



June 15, 2020

To residents of New Westminister:

Outdoor gas appliances including fire pits, portable heaters and decorative fire tables, have gained popularity in our community due to their ease of use, affordability and the fact that they are readily available at local suppliers. New Westminister Fire & Rescue Services regularly receive resident inquiries as to their use in backyards, patios and balconies as homeowners look to install personal features that provide warmth and atmosphere to their outdoor living spaces.

In response to growing resident inquiries for these appliances, New Westminister Fire & Rescue Service has reviewed the current regulations, conducted a survey of surrounding municipalities, and reviewed burning complaints in New Westminister to assess if changes were warranted.

Given the ease of accessibility, the desire of residents to use clean fuel outdoor appliances and the fact that there is no data supporting an increase in fire damage due to these appliances, to be consistent with other local jurisdictions New Westminister Fire & Rescue Services will allow the use of these devices provided that the following criteria is met:

Fire pits, portable heaters and decorative fire tables are permitted provided that all of the following conditions are met:

- a. The appliance is fueled by natural gas or propane.
- b. CSA/ULC approved.
- c. Used in accordance with listed manufacturer's instructions.
- d. In the absence of listed manufacture clearances, a minimum of 3 metres from combustibles shall be used.

e. Used on private property only.

In the case of Strata property, it is the responsibility of each individual to confirm Strata rules and regulations approve the use of these devices prior to use.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Armstrong', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Tim Armstrong
Fire Chief