



FOR RELEASE

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Camp Ember: Blazing a trail for women interested in Yukon's fire service

WHITEHORSE—Camp Ember, Yukon's first ever female-only firefighting academy, will educate and inspire women to serve their communities through the fire service. This initiative was jointly announced today by Community Services Minister Brad Cathers and the minister responsible for the Women's Directorate Elaine Taylor.

"In Yukon, women already represent 23 per cent of our volunteer fire service, a significant portion," Cathers said. "This is far higher, for example, than the national average of female career firefighters, which is 3.5 per cent. The Yukon Fire Marshal's Office (FMO) is leading this initiative to inspire the next generation of female firefighters."

Camp Ember will teach basic firefighting skills including the use of self-contained breathing apparatus, pump and ladder operations, vehicle extrication and technical rescue. It will familiarize participants with the fitness requirements for firefighters as well as provide First Aid and CPR certifications. The camp, available to women aged 16 to 25, will be held in Whitehorse August 11 to 15. Registration is free; the application deadline is July 31.

"This partnership builds on our government's commitment to strengthen Yukon's fire service by attracting and retaining men and women interested in the science and service of fire management," Taylor said. "Camp Ember is a unique opportunity for women in our territory to develop important skills in fire management that will positively contribute to our communities."

Chief of Camp will be Lieutenant Carla Penman, a North Vancouver District firefighter. In 2011 Penman cofounded Camp Ignite, a fire academy for young women in Vancouver. Her teaching team includes Yukon's first female career firefighter, Kiara Adams of the Whitehorse Fire Department.

Learn more: [Camp Ember](#)

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