

1350-0a

**From:** ( )  
**Sent:** August 31, 2009 9:30 PM  
**To:** MayorandCouncil  
**Subject:** Staffing of West Vancouver fire trucks

(47)

As a member of the West Vancouver community, a taxpayer and a health care provider I would like to express my concern over the recent trend in short staffing the fire trucks in the west vancouver fire department. As a taxpayer in West Vancouver I have expectations of what my money provides for this community: clean drinking water, a sanitary system, and proper protection, both police and fire. I don't think it is an unreasonable expectation to assume that our fire department is staffed according to provincial guidelines. As a health care provider I am well acquainted with the effects of running staffing levels below baseline census. The end result is always either a real or potential risk to the people that are requiring these services.

This leads me to only one question. If the time comes when the person or people that are responsible for these cutbacks are ever in need of these emergency services, will it be acceptable for there to be a delay in response? What if it is only four minutes? Well, I do know that four minutes in an emergency, life or death situation can be the difference between survival and a very different outcome. If it were myself or my family, the answer would definitely be no. Taking a chance like this, with peoples lives, is never acceptable.

Sincerely,

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