

## **News Release**

For immediate release

## Harrison Fire Department Fire Engine Unveiling

December 13, 2022

Harrison Hot Springs, BC – The Village of Harrison Hot Springs has made a significant investment to increase fire protection and suppression capabilities and ensure compliance with municipal insurance requirements. The project to design and build a new fire truck started two years ago but the 2022 Spartan Metro Star Pumper Truck is finally enroute to the community. The new pumper truck was custom designed by Fort Garry Fire Trucks to replace a 1992 Volvo Engine. The new engine is equipped with several enhancements over the model it is retiring including a rear mount pump system, a water monitor for high volume, longer distance water applications, improved maneuverability, ergonomic hose deployment, large equipment storage, and reduced emissions from battery-operated hand tools. The cost of the truck was approximately \$677,000 and it will serve the Village for an estimated 20 years.

"I would like to thank the Harrison Hot Springs Fire Department members, Village staff, Mayor and Council, FireWise Consulting and Fort Garry Fire Trucks for their professionalism throughout the design and build process. A thank you also, to Chief Gerald Basten from the Agassiz Fire Department for his input. The new rear mount pumper truck offers significant advantages in terms of enhanced fire suppression equipment and will be a firefighting asset in our community for years to come", said Fire Chief, Trevor Todd.

To unveil the new fire engine, Mayor and Council and the Fire Chief extend an invitation to the community to attend a Push-In Ceremony which will take place on Monday, December 19 at 4:00 PM at the Fire Hall, 555 Hot Springs Road.

Push-In Ceremony's are a tradition dating back to the late 1800's when fire departments used hand-drawn pumpers and horse-drawn equipment. Upon returning to the station after a fire call, the horses could not easily back the equipment into the station. The firefighters work as a team to push the engine into the bay by hand.

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