

For Immediate Release | August 13, 2021

Interior Health supporting Armstrong care home residents impacted by wildfire

ARMSTRONG – Interior Health (IH) continues to monitor the growth of the White Rock Lake fire and the evacuation alerts and orders throughout the North Okanagan.

In response to an evacuation alert near the Pleasant Valley Manor long-term care home, Interior Health is proactively evacuating residents from the facility. Residents are being temporarily relocated to care homes in Vancouver Coastal Health and Providence Health, where we will work together to ensure safe continuity of care. Interior Health is contacting families directly with details about the relocation.

IH is also working with Pioneer Square Assisted Living to support the proactive evacuation of four clients with more challenging care needs to Blue Heron Villa in Lake Country. Families of these individuals are also being contacted directly. There are an additional 11 residents remaining at the home, who can be easily relocated should the need arise.

Anyone wishing to confirm their loved one's current location can call: 1.877.442.2001.

We are working closely with municipalities, regional districts, and the BC Wildfire Service to ensure precautions are underway to protect patients, clients and residents.

Those requiring support during this crisis are encouraged to call the BC Crisis Line at 310-6789.

Interior Health also continues to monitor wildfire activity across the region. Wildfire planning includes supporting anyone who may be in isolation due to COVID-19. We will ensure separate arrangements are made for anyone with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 to protect the public from potential exposure.

Everyone is reminded to make preparations for wildfires, and smoky skies as air quality deteriorates by visiting: <https://www.interiorhealth.ca/YourEnvironment/Emergency/Wildfires/Pages/default.aspx>

Install the BC Wildfire Service mobile app (Android or iOS) or visit the BC Wildfire Service Dashboard to find information on current wildfire activity:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status>

The FireWork Forecast shows maps of predicted smoke impacts over the next 48 hours:
<https://weather.gc.ca/firework/>

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