



Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department

2690 East Road, Anmore, BC, V3H 3C8

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Fire Chief, Jay S. Sharpe, 604-765-2944

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Dear Belcarra Residents

On Friday October 19th it was brought to my attention that a mail out had gone out to most Belcarra residents that same day. This mail out had a photo of a burning house on one side and on the other side there was several paragraphs of information. Some of the information on this mail out is factually incorrect.

What upset me about this mail out is that it was written in such a manner that some Belcarra residents thought that I was taking a political position on Belcarra issues. Nothing could be further from the truth. My job as the Volunteer Fire Chief is to work with all staff and elected officials and to maintain positive working relationships. In my opinion the mail out was an unsigned political attack piece that never should have gone out. Whoever put out this piece did so without my knowledge.

A professional engineering firm assisted with the design of the Belcarra Water system to ensure it met the standards in the Fire Underwriters' Survey for a small community. The information on the Belcarra water system needs to come from the engineering reports that exist. These reports are based on the facts and not hearsay. I can confirm that the references to a restricted maximum flow rate of 13 litres per second are misleading. 13 litres per second is the refill rate at which the reservoir refills.

The part about a Wild Fire Community plan is also incorrect. I do not report to Belcarra Council. I report to a Board of Trustees that is made up of councilors and mayors from both Anmore and Belcarra. The Community Plan that I presented to the board was an Operational Wild Fire Preplan. This preplan is quite different from the plan that was being presented to Belcarra during the election. Currently the Wild Fire Preplan is still with staff from both Villages.

Neither the Anmore Fire Hall nor the Belcarra Fire Hall have been seismically upgraded however earlier this year the board of trustees instructed Metro Vancouver to proceed with a seismic study. The first report as to the condition of both fire halls will be presented at the next trustees meeting.

As Chief I have met with the then council to discuss the needs of the Fire Department to effectively service Belcarra and regularly meet with the Belcarra council members who sit as your Fire Trustees. I have found them very cooperative in assisting the Fire Department in meeting the needs of the Community.

If any questions or concerns remain, please contact your elected members of council or please feel free to contact me at jay.sharpe@anmore.com or you can call me at 604-765-2944. If I am not at work or on a fire call I would be happy to discuss any fire safety questions that you may have.

Jay Sharpe, Fire Chief