



**Hastings Highlands Fire Department  
33011 Hwy 62 North, P.O. Box 130  
Maynooth, ON K0L 2S0**

**News Release  
September 28, 2020  
For Immediate Release**

**Hastings Highlands, ON, Canada**

### **SERVE UP FIRE SAFETY IN THE KITCHEN- FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2020: OCTOBER 4-10**

With Fire Prevention Week just around the corner, the Hastings Highlands Fire Department is urging everyone in Hastings Highlands to take some simple steps to prevent kitchen fires in their home. This year's theme of Fire Prevention Week, which runs from October 4-10, is "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen! <sup>TM</sup>"

The theme is very timely as cooking fires continue to be the leading cause of home fires in Ontario. It focuses on the prevention of cooking fires and staying fire safe in the kitchen.

"Cooking happens in homes every day, and it has to be done responsibly to ensure it is done safely. It is your responsibility to protect yourself and your family from fire" explained Fire Prevention Officer Dwayne Meharrie "Always remain alert and stay in the kitchen while cooking."

Some simple steps to serve up fire safety in the kitchen include:

- Always stay in the kitchen when cooking and turn off the stove if you must leave the kitchen.
- Keep a proper fitting lid near the stove. If a pot of oil catches fire, slide the lid over the pot and turn off the stove. Do not move the pot. Never throw water on a burning pot.
- Keep anything that burns - plastic utensils, dishcloths, paper towels - a safe distance from the stove.
- Cook responsibly. To prevent cooking fires, you must be alert. You will not be alert if you have consumed alcohol or drugs.
- Wear tight-fitting or rolled up sleeves when using the stove. Loose, dangling clothing can easily catch fire.
- Keep young kids one metre away from the stove. Turn pot handles away from the stove's edge so they cannot be easily knocked off.
- If you burn yourself while cooking, run cool water over the wound for three to five minutes. If the burn is severe, seek medical attention.

The Hastings Highlands Fire Department encourages you to do your part in making your home a fire safe one for you and your family.