

**BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION
RÉSOLUTION DE CONSEIL DE BANDE**

Chronological no:

File reference no:
Wildfire 2021 – Evacuation Alert 1

The council of the: **Kanaka Bar Indian Band**

Date of duly convened meeting



D	M	Y
09	08	2021

Province: **British Columbia**

WHEREAS:

- A. In mid-June of 2021, a wildfire north of Kanaka started above Skuppah Indian Band which became known as the George Road (K70804) Fire – the George Road fire remains active, as of today's date, and Skuppah remains under an Evacuation Alert.
 - a. Kanaka was not under an Evacuation Alert nor Order from the George Road fire.
- B. On June 30, 2021, a new fire started at Lytton Creek (K71086) resulting in substantial loss of municipal, reserve, and regional homes including basic supporting infrastructure with closure of transportation corridors. The fire remains active as of today's date and LFN reserves, TNRD properties and Village of Lytton properties (with some modification for southern properties) remain under Evacuation Order.
- C. The Lytton Creek fire happened so fast that no warning was issued and with no time - evacuation of over 1200 Lytton and area residents occurred, and it was very stressful for all involved. While the Lytton Creek Fire has moved north, the Lytton and area evacuees remain spread throughout BC.
 - a. Kanaka was not under an Evacuation Alert nor Order from the Lytton Creek fire.
- D. Mid July 2021 another fire to the South of Kanaka was located which became known as Mowhokam Creek (V11669) fire. The fire was flown over by Kanaka representatives, with BC Wildfire Services, on July 19, 2021, and the fire was monitored daily by BC Wildfire Services as "modified response" as fire growth was both slow and to the north and east with little movement either west or south. In addition, significant natural barriers exist in the southwest which prevent the fire from spreading towards Highway 1 and placing Kanaka homes and residents at risk.
- E. On August 6, 2021, ahead of a forecasted rainfall, a significant increase in wind was observed in the Mowhokam Creek Watershed, and BC Wildfire Services flew the fire perimeter on August 7, 2021, and
 - a. Upgraded the Mowhokam Creek fire to "full response" and a helicopter was assigned to bucket areas of concern;
 - b. A protection plan is been developed and heavy equipment will be deployed to build fire guards (if needed); and.
 - c. BCWS services recommended at 3:00 pm that an evacuation alert be issued.
- F. The purpose of an evacuation alert is precautionary. It is to **give notice** to businesses and people **within an area** time to get items together and solidify both travel plans and a process, so that if it becomes necessary to relocate, it can occur in an orderly and safe fashion.

- G. The TNRD issued an Evacuation Alert at 4:00 pm on August 7, 2021 (full copy attached to this BCR including the map).
 - a. The TNRD Alert was shared by Kanaka, via social media, and Kanaka staff, businesses and residents should already be following the Provincially issued alert steps and process.
- H. The Fraser Valley Regional District and the Boothroyd Indian Band issued at Evacuation Alert at 6:00 pm on August 7, 2021.
- I. The Mowhokam Creek fire continues to smolder despite the recent rain and while a helicopter is bucketing hot spots – another hot spell is forecasted, for our area, so Kanaka Chief Council have decided to mirror “TNRD Evacuation Alert” process and instruct Kanaka’s staff to work with Kanaka residents and businesses to be prepared

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL RESOLVES:

1. As the Mowhokam fire could pose a threat to all Kanaka reserve lands, property, residents and animals, Kanaka Bar’s Chief and Council declares an Evacuation Alert effective as 4:00 pm on August 7, 2021.
2. Kanaka Bar duplicates the TNRD Evacuation Alert narrative issued August 7, 2021, at 4:00 pm as attached to this BCR in its entirety.
3. The duration of Kanaka’s evacuation Alert will mirror TNRD warnings so Kanaka's Evacuation Alert will end when TNRD cancels their alert.
4. Kanaka Bar Chief and Council respectively asks and request staff and residents to work together, look after each other as well as our neighbors off reserve - just in case – communicate daily and be prepared to evacuate your premises and property should it be found necessary.
5. Should Mowhokam become an imminent threat to Kanaka reserves, as determined by BC Wildfire Services (we all are working together), to save time - Kanaka Bars Chief and Council will accept a TNRD Evacuation Order as a “Kanaka Reserve lands and residents” Evacuation order and we will work together to get everyone out in a safe and orderly fashion.

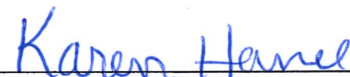
The quorum for the Kanaka Bar Indian Band is three (3)



(Chief Patrick Michell)



(Councilor Bobby Michell)



(Councilor Karen Hance)



(Councilor Donna Hance)



(Councilor Pauline Michell)

