



COMMUNITY CHAMPION TRAINING WORKSHOP

(A Component of the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program)

WORKSHOP BACKGROUND / SYLLABUS AND AGENDA

(Date / Town / and facility name and address TBA here)

CONTACT INFORMATION: *(Note: Sample content only; details will change for each workshop.)*

Workshop Sponsor:.....Smithtown Homeowners Association

Workshop Presenter:.....Ranger Rick, Fire Protection Officer, Manitoba Natural Resources (MNR)
(Smithtown Local FireSmart Representative)

For Workshop Enquiries:.....Contact Ranger Rick, Fire Protection Officer, MNR - (222) 222-2222

For FCCR Program Enquiries:Contact Kelly O’Shea, Partners in Protection - (780) 435-7338

TARGET AUDIENCE:

Neighbourhood leaders that wish to implement the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program (FCCRP) in their neighbourhood or community by serving in the role of Community Champions (FCC’s) are the primary target audience. These individuals are:

- Resident advocates for wildfire safety in their wildfire prone community /neighbourhood;
- Interested in initiating the formal process of attaining and maintaining FireSmart Community recognition status by participating in the FCCRP;
- Willing to work with the FCCRP information and procedural templates to gather and motivate their neighbours to work with local fire agency staff to make their homes and communities less vulnerable to wildfire.

WORKSHOP PURPOSE:

This workshop has been developed to prepare Community Champions - neighbourhood leaders - to commence the formal process of attaining FireSmart Community recognition status. This status is conferred by FireSmart Canada to neighbourhoods, subdivisions and small communities that plan and implement effective actions to prevent wildfire disaster.

The training provided in this half day workshop will equip you – the Community Champion - with the information and tools required to gather and motivate your neighbours to work with local fire agency staff to make their homes and communities less vulnerable to wildfire.



GENERAL BACKGROUND:

This workshop has been developed by the Partners in Protection Association - an association of municipal, provincial/territorial and federal agencies, organizations and individuals dedicated to reducing the risk of wildfire losses in Canada's wildland/urban interface areas.

In 1996 Partners in Protection published a comprehensive manual - *FireSmart: Protecting Your Community from Wildfire* and has been on the leading edge of interface fire protection in Canada ever since. The FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program is the second major component of the FireSmart Canada Initiative being promoted by the Association, and has been developed for presentation across Canada.

The FCCRP is “grassroots”, and especially effective in areas of the wildland/urban interface that are beyond the scope of traditional public land wildfire hazard mitigation programs. Community Champions are the critical link between the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program and the implementation of FireSmart activities ‘on the ground’ in wildfire prone areas.

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES:

The FCCRP – Community Champion workshop will:

- Provide coverage of topics including wildfire hazard recognition, simple FireSmart solutions, how to develop an action plan and where to find support for implementing it; how to network with fire professionals and other concerned residents and, how the basic process used by the FireSmart Communities Program reduces the risk of wildfire losses in participating communities.
- Provide an overview of the step-by-step procedures used to implement the FCCRP in your neighbourhood.
- Prepare you to fulfill all Community Champion duties in support of the FCCRP in your community.
- Provide you with the tools required to inform, motivate and organize your neighbours to take collective actions that reduce the potential for wildfire losses.

ORGANIZATION:

The workshop requires one half day with sessions scheduled from approximately 0830 to 1230. The workshop consists of a series of interactive classroom presentations and exercises that cover basic WUI background information and the 8-step FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program.

JOINING INSTRUCTIONS:

All required workshop information will be summarized in the ‘Community Champion Information Handout’. The handout is circulated to attendees by the workshop presenter – the Local FireSmart Representative.

WORKSHOP MATERIALS:

Upon arrival at the workshop participants will receive a complete binder package with printed copies of all workshop documents, brochures, handouts and the FCCRP User Reference Guide.

WORKSHOP SYLLABUS:

The Workshop Syllabus features 5 Workshop Modules each with a specific set of Learning Objectives.



COMMUNITY CHAMPION TRAINING WORKSHOP	
Workshop Modules (WM) and Learning Objectives (LO)	
Welcome and Introductions:	
Introduction of Local FireSmart Representative; Workshop housekeeping and safety rules.	
WM 1: Workshop Introduction – WUI Issues	
LO 1-1 Explain the major issues contributing to WUI fire losses in Canada.	
LO 1-2 Explain some of the key realities and myths about wildfire in the WUI.	
LO 1-3 Describe the WUI disaster cycle and lessons learned from wildfire disasters.	
LO 1-4 Understand the mechanisms of structural ignition.	
Exercise #1-2: Video - 20 minutes Exercise #1-2: Video - 10 minutes – Total 30 minutes	
WM 2: WUI Hazard Assessment and FireSmart Solutions	
LO 2-1 Describe the importance of the home and Priority Zones 1, 2, 3 in breaking the WUI disaster cycle.	
LO 2-2 Describe the basic approach for assessing wildfire hazards in the Ignition Zone.	
LO 2-3 Explain hazards associated with home ignition in the WUI.	
LO 2-4 Describe FireSmart solutions relevant to vegetation, structural and infrastructural modifications.	
Exercise #2-1: Discussion - 10 minutes Exercise #2-2: Pop Quiz – 10 minutes – Total 20 minutes	
WM 3: Overview of the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program	
LO 3-1 Identify situations and locations where the FCCR Program can be applied.	
LO 3-2 Describe the 8-step FCCR Program.	
LO 3-3 Understand the roles of the <i>FireSmart Community Champion, FireSmart Board, Local FireSmart Representative</i> and the site visit.	
LO 3-4 Describe the purpose and content of the <i>FireSmart Community Assessment Report</i> and the <i>FireSmart Plan</i> .	
WM 4: Implementing Solutions and Applying for Recognition	
LO 4-1 Describe potential <i>FireSmart Events</i> and activities.	
LO 4-2 Outline the 5 criteria for achieving <i>FireSmart Community Recognition Status</i> .	
LO 4-3 Describe the <i>FCCRP Application</i> process and the <i>Community Champion</i> role in that process.	
LO 4-4 Describe the benefits of achieving <i>FireSmart Community Recognition Status</i> .	
Exercise #4-1: Pop Quiz #2 – 10 minutes – Total 10 minutes	
WM 5: CC Workshop Review and Wrap-up	
LO 5-1 Provide a summary overview of workshop achievements.	
LO 5-2 Discuss your plans for implementing the FCCRP in your own jurisdiction.	
LO 5-3 Understand where to look for support, further information, and advice.	



CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION:

Participants who complete the half-day Community Champion workshop will be issued a *Community Champion* certificate by Partners in Protection and their Local FireSmart Representative. Community Champions are invited and encouraged to engage with Partners in Protection through their Local FireSmart Representative to commence implementation of the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program within their neighbourhood or community.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Partners in Protection gratefully acknowledges the assistance of Alberta Municipal Affairs - Alberta Emergency Management Association for support in the development of this workshop and instructional materials.

COMMUNITY CHAMPION WORKSHOP - SUGGESTED AGENDA

Sponsored by: *[agency or organization name]*

Location: *[place and date]*

HALF DAY WORKSHOP

Welcome and Introductions	0830 - 0845
WM 1: Workshop Introduction – WUI Issues (w 2 video exercises - 35 min.)	0845 – 1000
Coffee	1000 – 1015
WM 2: WUI Hazard Assessment and FireSmart Solutions (w discussion exercises - 25 min.)	1015 - 1115
WM 3: Overview of the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program	1115 – 1145
WM 4: Implementing Solutions & Applying for Recognition (w discussion exercise - 15 min.).....	1145 – 1215
WM 5: CC Workshop Review and Wrap-up.....	1215 – 1230
Lunch	1230 - 1330