Media Release

For Immediate Release:

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It's time to change your clocks and batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide alarms

Tay, Ontario: Clocks will spring forward one hour at 2 a.m. on March 10 and Tay Fire and Emergency Services is recommending residents install new batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms when they change their clocks.

"In order for smoke and carbon monoxide alarms to do their job, they need to have working batteries," explained Fire Chief Brian Thomas. "Once a year, old batteries should be replaced with new batteries. When you change your clocks on March 10, Tay Fire and Emergency Services wants everyone to take the time to install new batteries in all alarms."

In order to survive a fire, you need to be provided with an early warning and know what to do when the smoke alarms sound. Working smoke alarms are required on every storey of the home and outside all sleeping areas. For added protection, it is recommended to also install smoke alarms inside all bedrooms.

Carbon monoxide alarms must be installed outside all sleeping areas if your home has a fuel-burning appliance, fireplace or attached garage.

Tampering with or removing the batteries from your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms is against the law. Failure to comply with the Fire Code can result in a ticket for $360 or a fine of up to $50,000.

Tay Fire and Emergency Services is committed to protecting the life and property of Tay residents. Fire Chief Brian Thomas, Deputy Fire Chief Shawn Aymer, and 66 dedicated volunteer firefighters operate from four fire stations. The fire department responds to an average of 270 calls per year and serves 10,000 residents in a 139-square kilometer area.

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