

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Working Smoke Alarm Saves Family and Their Home

(Barrie, ON) Barrie Fire & Emergency Service were called to a home on Henry Street early this morning. When they arrived they could see smoke visible and the occupants outside. BFES crews were able to identify that the fire was burning inside of the wall on the second floor with the use of thermal imaging cameras. The fire caused approximately \$50, 000 damage.

"A fire in the home can spread very quickly, damaging property, personal possessions and lives forever," says Chief John Lynn. "Working smoke alarms give you the early warning you and your family need to escape like it did this morning at Henry Street."

This family knew what to do when their smoke alarms rang. To ensure that everyone is safe from fire, Barrie Fire and Emergency Service is urging residents to:

- Test smoke alarms to make sure they are working;
- Install battery-operated smoke alarms, or electrically-connected alarms with a battery back-up;
- Replace all smoke alarms that are older than ten years; and,
- Develop and practice a home fire escape plan to ensure everyone knows what to do if a fire occurs

It's the law in Ontario to have working smoke alarms on every storey of the home and outside all sleeping areas. Failure to comply with the law can result in a ticket of \$235 or a fine of up to \$50,000 for individuals or \$100,000 for corporations.

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For more information contact:

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About Barrie – Barrie is an exciting, caring and progressive community that 135,000 people call home. Situated 90 km north of the Greater Toronto Area on beautiful Kempenfelt Bay, Barrie offers an excellent life style and multitude of recreational opportunities. We are committed to the growth of prosperity of Central Ontario's leading City and most dynamic waterfront community.