



## BYLAW NO. 588

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### A BYLAW TO ESTABLISH A FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR THE SAYWARD FIRE PROTECTION AREA

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**WHEREAS** the Regional District may, by bylaw, establish a fire department to provide fire suppression, fire prevention and related services within a fire protection area;

**AND WHEREAS** the Regional District wishes to establish a fire department to operate within the Sayward fire protection area and to define the responsibilities of the fire department;

**NOW THEREFORE** the Board of Directors of the Strathcona Regional District, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

#### **Fire Department Established**

1. There is hereby established a fire department to be known as the Sayward Volunteer Fire Department.

#### **Terms Defined**

2. In this bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires;

**“authorized services”** means the fire protection, first responder and rescue services that the fire department is authorized to provide in accordance with this bylaw.

**‘call out’** means a response to a fire emergency or other unscheduled event for which the fire department has been dispatched.

**“fire chief”** means the person appointed from time to time by the Regional District to manage the operations of the fire department in accordance with this bylaw.

**“fire department”** means the Sayward Volunteer Fire Department established by this bylaw.

**“fire protection area”** means the service area established by Bylaw No. 1265, being Sayward Valley Fire Protection Local Service Area Establishment Bylaw 1990, as adopted by the Comox-Strathcona Regional District on November 26, 1990 including amendments.

**“fire protection service”** means the prevention and suppression of fires to the exterior operations service level of the British Columbia Structure Firefighter Minimum Training Standards (Fourth Edition: July 2024) published by the Office of the Fire Commissioner.

**“first responder service”** means the provision of emergency medical assistance to the public until the arrival of the BC Emergency Health Services.

“**practice**” means an organized training session intended to improve the proficiency of members of the fire department in the performance of their duties and responsibilities.

“**rescue service**” means the rescue of persons related to automobile extrication and low angle rope rescue.

**Appointment of Fire Chief**

3. The fire chief shall be the head of the fire department and shall be responsible for putting into effect and carrying out the authorized services including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing:
  - a) taking all proper measures for the prevention, control and suppression of fires and the protection of life and property threatened by fire or other emergencies;
  - b) appointing a deputy fire chief and such other personnel as considered necessary for the efficient operation of the fire department and prescribing their duties and responsibilities;
  - c) making policies and procedures regarding the care of property under the control of the fire department, the qualifications and conduct of members, and the fire department’s operations in general;
  - d) purchasing such equipment, supplies and services as may be required to provide the approved services within the limits of the fire department’s budget; and
  - e) enforcing such bylaws and regulations as may be enacted in accordance with the laws of British Columbia.

**Area of Service**

4. The fire department shall maintain the authorized services within the boundaries of the fire protection area and shall not provide service outside of the fire protection area except where, in the opinion of the fire chief, a fire emergency beyond its boundaries threatens life or property within the fire protection area.

**Remuneration Authorized**

5. The fire chief and other members of the fire department shall be entitled to receive such remuneration as may be approved from time to time by the Regional District.

**Reimbursement of Expenses**

6. Members of the fire department shall be entitled to reimbursement of such expenses as may be incurred in connection with their duties provided such expenses are approved by the fire chief.

**Effective Date**

7. This bylaw shall become effective on January 1, 2025.

**Citation**

8. This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as Bylaw No. 588, being Sayward Volunteer Fire Department Establishing Bylaw 2024.

**READ A FIRST TIME ON THE 11<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024**

