



building communities together

2025 Business Plan Barlow Creek Fire Protection (1330)

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Working in partnership with communities large and small to offer local, sub-regional, and regional services to ensure that the Cariboo Chilcotin is a socially, economically, and environmentally desirable region.

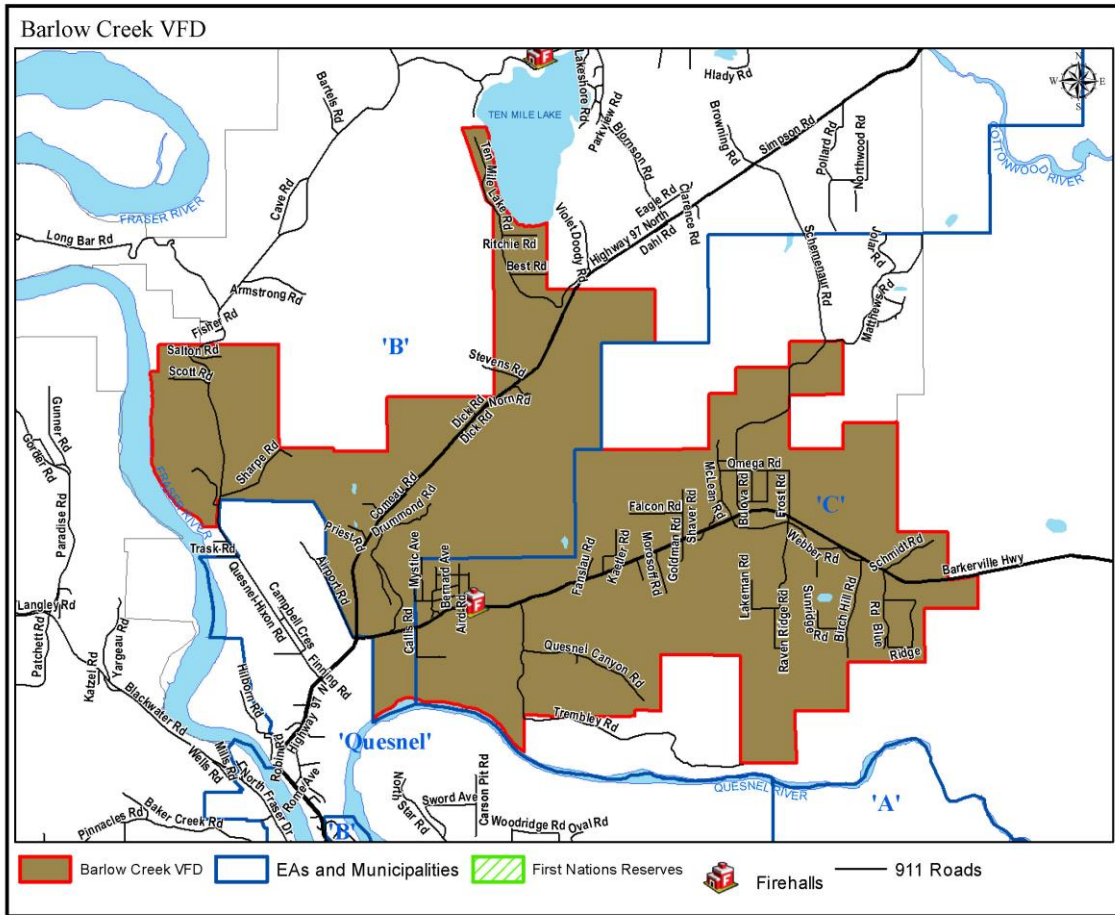
Department/Function Services



The Barlow Creek Volunteer Fire Department, authorized by Bylaw No. 2339 (1989), was established as a function of the Cariboo Regional District in 1987 by means of a referendum assented to by the property owners within the local service area. Barlow Creek Fire Protection was amended in 1998 by Bylaw No. 3375. Barlow Creek Fire Protection is funded by means of a tax rate applied against the assessed value of improvements only and a parcel tax rate of \$25. The maximum requisition for this function is the greater of \$78,000 or a tax rate of \$2.55/\$1,000 of assessed value.

The Barlow Creek Volunteer Fire Department provides fire protection and suppression services only, within their specified area.

The Directors for Electoral Areas B and C are responsible for the governance of this service.



Business Plan Goals, Rationale & Strategies

2025 Barlow Creek VFD Goals

- Goal:** Purchase SCBA cylinders.

Rationale: SCBA cylinders are required to be replaced every 15 years to remain compliant. Scheduled replacement of SCBA cylinders will ensure the VFD has the proper inventory of compliant cylinders.

Strategy: Use operating funds.

Significant Issues & Trends

Issues: Recruitment and Retention; Capital Asset Management; Records Management; and Equipment Standardization.

The sustainability of small volunteer departments is being challenged not only by rapidly increasing legislative requirements and related costs but all the increasing administrative demands which accompany these requirements.

- **Recruitment:** Protective Services will continue to work in conjunction with Communications to enhance advertising programs ensuring maximum exposure on multiple platforms in regard to recruiting.
- **Capital Asset Management:** The Cariboo Regional District is researching options for an asset management program. Protective Services will work with other departments to utilize this to identify possible shortcomings of the firehalls and hire qualified professionals to evaluate the buildings.
- **Records Management:** Protective Services staff will work with VFD personnel to implement and maintain records management for all fire department documents as per mandated requirements.
- **Equipment Standardization:** The standardization of equipment will allow for better operational functionality during emergency response with mutual aid partners. Protective Services will establish a committee to choose standardized equipment and work with Procurement to purchase as budgets allow.