



For Immediate Release | November 15, 2021

## Interior Health evacuating Merritt clients and patients

MERRITT – Due to the evacuation order in effect for the City of Merritt, Interior Health is evacuating care home residents from Coquihalla Gillis House, Nicola Meadows, and The Florentine, as well as patients from the Nicola Valley Hospital and all community health clients.

The Nicola Valley Hospital and emergency department is closed until further notice. Anyone who requires emergency care should call 9-1-1 or visit the emergency department at the Kelowna General Hospital or the Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops.

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

Interior Health will continue monitoring flood activity across the region. Evacuation planning includes supporting anyone who may be in isolation due to COVID-19 and we will ensure separate arrangements are made for anyone with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 to protect the public from potential exposure.

Emergency Support Services (ESS) receptions are located at the following locations:

- Civic Centre, 1950 Mamette Avenue, Merritt
- McArthur Island, 1655 Island Parkway, Kamloops
- Parkinson Activity Centre, 1800 Parkinson Way, Kelowna

Evacuees should register online <https://ess.gov.bc.ca/> or contact 1-800-585-9559 for more information.

Please check the City of Merritt webpage for the most-to-date local evacuation order and alert notices: <https://www.merritt.ca/news/>

We will continue to work closely with municipalities, regional districts, and the province 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.

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**Media, for information:**

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