



NEWS RELEASE



July 10, 2017 – 5:30 p.m.
EOC-17-09
For Immediate Release



Increased fire behaviour expected Wednesday in Cariboo

Williams Lake, B.C. – According to the weather forecast provided for the Cariboo Fire Centre this morning at 10:00 a.m., an increase in fire behaviour on fires throughout the Cariboo Fire Centre is expected on Wednesday, July 12. This is due to winds and the possibility of lightning.

On Wednesday, the Cariboo Fire Centre expects southwesterly winds of 10-20 kilometres per hour. Temperatures will be in the high 20s. The greatest chance of lightning is in the northern two-thirds of the fire centre.

Looking ahead, Thursday looks to be a more stable day with less wind.

In light of these forecasted conditions, the City of Williams Lake and Cariboo Regional District have issued evacuation alerts for the City of Williams Lake and the fringe areas surrounding Williams Lake. The City of Williams Lake and the Cariboo Regional District have posted detailed information on these evacuation alerts through their respective channels.

“Given the weather forecast for Wednesday and the information we have received from the Cariboo Fire Centre, we have issued evacuation alerts as a precautionary measure for the City of Williams Lake and surrounding areas. We don’t want to cause alarm; however, we want residents to know what kind of fire behaviour is expected on Wednesday,” states Cariboo Regional District Chair Al Richmond.

City of Williams Lake Mayor Walt Cobb says, “We want to ensure that residents have sufficient time to be prepared in case the weather takes a turn for the worse. Please make sure you’ve taken appropriate steps should an evacuation be necessary. If you require assistance, please reach out and do so now.”

To find Evacuation Alert information for the City of Williams Lake, visit their Facebook page or contact 250-392-2364 or 250-392-2365.

To find Evacuation Alert information for the Cariboo Regional District, visit the CRD’s website at cariboord.ca, follow them on Facebook at facebook.com/CRDEmergencyOperations or on Twitter [@CaribooRD](https://twitter.com/CaribooRD). You can also contact the Public Information Line at 1-866-759-4977.

The Cariboo Fire Centre, City of Williams Lake and Cariboo Regional District continue to work together closely to address the current situation in the area. Our current priorities include ensuring the public is safe, keeping highways open to allow movement out of affected areas and protecting critical infrastructure.

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Residents are encouraged to register for the Cariboo Chilcotin Emergency Notification System by visiting the Cariboo Regional District at cariboord.ca or the City of Williams Lake at williamslake.ca.

For up to date fire information, please follow the Cariboo Fire Centre on Facebook at facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo or contact 250-989-2600.

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