeremy Denny, Regional Fire Prevention Officer with the TNRD.

While quantities last, community members can pick up an alarm and can find home fire information at any library branch, including the Mobile Library, during Fire Prevention Week. Please contact your library to confirm hours and availability.

The First Alert Smoke & CO2 Alarms are certified for use in Canada, feature a 10-year battery life, and do not require electrical work to set up.

Installing a smoke and CO2 alarm is one of several simple but important actions people can take to keep themselves and those around them safe from home fires. TNRD Fire Protection Services has crucial tips on home fire escape planning:

* Make sure you have a home safety plan that meets the needs of all your household members, including children, older adults, and people with sensory or physical disabilities.
* Install smoke alarms inside every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home. Ideally, smoke alarms should be interconnected so when one sounds, they all sound.
* Know at least two ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows open easily.
* Have an outside meeting place which is a safe distance from your home where everyone should meet.
* Practice your home fire drill at least twice per year with everyone in the household, including guests. Practice at least once during the day and at night.

To learn more about Fire Prevention Week, visit:

* National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA): [www.nfpa.org/Events/Events/Fire-Prevention-Week](http://www.nfpa.org/Events/Events/Fire-Prevention-Week)
* NFPA Sparky’s Fire Safety Club: [www.sparky.org](http://www.sparky.org)

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