



Peterborough Fire Services

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Peterborough, ON --

Peterborough Fire Services warns residents to follow manufacturer's instructions for single burner camp stove

Following an incident in a Greater Toronto Area apartment unit where two occupants were injured, Peterborough Fire Services is urging residents to follow the manufacturer's instructions for the single burner camp stove called the "Cassette Cooker."

Residents are urged to read the warning labels and instructions regarding the appliance and to turn over the drip pan, prior to using the cooker, so the supports for the pot or pan are facing up. Although the cooker has a "safety device" intended to prevent the installation of a butane canister when the drip pan is face down, this device can be easily circumvented.

Peterborough Fire Services is concerned that when the butane canister is improperly installed and the drip pan is face down, the pot or pan can block the burner opening, forcing the hot gases down into the appliance enclosure. Some of these gases pass through bulkhead openings into the fuel compartment causing pressure to build and the temperature to increase in the butane canister. These events occurred in the incident above and resulted in a fireball, injuring the occupants.

"To prevent injury, always follow the manufacturer's instructions," said Fire Chief Trent Gervais.

The Cassette Cooker is currently being sold in large retail stores and smaller supermarkets for as little as \$11.99 (+ tax). These camp stoves are certified by CSA Standards **for outdoor use only** and approved for indoor restaurant use under CSA Technical Information Letter.

This information is also available on the City of Peterborough website at www.peterborough.ca.

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