Sheralee Mitchell-MacEwan

From: Nova Scotia Department of Emergency Management (NSDEM) <noreply@everbridge.net>
Sent: October 5, 2026 9:00 AM
To: EMO
Subject: Fire Prevention Week 2026: A Shared Responsibility

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Dear partners,

As we mark Fire Prevention Week 2026, I want to recognize and thank the many organizations, communities, and individuals who work every day to help keep Nova Scotians safe.

Fire prevention is one of the most effective ways we can protect lives, homes, businesses, and communities. It is a responsibility we all share, and it depends on strong partnerships between emergency management organizations, municipalities, first responders, community groups, and residents across our province.

I would also like to acknowledge the outstanding work of the Office of the Fire Marshal and the dedicated firefighters serving communities throughout Nova Scotia. Whether they are career, volunteer, or composite firefighters, they play a critical role in preventing fires, responding to emergencies, educating the public, and supporting community resilience. Their commitment and service make a meaningful difference in the lives of Nova Scotians every day.

During Fire Prevention Week, I encourage everyone to take a few moments to review fire safety measures at home. Simple actions, such as testing smoke alarms, creating and practicing a home fire escape plan, and ensuring everyone knows two ways out of every room, can save lives.

As technology evolves, we must also remain aware of emerging fire risks. Lithium-ion batteries now power many of the devices we rely on every day, including phones, laptops, power tools, e-bikes, and portable chargers. While these batteries are generally safe when used properly, incorrect charging practices or damaged batteries can pose a serious fire risk.

Nova Scotians can reduce these risks by:

· Using manufacturer-approved chargers and batteries.

· Charging devices on hard, non-flammable surfaces.

· Avoiding charging devices on beds, couches, or near combustible materials.

· Replacing batteries that are damaged, swollen, or overheating.

· Following proper recycling and disposal practices.

The work of prevention is never done, and the partnerships that support public safety have never been more important. Thank you for your continued leadership, collaboration, and commitment to building safer, stronger, and more resilient communities across Nova Scotia.

Together, we can help prevent fires before they start and ensure Nova Scotians have the knowledge and tools they need to stay safe.

Sincerely,

Kim Masland Minister of Emergency Management

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