PURPOSE: The use of alcohol, prescription drugs, drug combinations or illicit drugs may impair judgement and effect decision making, which could jeopardize the safety of the public and department personnel.

SCOPE: All fire department members.

POLICY:

No Fire Department member shall report for duty (career) or respond to a page (volunteer) while impaired by alcohol or drugs. A member who is impaired shall be considered “unfit for duty”.

It is the duty of a fire department member who is “unfit for duty” to report to the B/Chief by phone. If this will not be done by the member, it is the duty of any other member to make this report to the B/Chief.

Care must be taken to ensure the safe transport of an impaired Department member to their home. Under no circumstances will members allow an impaired member to drive home or to operate machinery.

No Fire Department personnel shall consume alcohol or drugs while on duty (career) or while on an active response list (volunteer).

A history of impairment may indicate a deeper health problem. Involvement of the Members Assistance Program is a proactive measure toward recovery.

Failure for a member to comply with prescribed treatments for their illness may result in disciplinary action.

Reference: Criminal Code of Canada
B.C. Motor Vehicle Act
B.C. Liquor Control Act
Members Assistance Program

This O.G. Replaces OG. 5.01.01
Issued: August 14, 1995