

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fire safety begins with awareness

Vaudreuil-Dorion, October 7, 2022 – The City of Vaudreuil-Dorion is using Fire Prevention Week, which takes place from October 9th to 15th, as an opportunity to reinforce the importance of having fire protection security devices at home which are in good working order, including smoke alarms, a carbon monoxide alarm and a fire extinguisher.

To that end, the Fire Department decided to run an awareness-raising campaign in the aisles of stores on its territory where this type of product is sold. When a fire occurs, you have only three minutes to evacuate a burning house safely. Fire safety equipment is therefore crucial to allow a safe response time and save lives. This is why the Fire Department has decided to go right to the point of sale to explain in person how to use the equipment properly.

Again this year, the theme for Fire Prevention Week is *Le premier responsable, c'est toi !* (The primary responsibility belongs to you!). In Quebec, nearly 49% of fires that occur in homes are related to distraction or human error. It is therefore imperative to remind the public of the importance of adopting safe behaviours when using the stove and heating appliances, having smoke alarms that are in good working order, and being well prepared in the event of a fire - which includes having an evacuation plan.

Over the last few weeks, the City of Vaudreuil-Dorion's Fire Prevention Officers and Firefighters have begun their tour of CPEs, daycares and schools for fire prevention visits and fire drills.

"Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have not been able to go out in the field to run our awareness-raising campaigns. It was important for us to go back into schools and daycares to deliver our key fire prevention messages because children are important messengers when it comes to passing along information to their parents," said John Boudreau, Head of the City of Vaudreuil-Dorion's Fire Prevention Division.

Regional Fire Prevention Campaign

The Comité régional de prévention des incendies du Suroît, along with its members, which include the Fire Prevention Officers from the City of Vaudreuil-Dorion, has launched an awareness campaign at the regional level. The goal of the campaign is to remind people that working smoke alarms can save lives.

In support of this campaign, the City of Vaudreuil-Dorion has committed to installing official posters in its various buildings and on its territory.