

Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON 3400 – 30 Street Vernon, BC V1T 5E6

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City of Vernon reopens ESS Reception Centre in response to expanded Evacuation Orders northwest of city limits

(as of 6:25 p.m.)

At 5:00 p.m. on August 15, BC Wildfire Service (BCWS) provided an update to municipalities, regional districts and First Nations impacted by the White Rock Lake fire, which has resulted in expanded Evacuation Orders and Alerts in portions of the region northwest of Vernon.

At the time of this media release, an **Evacuation Alert** remains in place for the following areas of Vernon:

- Canadian Lakeview Estates
- Adventure Bay
- Tronson Road between 8125 and 9280

There are no Evacuation Orders within the City of Vernon. The City continues to monitor the situation and is in close communication with BC Wildfire Service. If the situation changes within the City boundary, residents will be notified immediately.

In response to the change in evacuation notices for neighbouring communities, Vernon's ESS Reception Centre is reopening its doors to welcome evacuees who may need assistance with basic needs. The reception centre is located at the Dogwood Gym in the Vernon Recreation Centre at 3409 35th Avenue.

Evacuees are asked to register online at ess.gov.bc.ca and to only attend the reception centre if they require service referrals. It is strongly recommended that evacuees find accommodations with family or friends if possible, as commercial accommodations in the Okanagan are extremely limited.

For updates on Evacuation Orders and Alerts across the province, please visit <u>EMBC's emergency map</u>. Please note it will take some time for this map to be updated with the necessary changes.

For residents who live outside the City of Vernon and are looking for information, please visit your respective municipal, regional district or First Nation's website.