

## **Fire Prevention Week – October 8<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

### **Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!**

The Bradford West Gwillimbury Fire & Emergency Services (BWGFES) will be participating in the first annual Pumpkin Fest on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> to raise awareness for this year's Fire Prevention Week theme "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out". Please join us at Pumpkin Fest during the opening of Henderson Memorial Park located at 3171 9<sup>th</sup> Line from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Fire and Smoke move faster than you. There is no time to figure out how to escape your home after a fire starts. Practice an escape plan before there's a fire so you can get out safely. The BWGFES encourages families to practice their home escape plan as part of Fire Prevention Week.

Being prepared in advance is as simple as following these steps:

- **Assess the needs of everyone in your home:** Identify anyone who requires assistance to get out of the home safely, such as small children or older adults.
- **Make sure you have working smoke alarms on every storey of the home and outside all sleeping areas:** Make sure everyone in the home knows the sound of the smoke alarm.
- **Identify possible exits (doors and windows) and make sure they work:** Know two ways out of all areas, if possible.
- **Everyone must know what to do when the smoke alarm sounds:** Assign someone to help those who need assistance. Identify a safe meeting place outside. Call the fire department from outside the home – from a neighbour's home or a cell phone.
- **Practice your home fire escape plan at least twice a year:** Have everyone participate. Make changes to your plan if necessary.