



Village Update

SPECIAL EDITION

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UPDATES FROM MUNICIPALITY

Meet Your New Fire Chief



Good day Lions Bay,

It is both an honour and a privilege to introduce myself as the new Fire Chief of Lions Bay Fire Rescue.

For me, this appointment is especially meaningful because it is also a homecoming. I previously served with Lions Bay Fire Rescue from 2002 to 2004, and returning more than twenty years later as Fire Chief is something I am incredibly proud of. The Sea to Sky community has grown, the department has evolved, and I can honestly say Lions Bay is an even more remarkable place than I remember.

I bring more than 27 years of progressive fire service leadership experience, having served with Vancouver Fire Rescue Services, Richmond Fire-Rescue, and most recently as Fire Chief for the District of Sicamous. My career has also included two international deployments supporting Canadian Armed Forces operations in

Afghanistan as a firefighter, fire prevention and training officer, where I worked in demanding, high-risk environments requiring disciplined emergency response, leadership, and operational planning.

Throughout my career, I have had the privilege of leading virtually every discipline of the modern fire service, including emergency operations, fire prevention and life safety, fire investigations, firefighter recruitment and training, public education, emergency management, wildfire and interface fire operations, incident command, strategic planning, heavy rescue, marine operations, and regional emergency coordination. This broad operational and leadership experience provides a well-rounded perspective on the challenges facing communities such as Lions Bay.

For the residents of Lions Bay, this means you can expect a Fire Chief who is committed to more than emergency response. My priority is to build a fire service that is proactive, prepared, transparent, and engaged with the community. That includes strengthening emergency preparedness, expanding FireSmart initiatives, enhancing firefighter training and operational readiness, protecting municipal assets, and ensuring our department continues to provide professional, reliable service while remaining fiscally responsible. You can also expect a Fire Chief who values open communication, collaborative partnerships, continuous improvement, and maintaining a visible and active presence within the community.

I firmly believe our firefighters are our greatest asset. Supporting, mentoring, and investing in the dedicated fire officers and firefighters of Lions Bay Fire Rescue will remain one of my highest priorities, ensuring they have the training, equipment, and leadership necessary to continue providing exceptional service to our residents. I also believe the strongest fire departments are built on trust, collaboration, and continuous improvement. Over the coming months, I will be taking the time to listen to our firefighters, municipal staff, Council, and most importantly, our residents. Understanding the needs and expectations of the community will help guide the future direction of Lions Bay Fire Rescue.

From my very first days back, I have been welcomed by an outstanding team of dedicated fire officers and firefighters whose professionalism, commitment, and pride in serving this community have already made a lasting impression. I look forward to working alongside them as we continue building a resilient, highly trained, and community-focused fire department.

You will also see me actively participating in community events, public education programs, FireSmart and wildfire preparedness initiatives, emergency preparedness activities, and other opportunities to engage with residents. I believe the Fire Chief should be visible, approachable, and accessible, and I encourage you to introduce yourself whenever you see me around the Village. It is an honour to return to Lions Bay and to serve this extraordinary community once again.

I look forward to working with all of you to help keep Lions Bay safe today while preparing together for the challenges of tomorrow.

Stay safe,

Lorenzo L. De Arcangelis
Fire Chief
Lions Bay Fire Rescue



The Village of Lions Bay

400 Centre Rd. (off Crosscreek Rd.) | PO Box 141
Lions Bay, British Columbia V0N 2E0 CANADA

Reception: (604) 921-9333

Public Works voicemail: (604) 921-9833

Public Works after-hours on-call: (604) 290-1498

Bylaw Officer: (604) 834-3404

The Village of Lions Bay | 400 Centre Road P.O. Box 141 | Lions Bay, BC V0N 2E0 CA

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