

February 14, 2019

Sadowne Elementary student 2019 Fire Chief for a Day

Addison Berrevoets got a special field trip earlier this month, when she spent the day with firefighters instead of attending school.

Addison, a Grade 3 student at Sadowne Elementary, was randomly selected to be Fire Chief for a Day on Tuesday, Feb. 5 in Campbell River.

“The Fire Chief for a Day program is part of the fire department’s prevention program, and an effective way to connect with community members to raise awareness through educating young children,” says fire chief Thomas Doherty, who helped Addison through several leadership duties that day. *“It’s also a great opportunity for children to get a firsthand look at daily operations in the fire department and to work side by side with our firefighters.”*

During Addison’s time as Fire Chief for a Day, she met the firefighters on duty, had a tour of the fire station, inspected fire truck safety equipment, rode in the fire truck and participated in training, including going up in the 101-foot tower on the City’s largest fire truck. In addition to working alongside the firefighters, she also spent time touring and learning about the fire dispatch centre located in the No. 1 Fire Station downtown.

Once her work was done at the fire station, Chief for a Day Berrevoets had lunch at McDonald’s with Mayor Andy Adams and some members of the fire department before heading back to school at the end of the day.

“Instead of holding the Fire Chief for a Day event in October during Fire Prevention Week, we opted to do this in February, to spread out awareness,” Doherty adds. *“In Campbell River, we are putting more emphasis on fire prevention and public fire and life safety throughout the year and across the city. We’re hoping that will help drive home the message that, for all of us, fire prevention is a 365-day-a-year initiative.”*

The fire department thanks Addison and the Berrevoets family for participating in Fire Chief for a Day and Mary and Jens Rolinski at McDonald’s for sponsoring the program.

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