



FLAMES soar into the night from two townhouse units in Deep Cove as firefighters work to control the fire and save adjoining units **while** police and residents look on.

photo John Lawless

Cove fire leaves two dozen homeless

Benjamin Alldritt

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DOZENS of Deep Cove residents were forced out of their homes early Tuesday morning as a fire destroyed two units in their townhouse complex.

Mike Adams, District of North Vancouver assistant fire chief, said firefighters were called to the 2000-block of Deep Cove Crescent at 12:30 a.m. Tuesday.

"First arriving crews found heavy smoke and flame coming out of the building," said Adams, who was at the scene. "The fire was in the roof."

District crews worked quickly to evacuate the complex and contain the flames within the two homes already ablaze. Four trucks and 15 firefighters responded

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School closures won't control H1N1

Kerry Blackadar

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Classroom vaccinations possible
— if enough nurses can be found

UNLESS an outbreak of the H1N1 flu virus

week, adding that the classroom "offers a good environment to offer the pandemic vaccine."

John Lewis, North Vancouver School District superintendent

DNV publ smo

Council di patio smo

Sarah Ripplinger

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SMOKING in p
spaces could so
be prohibited u
a District of No
Vancouver-wide

The propose
mandates that a
gathering places —
restaurant patios,
municipal parks and
facilities — be
smoke-free zones.

District council
the issue Monday,
councillors opposi
on smoking on dist

"I am concerned
in these hard tim
doing anything tha
to be harmful to
said Coun. Doug
Dunn.

Coun. Alan
labelled the prop
an "excessive intr
public affairs," st
restricting smoking
would only lead
people smoking in
and more litter from
butts and packaging

On the North
District of West Van
already banned sm
patios and the City
Vancouver is c
similar legislation.

"We would
the district to tak
and leave us alo
respect," Dave Cro
of Seymour's Pub,
address to council.

Kelly Nielson,
of Mosquito Cree
Grill in the City
Vancouver, said th
bylaw couldn't c
worse time for his

"If there's no s
patios, for nine
the year (when the
unfavourable), the
anyone on patios,
part of our business.

"We're in rea
times here, and I
you, please, don't
away from us."

The proposed
stems from recom



NEWS photo Paul McGrath

Ferry-tale ending

TUGS position one of the PacificCat Fast Ferries between bow (left) and stern of the cargo ship Swift in the calm waters of Indian Arm in preparation for transport to Abu Dhabi. The Swift acts like a floating drydock taking on water to lower its hull and then pumping water out to lift its cargo out of the ocean.

Speedy evacuation action taken

From page 1

to the fire, which was under control in about an hour, Adams said. The damage was limited to four homes: the two townhouses firefighters discovered burning and the adjacent units on either side, which both sustained smoke and water damage.

A crew was left at the complex overnight to watch for further flare-ups and RCMP officers also remained to keep the building secure.

North Shore Emergency Management Office staff offered emergency shelter

to approximately two-dozen displaced residents.

Remarkably, nobody was injured in the fire.

"That was very fortunate," Adams said. "A lot of credit goes to the neighbours for acting quickly and the first crew for taking such quick action on the evacuation."

The fire is under investigation by the RCMP, but Adams said at this point there is no indication of suspicious activity. He expects the majority of the townhouse residents will be allowed back into their homes later this week.



NEWS photo Kevin Hill

POLICE tape prohibits access to fire-gutted townhome units in the 2000-block of Deep Cove Crescent Tuesday.

Good hand hygiene key for staff, students

From page 1

health officer.

Dr. James Lu, Vancouver Coastal Health's medical health officer for Richmond, is currently covering for Dr. Brian O'Connor, the medical health officer responsible for the North Shore, an area with more than 50 schools and close to 23,500 students.

Lu said he expects the number of cases to ramp up in the fall, but believes the H1N1 flu season "will not be too different from a very severe flu season."

regular flu. Carson Graham was not shut, but extra cleaning crews were brought in to wipe down common areas. At that time, O'Connor told CBC News that flu outbreaks are "more magnified in a school setting."

With the start of school just two weeks away, and children soon to be sharing crayons and teenagers swapping gum, "no official pandemic plan" has been worked out between local medical health officers and school superintendents yet, said Lu.

"The planning process will begin before school starts and extend into

days. Similar to the regular flu, individuals infected with the H1N1 virus are likely contagious as early as one day prior to showing symptoms.

But closing schools on the basis of this fear is impractical, said Lu. "Even if you close schools, the virus is circulating in the community."

For Lu, and other health officials, managing, not eradicating the H1N1 virus is the goal. "It's about looking at how we can keep schools working during the H1N1 pandemic."

There have been a total of 676 lab-