

## City of Maple Ridge News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 10, 2018 #18-67

For further information, contact: Howard Exner, Fire Chief at 604-463-5880 <u>hexner@mapleridge.ca</u>

## Fire Department Investigating Fire at St. Anne Camp

Maple Ridge, BC: On December 9, 2018 at 7:13 pm, the Maple Ride Fire Department responded to a report of a tent on fire located near the corner of 223 Street and St. Anne Ave. The crews arrived within five minutes of receiving the 911 call. A lone tent in the south end of the encampment was on fire and crews extinguished it from outside the fence line. The tent was completely destroyed by fire. Crews attempted to ascertain if anyone was in the tent or if anyone was hurt in the fire but were unable to locate anyone. Information received by the crew was that this was an unoccupied tent.

The Fire Department is conducting a fire cause and origin investigation. The investigation commenced shortly after the fire was extinguished and is still in progress today. No eyewitnesses concerning the start of the fire were located at the encampment.

This is the fifth fire located in the encampment and all are still under investigation. At this time the cause of all of the fires is still undetermined. In these earlier cases, no evidence was found to indicate that people from outside of the camp started the fires.

The Maple Ridge Fire Department is asking anyone that has dash camera or video camera footage of the fire to contact the department at 604 463-5880.