

# **District of Lillooet**

**August 5, 2009**

## **News Release**

The evacuation order remains in place for residents of the District of Lillooet living on the west side of the Fraser River. An Evacuation Alert remains in place for all other areas of the municipality.

The District of Lillooet Emergency Operations Centre is operating from the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah Witness on the east side of the Fraser River.

Residents who have evacuated and are registered at the ESS Reception Centre at the McCarther Island Park have reported that they are doing well and are appreciating the support they have received.

A second controlled burn took place on Tuesday evening and was reported to be very successful. Visibility of the mountain has improved and smoke is diminishing in the area slowly improving air quality. While still too early to determine when residents will be able to return home, we are optimistic that the next few days will improve conditions enough to commence plans for that return.

Thank you to the TNRD and the city of Kamloops for housing our residents and taking superb care of them while they are away from home. We eagerly await your safe return and look forward to reuniting our community.

Residents who have chosen to remain in their homes are reminded that they must remain on their property and are not permitted to leave their property. Police are patrolling to ensure the safety of all residents and properties. Those individuals not obeying the restrictions may be escorted outside the evacuated area.

We continue to work with the First Nation Bands of T'it'q'et, Cayoosh, Bridge River and Shalalth who are dealing with similar experiences and concerns with this devastating fire.

A number of roads in the area are still closed to traffic; please confirm your travel route is open before you travel. For information on closed roads go to major events at [www.drivebc.ca](http://www.drivebc.ca) , or call 1-800-550-4997.

For further information on the Mount McLean fire go to [www.bcwildfire.bc.ca](http://www.bcwildfire.bc.ca) or call the District of Lillooet Emergency Operations Centre at 250-256-3069.

Jerry Sucharyna – Lillooet EOC Information Officer