huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

FIREWOOD POLICY

Approved by Executive Council
on July 25, 2024 by Resolution #240725-10

FIREWOOD POLICY

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Application

1 This policy applies to all Firewood Recipients and to the staff and departments of the Huu-ay-aht government that have a role in the Firewood Program.

Purpose and objective

2 (1) The objective of the Firewood program is to ensure that the homes of Firewood Recipients are adequately heated by providing Firewood Recipients with appropriate amounts of suitable Firewood in a timely fashion and at no charge.

(2) The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Firewood program is administered and delivered in a manner that is fair and efficient and that all parties are treated with respect.

Definitions

3 In this policy:

"**Director**" means the Director of Capital and Infrastructure;

"**Eligible Citizen**" means a Huu-ay-aht citizen who is eligible to receive Firewood under section 4;

"**Firewood**" refers to wood of appropriate size (up to 18" long) for home heating as well as kindling;

"**Firewood Recipient**" means a Huu-ay-aht Elder or Eligible Citizen who receives Firewood through the Firewood program;

"**Housing Authority**" means the entity designated at the housing authority under the *Housing Authority Act*, HFNA/2023.

"**Huu-ay-aht Elder**" means a Huu-ay-aht Citizen over the age of 60;

"**Treaty Lands**" has the same meaning as in the *Land Act*, HFNA 9/2011;

"**Infrastructure Department**" means the Huu-ay-aht Department of Infrastructure and Capital Projects.

Eligibility

4 (1) The following individuals are eligible to receive Firewood under this policy:

(a) Huu-ay-aht Elders living on Treaty Lands;

(b) Huu-ay-aht Citizens living on Treaty Lands who have been determined by the Child and Family Wellness Department to be in need of government support services.

(2) The Community Services Department will promptly notify the Infrastructure Department of:

(a) Huu-ay-aht Elders who are newly eligible to receive Firewood; and

(b) a situation where a Huu-ay-aht Elder is no longer living in their home on Treaty Lands.

(3) The Child and Family Wellness Department will promptly notify the Infrastructure Department of:

(a) Eligible Citizens who are newly eligible to receive Firewood in relation to services provided by the Child and Family Wellness Department; and

(b) Firewood Recipients who are no longer eligible to receive Firewood in relation to services provided by the Child and Family Wellness Department.

Roles and responsibilities

5 (1) The Infrastructure Department will:

(a) maintain a list of all Firewood Recipients;

(b) collect and store Firewood starting in Spring of each year;

(c) determine, in its sole discretion, what species of Firewood will be provided under this policy;

(d) deliver Firewood to Firewood Recipients starting in August of each year and then throughout the Fall and Winter seasons;

(e) make best efforts to ensure Firewood is as dry as reasonably possible when it is provided to Firewood Recipients;

(f) communicate when Firewood delivery will occur via phone, email, or notice to Firewood Recipients;

(g) to the best of its ability, monitor stock availability in the homes of Firewood Recipients;

(h) make best efforts to ensure that a sufficient stock of Firewood is maintained at the home of each Firewood Recipient;

(i) where needed, maintain chimneys of the Firewood Recipients living in houses that are subject to residential leases;

(j) immediately provide notice to the Housing Authority when it becomes aware of any issues with a chimney or fireplace of a Firewood Recipient living in rental housing administered by the Housing Authority;

(k) keep records of the Firewood it distributes.

(2) Firewood Recipients will:

(a) ensure that the Firewood at their homes is kept dry;

(b) inform the Infrastructure Department promptly when they are running low on Firewood;

(c) inform the Infrastructure Department immediately of any chimney or fireplace issues;

(d) in instances where the Infrastructure Department does not have the capacity to do so, work with their families to ensure the Firewood being delivered can be appropriately stored at their homes;

(e) not use Firewood received under this policy for any purpose other than heating their own homes.

Inquiries and complaints

6 (1) Inquiries regarding this policy or the provision of Firewood should be directed to the Director.

(2) If there is dissatisfaction with services or Firewood provided under this policy, the Firewood Recipient should first bring their concern to the attention of the Director, who will attempt to address the issue.

(3) If the Director is unable to resolve a concern to the satisfaction of the Firewood Recipient who has raised it, that person may seek to have their complaint addressed by the Executive Director in accordance with the *Public Complaints Policy*.

(4) All parties are to uphold the Huu-ay-aht guiding principles in the implementation of this policy.

(5) Verbal harassment by an party will not be tolerated.

Effective date

7 This Policy is effective on the date of its approval by Executive Council.