



For Immediate Release | August 13, 2021

Interior Health supporting Lillooet care home residents impacted by wildfire

LILLOOET – Interior Health is closely monitoring the McKay Creek wildfire near Lillooet and related evacuation orders and alerts.

As a precautionary measure, Interior Health is relocating residents from the Mountainview Lodge care home to an alternate care home in Vancouver Coastal Health, where we will work together to ensure safe continuity of care. Interior Health is contacting families directly with details about the relocation.

Plans are also in place to evacuate inpatients from the Lillooet Hospital due to wildfire activity.

Anyone wishing to confirm their loved one's current location can call: 1.877.442.2001.

Additionally, Interior Health has identified all community clients to ensure they receive appropriate services and supports.

At this time, the Lillooet Health Centre remains open, including 24/7 emergency department services.

Wildfire activity is increasing in various regions of Interior Health. We urge everyone, especially those with loved ones who need additional support, to take steps to be prepared in the event wildfires impact your community. Useful information to "Get prepared for a wildfire" is available here, including a Wildfire Preparedness Guide.

Interior Health is working closely with municipalities, regional districts, and the BC Wildfire Service to ensure precautions are underway to protect patients, clients and residents.

Those requiring support during this crisis are encouraged to call the BC Crisis Line at 310-6789.

Interior Health also continues to monitor wildfire activity across the region. Wildfire planning includes supporting anyone who may be in isolation due to COVID-19. We will ensure separate arrangements are made for anyone with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 to protect the public from potential exposure.

Everyone is reminded to make preparations for wildfires, and smoky skies as air quality deteriorates by visiting: https://www.interiorhealth.ca/YourEnvironment/Emergency/Wildfires/Pages/default.aspx

Install the BC Wildfire Service mobile app (Android or iOS) or visit the BC Wildfire Service Dashboard to find information on current wildfire activity: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status

The FireWork Forecast shows maps of predicted smoke impacts over the next 48 hours: https://weather.gc.ca/firework/

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