



Neskonlith Indian Band
743 Chief Neskonlith Drive
Box 318, Chase, BC V0E 1M0
T: 250.679.3295 F: 250.679.5306
www.neskonlith.net



Community Notice

Date: August 8th, 2021

Our Neskonlith Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) is in full operation, and with the support of council continue to join all BC Wildfire and PREOC calls to keep updated on the wildfire.

Current Weather

Weather wise, the winds continue to blow in a south-easterly direction away from Neskonlith. The good news is the White Rock fire near Neskonlith is **holding** and **is not spreading towards Neskonlith**.

NIB Council, First Nations Emergency Services Society (**FNESS**), band security and volunteers will be conducting assessments on Saturday, August 7th, 2021, on all IR's. FNESS initial assessment will provide critical information for their plan of removing of debris and materials that pose as fire risks. In addition, NIB is working on acquiring and placing roof top sprinklers.

Thankfully at this moment, the weather is providing a reprieve. This has given us the time to attempt to acquire, and fully equip our fireboxes. Should we be successful in acquiring fire suppression equipment, this reprieve will allow us to initiate installation of these structural protections on the houses during this time.

Evacuation Order

The evacuation notice will continue for 7 days for the 5 houses (5473 old Hwy, 5350 Trans Canada Hwy, 5648 Trans Canada Hwy, 5648 Trans Canada Hwy, 5704 Trans Canada Hwy, 5992 Old Highway) already evacuated or until the order ~~is~~. All members who have been evacuated must register see link <https://ess.gov.bc.ca>.

Furthermore, Carol August (1.778.220.7118) will work directly to work with individuals who are homeless camps

Be Prepared

From east of the Canco gas station to the Chase-Falkland junction, all houses remain under an evacuation alert. Under an evacuation alert, is not an evacuation order. This is the period of time, which is crucial for residents to prepare, once an order is given, residents must leave. Although we pray for the best, it's always best to prepare for the worst. As such, this means that it is your responsibility to be prepared by doing the following:

- **Have a 48-hr ready-to-go bag.**
 - This would include basic toiletries, First Aid kit, flashlight, sleeping bag, extra clothes, food, snacks, knife, axe, matches. Although this is not an all-inclusive list, it gives you an idea of what you need.
- Register online <https://ess.gov.bc.ca>
- Gather important documents
- Plan your evacuation
- Locate your pets and keep them nearby.
- Prepare farm animals for transport and think about moving them to a safe location early.

WATER

To preserve water for the IR#2 reservoir in case of any fires, the Water Treatment Plant Director has been monitoring and if needed will issue water restrictions to households. Any concerns contact Gord at: 1.250.679.2888, or at the water plant 250-679-3279

Any members experiencing any health concerns during this time please reach out to our health & wellness team. Contact Carol August at 1.778.220.7118.

All those without shelter on IR#2 have been contacted directly and the band is working with FNHA and FNESS on relocating all individuals and ensuring appropriate supports care in place. You can also contact Carol August for more information.

If you are interested in volunteering contact Councillor Brad Arnouse cell number at (778) 257-3673 to sign on.

MUSTER STATION

Reminder the MUSTER STATION for Neskonlith IR#2 is at the Harbour, should Community be forced to leave immediately, alternate Muster point is at the Melamen Centre. In event of evacuation order transportation and information will be provided to members. A general transportation list has been started, contact the health department to be added to the list for those needing transportation.

Road Closures

Please Check Drive BC for road closures at [DriveBC](https://drivebc.ca).

Cooperation and a big Thank you

With wildfire threats to our community, everyone's cooperation and support is appreciated. Council acknowledges EMBC, FNESS, FNHA, Secwepemc Health Caucus, ISC, all other agencies and especially our band EOC who have been working around the clock.

Secwepemc Chiefs

The Secwepemc Chiefs held a virtual call on Friday August 6th regarding the wildfires and issued a State of Emergency earlier this month. The Chiefs are working and developing a nation-based emergency plan in conjunction with Secwepemc Health and plan to hold a meeting on August 10th & 11th. Outcomes will be shared with the community.

Summary

Remember to keep calm, and prepared. If you are prepared and evacuation order does come, you and your family will be ready. Secondly, we are here to support you in everyway we can, so don't be afraid to reach out.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either

Chief Judy at 1.778.694.9496

OR

Executive Director: Miguel Romero at: 1.778.215.6548