



TUMBLER RIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT

April 27th, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RESIDENTIAL GRASS FIRE IN TUMBLER RIDGE

At approximately 2:50pm on April 25th, 2021, the Tumbler Ridge Fire Department responded to a report of a grass fire in a residential area of the municipality. The approximate 750 sq. ft. brush and greenbelt area caught fire as a result of an ember jumping out of a fire pit while under supervision of a homeowner. The dry area surrounding the pit, resulted the grass fire being caused by the ember. Unfortunately, this secondary fire was not easily extinguished when the homeowner made attempts to do so. The quick actions of neighbours and other bystanders who called 911, formed a bucket brigade, and ran garden hoses to help extinguish the fire prior to the fire department's arrival, greatly reduced the severity of the fire and the area that burnt. I would like to formally thank these individuals for rendering their assistance in such a selfless way. I have no doubt, that because of your quick thinking, a greater tragedy was avoided. Each one of you embodied what the community spirit of Tumbler Ridge truly is about.

As we come into spring and summer, the risk for outdoor recreational fires and other opening burning activities will increase as dryer temperatures and less precipitation are expected in our area. Already, we are seeing dryer than normal conditions in many of our backcountry and forested areas due to the decrease in last winter's snow pack. Residents are reminded that outdoor recreational fires must be conducted in an approved fire pit and that all other open burning activities such as burning off a lawn (grass) or larger piles of yard waste, must be conducted under a permit issued by the Fire Department.

More information about outdoor recreational fires and open burning activities within the municipality can be found [here](#) or on the District's website.

To obtain a municipal open burning permit, please call 250-242-3939 to schedule an appointment.

Media Contact:

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