



MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, February 26, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Barrie Fire wants you to *Push 2 Buttons* for fire safety

(Barrie, ON) Barrie Fire and Emergency Service (BFES), the Office of the Fire Marshal and TVOKids are teaming up to raise awareness about the importance of testing smoke and carbon monoxide alarms with the "Push 2 Buttons!" campaign. The campaign encourages everyone to test their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms between Monday, February 26 and Sunday, March 11, when the clocks spring forward.

"Based on results from our fire safety blitzes, we know that 76 per cent of Barrie homes are not properly protected by working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and we need to change that," said Barrie Fire Chief Cory Mainprize. "The 'Push 2 Buttons!' campaign is a fun way to involve kids in fire safety at home and remind everyone about the importance of regularly testing your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. We change our clocks each spring and fall and this is a good time to check the date of your alarms to ensure they aren't over 10 years old, test the power and change your alarm batteries if needed. Working alarms save lives, it's as simple as that."

Kids are encouraged to 'push the buttons' with their parents' help, to hear if the alarms are working. They can then go to the 'School Age' area at tvokids.com and enter the number of alarms they've tested into a web poll.

More than 138,000 alarms have been tested in Ontario since the "Push the Button!" campaign started in 2012. The campaign takes place for two weeks every spring and fall when the clocks change.

For more information on smoke and carbon monoxide alarm safety, visit www.barrie.ca/FireSafetyEquipment.

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