

# EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE (EOC)



## INFORMATION RELEASE

Tuesday, August 25, 2020

### EOC Update: Re – Entry plan for residents under Evacuation Order

The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen Emergency Operations Centre (RDOS EOC) will begin implementing its staged re-entry plan for residents forced to leave their homes due to the Christie Mountain Wildfire.

With a staged re-entry plan, portions of the Evacuation Order and Alerts issued on August 18, 2020 have been updated. The safety of citizens remains the priority; Geotechnologists are performing assessments of each area considering the terrain. This staged approach ensures proper safety measures remain in place.

#### ***Updates to the Evacuation Order and Alert***

- The Evacuation ORDER issued for 319 properties on August 18, 2020 in Heritage Hills (Electoral Area “D”) will begin re-entry:
  - The RDOS EOC has removed 244 properties under the Heritage Hills Evacuation Order area and are allowed to return to home, these properties will remain under an Evacuation ALERT.
  - The 75 properties accessed via Christie Mountain Lane and Big Horn Trail remain under Evacuation ORDER.
- The Evacuation ALERT issued for 116 properties on August 18, 2020 in the Upper Carmi area and Skaha Bluffs Provincial Park has been lifted.

Please click [here](#) and enter your address to confirm your property is safe for re-entry.

Subject matter experts have assessed the area, and some of the area is safe for re-entry, remains a number of residents under Evacuation Alert and Evacuation Order.

Continued assessment of these areas will be occurring over the next several days, which includes Geotechnical and other subject matter experts. Safety of all residents remains our number one priority. We will continue to consult our experts on-site to establish when the area is safe for re-entry.

For areas remaining under Alert, there is no imminent threat at this time. You should continue to be ready to evacuate upon notice. If you haven't already, we encourage you to sign up at CivicReady for updates, see below.

At this time it is safe to re-enter the Evacuation Alert area. Once you re-enter, please stay in place to reduce traffic flow until 3:00pm.

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For more information, please visit <http://emergency.rdos.bc.ca> or call 250-490-4225

Issued by Director of RDOS EOC

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Please be aware that equipment and crews are in the area.

If you are not a resident of the area (including Media), be advised you are not permitted to enter. Security and RCMP are present to support a safe and controlled re-entry.

Each household will receive a re-entry kit. These kits will have important information about returning home after the threat of a wildfire; how to check your property for hazards or concerns, and information about utilities, waste collection and other services and infrastructure.

Bus service will return to East side Lake Road stop on Wednesday, August 26, 2020.

Small business owners, farms, and some homeowners, may be eligible for [Disaster Financial Assistance](#). Professional volunteers with the Disaster Psychosocial Services Program through the Provincial Health Services Authority, will also be available in the community; they are easily identified by their purple t-shirts. These volunteers work in various professional mental health and para-professional associations and are available to any community members who may need short-term mental health support.

The Reception Center at 199 Ellis Street in Penticton will remain open during the Evacuation Alert daily from 10:00am – 2:00pm. For Emergency Support Service assistance outside of these hours, please call the RDOS EOC at 250-490-4225 and a volunteer will return your call within a business day.

The Christie Mountain Wildfire is still ongoing, please respect wildfire crews and equipment.

[BC Wildfire Information – Christie Mountain Fire](#)

[Visit the RDOS EOC website for resource links and information updates](#)

[CivicReady® Mass Notification System – sign up for routine and emergency notifications](#)

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Karla Kozakevich, Chair  
Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen