



## THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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### **Residents encouraged to remain patient amidst BC transportation disruptions**

Once again, we find ourselves facing a province-wide challenge that requires us to band together and manage a series of unknown circumstances.

Residents across BC are experiencing the impacts of heavy rain, flooding, and infrastructure damage in the southern part of the province. Thousands of people have been displaced from their homes or stranded while traveling. Many businesses are facing major supply chain disruptions due to multiple highway or railway closures.

This has not been easy. We understand many people are concerned. But we strongly encourage residents to remain patient, be kind, avoid the urge to panic buy groceries, and consider the needs of your neighbours while we weather this storm together.

Earlier today, the B.C. government declared a provincial state of emergency in response to the damage caused by severe flooding and landslides. This declaration helps advance the work required to mitigate impacts on transportation networks and maintain the movement of essential goods and supplies.

Additionally, businesses have been hard at work, adjusting their processes and working with suppliers and transportation companies to keep goods moving within the available means.

What we are experiencing right now is a supply disruption – not a disaster. We must avoid hoarding groceries and clearing shelves unnecessarily. Some things may not be as readily available as we're used to, but the disruption will be temporary. Let's be mindful of one another and share available resources.

This is a dynamic situation. Transportation routes are still available north, east, and south of Vernon. Assessments are underway to determine the scope of infrastructure damage to the west. In time, repairs will be made and transport routes will be restored. It will just take time.

Our thoughts are with all those who have been personally impacted by this extreme weather event. Our communities will get through this difficult season together and once again, we will show that BC is resilient.

Victor Cumming  
Mayor, City of Vernon