

*Correspondence
OFC - Peat 2016 0713
Re: Fire Service Level*

Andrew Peat

From: OFC, OFC <OFC@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: July-13-16 13:44
To: 'Andrew Peat'
Cc: Anderson, Gordon A TRAN:EX
Subject: RE: Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District - Fire Service Level Declaration

Hello Andrew,

Providing a fire protection service is a discretionary service that a local government chooses to provide as per the *Local Government Act/Community Charter*.

The fire service level is determined by the local government depending on the resources available to them.

As fire protection service is a local government service, the local government would have the autonomy to change this at any time.

The province has no authority over which level of service a local government decides to establish.

The Playbook is used to determine the training that fire service personnel must have to support the level established by the local government..

This message is intended to assist in the understanding of the interpretation and requirements of the Fire Services Act and pursuant regulations. It is not intended to provide legal advice and should not be relied upon as such. It is also not intended to replace the need to consult the legislation and regulations for their application in a particular situation. In the event of a conflict between the legislation and this message, the legislation will prevail." As part of the Code development process, this message may be sent to the Building and Safety Standards Branch.

Sincerely,

Stephen Watt
Codes and Standards Coordinator
Scientific/Technical Officer
Office of the Fire Commissioner
Emergency Management B.C.

Phone 250.952.5025 Fax 250.952.5831
24 Hour Emergency Reporting 1.800.663.3456

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From: Andrew Peat [<mailto:corpadmin@saltspringfire.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2016 13:19
To: OFC, OFC
Subject: Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District - Fire Service Level Declaration

Attached for your consideration is a copy of a letter sent to your office this morning by regular mail. The Board is seeking clarification from your Office as to whether there is the ability of a Board to change the "Fire Service Level" once it has been declared.

A written reply is requested.

Andrew D. Peat
Corporate Administrator



105 Lower Ganges Rd
Salt Spring Island, BC
V8K 2T1

Emergency: 911
Office: 250-537-2531
Fax: 250-537-2507
Web: www.saltspringfire.com

12 July 2016

The Office of the Fire Commissioner
200 – 645 Tyee Road
Victoria, BC V9A 6X5

*mailed 13 July 2016
also emailed to
OFCC.gov.bc.ca*

Dear Sir,

Declaration of Fire Service Level
For the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District

The Board of Trustees of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District for some time have been grappling with declaring a Fire Service Level as the District has been instructed to do so by your office. Trustees are concerned that the implications of such a declaration go far beyond setting a training level for our members – apparatus needs, manning levels and the possible public perception that a “level of service” can or will be provided in all instances.

I have been asked by the Chair of the Board to have your Office confirm that if a “fire service level” is declared by a motion of the Board of Trustees that such an action will not bind this or any other future Board to declare a different “fire service level” if they see fit to do so.

Should there be any questions please contact me directly at corpadmin@saltspringfire.com. A written response is requested.

Yours truly,

Andrew Peat

Corporate Administrator

Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District