

Merritt



**For Immediate Release
May 11, 2018**

Evacuation Alert – Nicola River Floodplain

May 11th, 2018 at 4:30 P.M. – During spring freshet, conditions can change rapidly. The latest information from the Province of British Columbia predicts an increase in Nicola River levels over the next two (2) days as flows out of Nicola Lake continue to increase. This rise in the water level will impact some residents within the Nicola River floodplain. As a result, the City has declared an evacuation alert for those residents within the Evacuation Alert Area shown in red outline on the attached map.

For clarity, residents in the Evacuation Alert Area are not being asked to leave their homes at this time, but all residents in this area should make the necessary preparations to leave on short notice should an evacuation order be issued.

With the information available at this time, it is not anticipated that all residents within the Evacuation Alert Area will be affected, as those closest to the river and in low lying areas will be the first to feel the effects of increased flows, but to exercise caution, all residents within the Nicola River floodplain are being notified.

In particular, the City recommends that residents within the Evacuation Alert Area prepare a kit containing a basic supply of food and water, any prescription medications, personal toiletries, a change of clothing, insurance papers and other important documents.

City staff will continue to monitor river levels and communicate with Provincial officials throughout the weekend and will advise residents of potential changes to river conditions.

For more information on what to do when an evacuation alert has been issued and to prepare for a potential evacuation order, please visit the following website:

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017TRAN0198-001292>

For more information Contact:

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