

## **News Release**

March 19, 2014 City of Edmonton

## Cause of Surrey Garden fire ruled accidental

Edmonton Fire Rescue Services has completed its investigation into the cause of a March 12, 2014 fire at Surrey Gardens, a 24-unit condo complex on 180 Street and 69 Avenue

The fire began in a second-floor unit on the north side of the building. Edmonton Fire Rescue Services received multiple 911 calls shortly after 12:30 p.m., reporting smoke and flames coming from the building.

Fifty firefighters worked quickly to bring the fire under control and prevent it from spreading to neighbouring complexes. Twelve units sustained significant fire damage, resulting in \$3 million in combined contents and property loss.

After extensive investigation, the cause of the fire has been ruled accidental. The blaze began in the kitchen of the suite of origin, and was the result of a cooking pot left unattended on the stove.

Cooking is the leading cause of fires in homes. If you have a cooking fire in a pot or pan, slowly slide a lid over top to cover the fire and then turn off the source of heat. Always have a pot lid nearby. Never leave cooking unattended, or stove elements on when you are not in the room. If you have been cooking, remember to check your stove before you leave your home.

Call 911 immediately if you see or experience a fire.

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