



# Regional Board Report

## Request for Decision

**To:** Regional Board  
**From:** Director of Protective Services  
**Date:** September 26, 2024

**Subject:** BP20-2024 – Designation of Fire Inspectors and Fire Investigators pursuant to the *Fire Safety Act*

**Voting Entitlement:** All Directors – Unweighted Corporate Vote – Simple Majority (LGA s.208)

---

**Purpose:** To consider approval of BP20-2024 – Designation of Fire Inspectors and Fire Investigators pursuant the *Fire Safety Act*.

### Executive Summary:

The new *Fire Safety Act* (the “Act”) was brought into force on August 1, 2024. Pursuant to sections 8(1) and 23(1) of the Act, the Regional District of Central Okanagan Board of Directors must, prior to October 28, 2024, designate Fire Inspectors and Fire Investigators. This policy is to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Act.

### Recommendation(s):

**THAT** the Regional Board approve Regional Board Policy, BP20-2024, Designation of Fire Inspectors and Fire Investigators pursuant to the *Fire Safety Act*, as attached to the report of the Director of Protective Services, dated September 26, 2024.

---

Respectfully submitted by: Mike Walroth, Director of Protective Services

Report Approved by: Sally Ginter, Chief Administrative Officer

Approved for Agenda: Sally Ginter, Chief Administrative Officer

---

### Strategic Plan Alignment:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emergency preparedness | <input type="checkbox"/> Truth and reconciliation                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health and wellness               | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment and climate – Regional priority only      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regional transportation           | <input type="checkbox"/> Growth and development – Electoral Area priority only |
-

**Background:**

The Fire Safety Act (the “Act”) was brought into force on August 1, 2024, replacing the Fire Services Act. The Act provides a framework to achieve a single standard of fire safety in the province. Three key mechanisms to achieve this goal, as identified by the Office of the Fire Commissioner, are:

- *enable local authorities to designate personnel to carry out fire inspections and fire investigations and enable local fire services to perform tactical evacuations.*
- *establish an administrative penalty enforcement model to address non-compliance issues in a more direct, timely and effective manner.*
- *implement a risk-based approach for fire safety compliance monitoring in municipalities.*

---

**Considerations:**

Organizational/External:

Remain able to enact and enforce Regional District Bylaws

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Remain in compliance with the Province of BC Fire Safety Act

Considerations not applicable:

- Financial
- Alternate Recommendation

---

Attachment(s):           1. BP20-2024 – Board Policy - Designation of Fire Inspectors and Fire Investigators pursuant to the *Fire Safety Act*.

---