



# Okanagan Indian Band

12420 Westside Road  
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250-542-4328

## EOC Update

September 3, 2021

### White Rock Lake fire update @ 4:00 PM

Way' Members,

We have several updates for you today:

#### School bussing starts September 7

School bus service from IR#1 to area schools begins September 7 for members who are back living in their homes. Please see the attached bussing schedule.

For members who are **still evacuated** and are not living in their homes, please contact Kevin Smeltzer, OKIB School Liaison Coordinator, at **250-241-2442** or email [school@okanagan.org](mailto:school@okanagan.org). Kevin will help you arrange transportation for your children.

For anyone who will not be returning home right away and is still at Silver Star on Tuesday September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021, we will be running a bus for students behind the Ski Club on Shorts Road. The bus will be picking up students at this location at 7:24am. If you are requiring bussing, please let Kevin Smeltzer know as soon as possible either by email [school@okanagan.org](mailto:school@okanagan.org) or by phone/text at **250-241-2442**.

Also, mileage reimbursement is available for members that have to drive their children to school. The form will be posted to the Education website.

We appreciate your patience as we work coordinate transportation during this unusual time.

#### Water advisory for Six Mile / Bradley Creek water supply - DO NOT USE

Six Mile / Bradley Creek residents will maintain their current ESS supports until water quality is safe. OKIB members can read the advisory here: <https://okib.ca/news/water-advisory-do-not-use-six-mile-bradley-creek-community-water-system>

#### Water is Available from Public Works for Six Mile / Bradley Creek residents

Water is available for pick up from the Public Works office, 11505 Westside Road. Contact Jolene at 250-542-3444 or 250-309-7191.

#### Parker Cove

Residents of Parker Cove—thank you for your numerous calls! Our goal is to get you back into your homes as soon as is declared safe to do so. Parker Cove is located close to the heart of the fire zone and we need to assess and removed dangerous trees in the area. The water

supply must be tested. In addition, the weather forecast calls for some hot days next week. For these reasons and based on the advice of BCWS, the area remains under evacuation order.

### **Be careful on the hillsides**

The forests above the populated areas may be dangerous, with the possibility of compromised trees and unstable soil and ash. Be careful and please avoid the burned areas for the meantime. More info will become available as the process is solidified. OKIB EOC crews will also be onsite monitoring and checking controlled burn areas today.

### **ESS supports**

Although we are very happy that many of our members are able to return home, there are some who cannot at this time. OKIB has a list of these impacted members and our ESS Reception Centre will be available to assist them with lodging and food support.

The ESS Reception Centre located at the Head of the Lake Hall will be operating now on a reduced schedule:

- Saturday Sep 4 10am to 2pm
- Sunday Sep 5 CLOSED
- Monday Sep 6 CLOSED
- Tuesday Sep 7 10am to 6pm
- Wednesday onwards to be determined

### **Good Food Boxes for Members**

Members are invited to stop by the BlueBird building Saturday and Sunday 10 AM to 4 PM to pick up a return-home hamper with good food and many useful items. Quantities are limited.

### **Cleaning kits from Red Cross**

Band members who have returned home can stop by Head of the Lake Hall tomorrow or next week to pick up their cleaning kits courtesy of the Red Cross. Non-members can contact the Red Cross to pick up your own cleaning kits. The kits contain many useful items that you may need including broom, brush, sponges, cleaners, gloves, safety glasses, garbage bags and more.

### **BC Hydro to waive electricity costs for those affected by Evacuation Order (details below)**

BC Hydro will waive electricity costs during the period that residential and small business customers were forced to evacuate from their home because of an Evacuation Order, provided they were required to evacuate for at least five days. For these customers, BC Hydro will also pause collection-related activities and waive late payment fees.

Any customers that were under evacuation alert only (instead of an Evacuation Order) and chose to leave their property do not qualify for evacuation waivers.

Customers do not need to take any actions to receive the evacuation waiver. Once the evacuation order is lifted, BC Hydro will receive a report of the areas evacuated and will apply bill waivers for those areas.

### **Garbage Pick Up for OKIB members**

Garbage pick up services for OKIB members will take place daily for the next several days.

*See map on the following page.*

Please note that an Area Restriction is in effect for this fire and **NO** hunting is permitted within the area on the following map. This Area Restriction is to provide for the safety and security of wildland firefighters, and the general public. There are extreme dangers within the wildfire perimeter like ash pits, falling trees, falling rocks, unstable slopes, burnt over roads, etc. Conservations officers are regularly patrolling the area restriction, and fines will be given out to anyone found accessing the area.

