

## FOR INFORMATION READING

### “PREPARING FOR AN EVACUATION”

#### Memo From: ALIB Emergency Management Team

Adams Lake Indian Band acknowledges that emergencies and disasters may occur and the extraordinary arrangements and measures may have to be taken to ensure these priorities are met when faced with an emergency or disaster;

The Adams Lake Indian Band has established an Emergency Operations Team (EOC) to establish emergency management measures designed to prevent, prepare respond and recover from emergencies.

The Adams Lake Indian Band EOC Team shall follow the emergency management measures as laid out in the Adams Lake Indian Band Community Emergency Plan.

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During periods of extreme fire danger rating, people may be ordered to leave their residences on very short notice and travel to established Emergency Social Services (ESS) reception centres.

#### A. Evacuation

An evacuation is the action by which one or more persons leave the place they are occupying to avoid a real or potential threat to life or property. The process to enact an evacuation (partial, total, and selective) of any First Nation community is performed by a Band Council Resolution. The decision for a planned evacuation is made in stages, when time permits, with notice given initially as an evacuation *alert* and if required by an evacuation order. When the event is over and it is safe to return home, there will be an evacuation rescind.

#### Volunteer Evacuation Procedures

Volunteer evacuation occurs when a community member(s) make a choice to evacuate before the Community Governance, or INAC or EMBC issues an evacuation order. Volunteer evacuees are **not normally eligible** for Emergency Social Service (ESS) resources such as food, clothing and lodging. If an order is issued, volunteer evacuees are only eligible within the time frame that the order was issued, not from the original time the volunteer evacuation occurred and **must report to designated ESS facilities and register appropriately** - either one established on Community property, or to a “host community” out of order or alert area.

If the person(s) wish to evacuate because they require specialized medical or other forms of special care, ESS support may be available before an evacuation order is issued. The ALIB EOC must contact EMBC and request ESS support for at risk community members before ESS support is provided. EMCB will automatically convey the request to INAC.

At the ESS Reception Centres, evacuees can get short-term assistance with lodging, food and clothing if needed during an evacuation. Evacuees are also encouraged to check in at reception centres so friends and relatives making inquiries can be assured they are fine.

- B. When an event escalates to the point when an evacuation may be necessary, there are three stages to the process.

**“EVACUATION ALERT”** – People are prewarned of imminent threat to life and property, and are asked to be ready to leave on short notice. Be prepared for worsening conditions. On “ALERT”, you should be prepared for the evacuation order by:

- Locating all family members and designate a safe meeting place, should an evacuation be called
- Gathering essential items such as medication, eye glasses, valuable papers, immediate care needs for dependents and if you choose keepsakes, Have items ready for quick departure.
- Ensure you have vehicle fuel tanks filled or extra fuel available
- Prepare to move any disabled persons and/or children
- Moving pets and livestock to a safe area
- Arranging to transport your household/families in the event of evacuation order.
- Arranging accommodation for your family if possible. In the event of an evacuation, emergency shelters will be provided if required.
- Monitor news sources for information on locations of emergency shelters and evacuation orders.

**“EVACUATION ORDER”** – You must leave the area immediately.

- It is imperative that you report to the designated Evacuation Reception Centre.

**“EVACUATION RESCIND”** – you will be allowed to return to your home when the danger has passed.

## **IF YOU HAVE TO EVACUATE:**

- Take an emergency survival kit with you.
- Make sure you take prescription medicine and identification for the entire family.
- Listen to the radio and follow instructions from local emergency officials.
- If you are instructed to do so, shut off water, gas and electricity.
- Make arrangements for your pets. Local emergency officials will advise you.
- Wear clothes and shoes appropriate for the conditions.
- Lock your home.
- Follow the routes specified by emergency officials. Don’t take shortcuts. A shortcut could take you to a blocked or dangerous area.
- A staging area has been established at \_\_\_\_\_
- If you have time, leave a note telling others when you left and where you went. If you have a mailbox, you can leave the note there.
- If you have time turn off all outside water sprinklers so water is conserved for firefighting efforts.
- If you are evacuated, register with the local ESS emergency reception centre at the **ENTER ADDRESS HERE** so you can be contacted or reunited with your family and loved ones.

**Review “YOUR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE” 72 HOURS, IS YOUR FAMILY PREPARED.**