

Fort Nelson First Nation RR1 Mile 295 Alaska Highway Fort Nelson, BC VOC 1R0 T: 250.774.7257 F: 250.774.7260 fortnelsonfirstnation.org

## **EVACUATION ORDER**

## **IR#5 Snake River Reserve**

Date: September 2, 2023

An Evacuation Order has been issued by the Fort Nelson First Nation at the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC).

We wish to advise our members about the difference between an *Evacuation Alert* and an *Evacuation Order*:

- a. An *Evacuation Alert* is issued when the EOC makes a decision that there is a potential need for the planned evacuation of an area, due to individuals being at risk of potential need for evacuation. The alert highlights the nature of the danger, and that people should be prepared to evacuate the area on short notice. The evacuation alert may allow individuals at risk to begin an orderly preparation to voluntarily leave the affected area, within a specified time frame. However, the reality of the situation may require immediate action with very short notice.
- b. If required, an *Evacuation Order* may be issued after it is identified by means of a Council Resolution or Order developed by local authority EOC. Orders make it very clear to all Fort Nelson First Nation members that, while the evacuation order is in effect, the area in question may have controlled access and that a pass may be required to regain access to the area.

Due to the risk of wildfire the Fort Nelson First Nation is ordering visitors within the IR#5, Snake River Reserve area to be prepared to evacuate if ordered to do so by emergency officials. The area is described as IR#5 Snake River Reserve.

FN to Snake River:  $\cong$  30 Km FN to Deer River:  $\cong$  57 Km FN to Nelson Forks :  $\cong$  107 Km FN to Old Fort :  $\cong$  10 Km Snake River to SYD :  $\cong$  19 Km All persons within the defined area are to evacuate via <u>Sierra Yoyo Desan Road</u>. Please follow all road directions from authorities.

Based on this information, an order *pursuant to the Authority of the Council under Sections 81 and 88 of the Indian Act* to evacuate these areas has been authorized in the interest of life and safety. Members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and other agencies will be expediting evacuation of these areas on behalf of the Fort Nelson First Nation if required.

The Emergency Operations Centre is open and is providing support to the other emergency responders. The EOC phone line is in operation for information related to the Evacuation Order. Phone: 250-500-2656

## YOU MUST LEAVE THIS AREA IMMEDIATELY

For information please visit our webpage at <u>http://www.fortnelsonfirstnation.org/wildfire-update</u> or our Facebook Page at <u>https://www.facebook.com/FortNelsonFirstNation/</u>

Sharleen Gale, Chief Councilor Fort Nelson First Nation Issue: September 2, 2023

