

Message from Mayor Zeleznik:

I understand that many Nakusp residents are currently feeling overwhelmed and vulnerable regarding the potential of a wildfire threatening this community. I share the concern and am committed to ensuring that residents and businesses in Nakusp have access to accurate, up to date and relevant information.

With the recent fires, there have been many questions regarding the Emergency Plan and the procedures to be followed in the case of an evacuation. Firstly, please be assured that there is a plan – and that there is a team of people who are trained in Emergency Management who will assist in the case of any emergency.

Village of Nakusp Council and staff are committed to working closely with the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) and BC Wildfire Service to ensure that emergency situations will be handled in a professional manner using all resources as possible.

The process for an evacuation will vary greatly depending on the situation. Evacuations can be tactical – meaning that immediate action is required allowing little warning or preparation. Other evacuations may be planned and more notice provided such as in the case of an approaching wildfire. Some evacuations are limited to a small area and affected individuals are guided to a Reception Centre (eg. Nakusp Arena). Other evacuations may be community-wide and the Reception Centre will be out of town (such as Castlegar). Over the coming days, Village staff will be providing more information and details on what to expect should these different situations arise.

I recognize that communication of accurate, up to date and relevant information is critical. We are working to improve these avenues of communication and to getting information out to residents and businesses on a regular basis during this fire season.

Some of the first steps you can take:

- Sign up for the RDCK Emergency Alert at: [RDCK Emergency Notification Alert](#)
- Prepare a “Grab and Go” Personal Emergency kit. Tips for preparing this kit are available at: [Grab and Go Emergency Kit](#)
- “LIKE” the **Village of Nakusp** Facebook Page. 👍 Beginning Tuesday, July 20, this page will be updated daily at 11:00am with current information relating to impact of wildfires and other emergency events affecting Village of Nakusp, Emergency Plans, and other communication relevant to the current situation.
- Sign up for **email updates** from the Village of Nakusp. Emails will be sent whenever new information relating to the current situation is available. **SIGN UP** through the Village of Nakusp website at www.nakusp.com under “Stay Informed”.

Information about the Emergency Plan, evacuation alerts, evacuation orders, what to expect during and after an evacuation and other information will be available shortly. Sign up for email updates and watch the Village of Nakusp Facebook page to ensure you receive this information as soon as it is available.

Tom Zeleznik, Mayor