



# Peterborough Fire Department

## Media Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March, 4, 2008  
Peterborough, ON –

### **Change Your Clock – Change Your Smoke Alarm Batteries**

With the shocking rash of fatal fires that have occurred in Ontario this winter, I am appealing to every resident of Peterborough to drop what they're doing this weekend, as we change our clocks forward for Spring, to change the battery in and test every smoke alarm in their home

If you don't have a working smoke alarm on every storey and outside all sleeping areas, put your coat on, go out, buy several and install them as soon as you get home. If ever there was a time to take immediate action for the safety of your family, it is NOW.

Tragedies such as these are the reason the Peterborough Fire Department takes smoke alarms so seriously and I cannot overstate their importance.

The law requires one on every storey and outside all sleeping areas, but that is just the minimum. The more smoke alarms you have, the sooner you are alerted to fire and the greater your chances of surviving.

For added protection, install smoke alarms inside every bedroom. You may also want to consider investing in inter-connected smoke alarms. This may seem a bit extreme, but believe me, if a fire were to occur in your home in the middle of the night and you had no way to reach your children through the wall of smoke and fire, no number of smoke alarms would seem too many.

Don't forget to take a few minutes to plan and practice a home fire escape plan with your family. When the smoke alarm sounds, everyone must know what to do.

It is so sad that it takes the senseless deaths of children to make people take notice, but you're listening now. So please, don't just think about it DO IT. Every storey. Outside sleeping every area. Practice your escape plan. It's such a small cost and effort for a huge investment in your family's safety.

Fire Chief,  
Lee Grant  
Peterborough Fire Department

For further information please contact the undersigned:  
Maureen Crowley                      or      Greg Simmons  
Public Educator                                      Fire Prevention Captain

**Peterborough Fire Department**

210 Sherbrooke Street  
Peterborough, ON  
K9J 2N3  
1-705-745-3284  
[mcrowley@peterborough.ca](mailto:mcrowley@peterborough.ca)