

Update # 4 August 31, 2018

Please forward/share internally as required.

Response & Preparedness

Northern Health Emergency Operations Centres continue planning for and monitoring wildfire-related impacts to NH facilities and services. With the exception of Stuart Lake Hospital in Fort St. James, no NH facilities are currently under evacuation alert or order. Northern Health proactively transferred patients and residents to Vanderhoof on August 16th, out of an abundance of caution while that community remains on evacuation alert.

If a person is seeking to locate a loved-one who is a Northern Health patient or client that was transferred to Vanderhoof from Fort St. James, please call 1-250-567-2013 to locate them in Vanderhoof.

- NH has updated its [Health care information for evacuees](#) in Burns Lake, Terrace, Prince George, and Vanderhoof on the NH website, along with [other resources](#) related to public health, both during and following wildfire or smoky skies events. Impacted areas continue to be monitored closely and currently this focus includes Fraser Lake, Burns Lake, Ft St James and Vanderhoof

Updates and information

Northern Health continues to work and share information with the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), Emergency Social Services (ESS), and Health Emergency Management BC (HEMBC), among other agencies.

The following links to helpful resources can be shared across stakeholder networks as wildfire season continues:

- [Air Quality and Smoky Skies](#)
- [Emergency Info BC: Information for Residents Affected by Wildfire](#)
- [First Nations Health Authority Wildfire Information Portal](#)
- [Evacuee Health Care](#)
- [Active Wildfires Map](#)
- [Road Updates - DriveBC](#)

Returning home

As orders and alerts change or are rescinded, many northerners who have need displaced or who self-evacuated may be engaged-in or considering a return home. There are good resources to support those looking for specific information to consider with respect to returning home after a wildfire, including:

- [PreparedBC: Re-entering your home after a wildfire](#)
- [First Nations Health Authority: Returning to Your Home After Wildfires](#)

Smoky Skies advisories continue to change from day to day across all regions. When considering air quality before planning a return to community because of a lifted alert, community members should be advised to return home as air quality varies so greatly, and a home environment may best serve health concerns.

We will continue to update you on this situation. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Steve Raper at Steve.Raper@northernhealth.ca or 250-640-0904.