



VISITORS

Guess who's coming to town?

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ORCA

Whale carcass found in Trail Bay

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WILSON CREEK

Plug-in heater likely to blame for trailer fire

CHRISTINE WOOD
Senior Staff Writer

An early morning fire on Dec. 19 that completely destroyed a trailer at Creekside Campground and RV Park in Wilson Creek was likely caused by a portable space heater being placed too close to combustibles, according to Sechelt fire Chief Trevor Pike.

"We're still investigating it at this time, but basically we figure that was the probable cause," said Pike.

The Sechelt Fire Department was alerted to the blaze at about 12:40 a.m. on Dec. 19 and within 14 minutes they had 22 firefighters on scene.

The department also called Roberts Creek for mutual aid and the Roberts Creek Fire Department sent five members.

Pike said the firefighters were able to knock down the flames on the trailer in about 10 minutes, but the home wasn't salvageable.

He noted trailers and mobile homes burn very quickly due to their construction materials, so there was very little time to save the structure.

"The woman who lived there got out right away and within seven minutes the entire trailer was engulfed," Pike said, noting he was given the timeline from a resident who was on scene before the fire department arrived.

What the department was able to do was save the two neighbouring trailers.

"The neighbouring trailer to the east side had some slight damage and the trailer to the west side was completely saved," Pike said.

"So we were able to confine the majority of damage to the trailer of origin."

Coast Reporter was unable to contact the owner of the trailer that burned down, but nearby neighbour Jim Reeve said he believed the woman's family was looking after her over the holidays.

He said he tried to help battle the fire when he awoke to the flames outside his window but was



NUTCRACKER: The Jester doll (Diego Ramalho) brings the Ballerina Doll (Bronte Hansen) to life in a scene from The Nutcracker. See review on page 47.

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