

GREATER VICTORIA TRAINING OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
Minutes of the Meeting Held  
**March 10, 2009**

The meeting was held at View Royal Fire Hall.

Present:	Hank Michno	Sidney
	Matt Barney	Sooke
	Colin Mantic	Oak Bay
	John Trelford	North Saanich
	Gord Anderson	Esquimalt
	Scott Davidson	Langford
	Ian Baikie	Campbell River
	Peter Cornell	Qualicum Beach
	Chris Jancowski	Port Alberni
	Brent Donaldson	Saanich
	Heath Bevan	View Royal

There were also two members in attendance for Thetis Island. My apologies but I was unable to gather their names before they departed the meeting.

**Meeting called to order and chaired by Heath Bevan at 10:05 hours.**

**New Business:**

The high rise presentation by District Chief Dave McGrail of Denver Fire Department was well received by all who attended. Thanks to Deputy Gord Anderson with support from the Greater Victoria Fire Chiefs in bringing forth this presentation. It was agreed by all present that we would like to see more of the same type of presentations in the future. It was also agreed that the DND theatre was a great venue for the presentation and should be considered for further events. The GVFTOA would like to thank the Greater Victoria Chiefs for their support in organizing and supporting the presentation.

The annual BCFTOA seminar is scheduled for May 23 to May 28, 2009. The registration and courses are now on the BCFTOA website.

There was a general discussion on the 1<sup>st</sup> responder program. It is believed that the Canadian Red Cross will shortly be certified to teach the 1<sup>st</sup> responder program in B.C. The ETW instructor's website is now up and running for those instructors who have completed the online course. Instructors can now access the exams for both initial and relicensing purposes.

There was some discussion about gas safety training and that Terasen Gas may have a gas safety trailer available to use at fire halls. This will be researched further and discussed at the next meeting.

There is a regional training weekend hosted by Comox and Campbell River scheduled for April 3, 4 and 5. There are still some openings available.

## **Round Table**

### **Sooke**

- ❖ Steve Sorensen is the new Fire Chief with Matt Barney as the new acting Deputy Chief.
- ❖ New firefighter position to be filled in July.
- ❖ Fire & Life Safety Educator course March 28, 29.
- ❖ Strategy & Tactics course with JI.

### **Saanich**

- ❖ 4 firefighters took the electrical safety train the trainer course. Will be training own members as well as Saanich Police members.
- ❖ Haz-mat ops course set for April 20-23.
- ❖ EVD course slated for May.
- ❖ 3 recruits to be taken on in April.

### **Qualicum Beach**

- ❖ Interest in a haz mat operations course.
- ❖ Looking for seats in EVO.

### **Port Alberni**

- ❖ Confined space training ongoing.
- ❖ Assisting with certifying a live fire training site in Sproat Lake.

### **North Saanich**

- ❖ Hosted a Safety Officer / RIT weekend through VIERA.
- ❖ House burn scheduled in April.
- ❖ 7 probationers nearing completion.

### **View Royal**

- ❖ 3 haz mat techs participated in refresher training
- ❖ 3 officers participated in Royal Roads media relations course.
- ❖ 7 recruits undergoing training.
- ❖ Looking for any departments to participate in an aircraft awareness course.

### **Sidney**

- ❖ Live Fire 1, 2 and 3 booked.

- ❖ S.T.A.R.T. training for 4 firefighters in April.
- ❖ New engine has been awarded to HUB Fire.
- ❖ New firefighter / inspector position has been approved by council.
- ❖ Strategy and tactics course March 20, 21 and 22.
- ❖ New RCMP members instructed in ICS 100.

### **Oak Bay**

- ❖ New mechanic has been hired.
- ❖ New Sutphen engine has been ordered.
- ❖ Training on going.

### **Esquimalt**

- ❖ 2 members took Fire Inspector One course.
- ❖ 2 members attended Fire Investigator One course.
- ❖ One firefighter participated in Electrical Safety Train the Trainer course.
- ❖ One member completed 1<sup>st</sup> instructor ETW course.
- ❖ New firefighter on staff.
- ❖ EOC and ICS 100 training for municipal staff.

### **Campbell River**

- ❖ Ian is new to position and still learning.
- ❖ Having retention issues with auxiliaries due to economy.

### **Langford**

- ❖ 8 new recruits in Station #2.
- ❖ 4 members to VIFFA weekend at Mill Bay.
- ❖ 4 members to Comox START course.
- ❖ Hosting water rescue course in April.
- ❖ Level 1 leadership course for members.
- ❖ Pleasure craft operators course online.
- ❖ Training access review session with Office of Fire Commissioner scheduled for this Saturday.

### **Thetis Island**

- ❖ 5 new recruits.
- ❖ Residential pre fire planning ongoing.
- ❖ Frontline driver training ongoing.

**On motion the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 hours.**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup> at Saanich Fire Hall #1. (1000 hours)**