

# E.K. Splits Fire, Police Department

The East Kildonan fire and police department, amalgamated in 1955, is in the process of becoming two separate units.

The city's secretary-treasurer, Les Hutcheon, told the Free Press Monday that forming two separate units has been contemplated for at least 12 months.

"Council has recognized that since the amalgamation of the police and fire departments the population of East Kildonan has nearly doubled. This influenced their decision to separate the departments in order to make more adequate protection available," said Mr. Hutcheon.

H. G. Williamson, former deputy police chief, will be fire chief. Ten additional men have joined the firefighters in East Kildonan and 14 men, most of them with specialized training, have been transferred from the police department to the fire department.

There have been 35 men in the police department and 24 in the fire department since the separation of the two departments began. When the departments were amalgamated there were 43 men who served as both policemen and firemen.

Division of the two units will be completed within a few days.

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