



## Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department Member Profile



Name: **Al Harmer**

Home Municipality: **Anmore**

Work Background: **Telecom (Retired)**

Years as SVFD Member: **5 years**



### **Why I joined the SVFD:**

I joined for various reasons including keeping fit and getting involved in some exciting and memorable things, but really it is more about giving back to the community and trying to be there for people in need.

### **What the SVFD means to me:**

The SVFD is an ideal outlet for a person who has any time to give. In my case, being retired allows me to volunteer a fair bit of my time, but each member brings something to the table regardless of their work and family commitments. It's a great place for comradery and gives immense satisfaction to give a positive helping-hand to the public when they need it.

### **A memorable moment as a volunteer:**

Many events and happenings stand out, some less routine than others. I guess the Hamber Island fire in Belcarra last year left a big impression on me. When we arrived on scene in the RTV for that fire, it almost felt like we were entering a war zone. In that wildfire interface event, we approached it with intention of protecting people and structures. With the weather conditions, spreading embers, and difficult island topography, we had to knock it down by bringing to bare all of our training skills and such. Much credit in beating down the fire though goes to the team effort, the waves of relieving shifts, the superb training we get as volunteers, the direction of the chiefs that day, and the great community support. It makes you really proud to be part of something like that.