

Information Bulletin

For Immediate Release
May 23, 2006 - 1930 hours

No. 010

Joint Emergency Operations Centre
Regional District of Kootenay Boundary/City of Grand Forks

EVACUATION ALERT LIFTED IN GRAND FORKS

GRAND FORKS - The Regional District of Kootenay Boundary and the City of Grand Forks have lifted the evacuation alert for Johnson Flats in Grand Forks effective 1930 hours today.

The immediate threat from flooding in the area has passed. The Regional District of Kootenay Boundary and the City of Grand Forks issued an evacuation alert to approximately 40 residences in the Johnson Flats area of Grand Forks on Sunday, May 21. An evacuation alert is a precautionary warning that residents may be asked to leave their homes on short notice.

The Joint Emergency Operations Centre remains open and staffed. City and Regional District crews will continue to patrol flooded areas and damage assessment will now get underway.

The provincial River Forecast Centre will continue to issue flood forecast reports. As flood waters start to recede in some areas, it is evident that some people have suffered flood damage.

Affected residents should:

- First check with their private insurer to see if there is coverage in place
- Start to survey any damages and start making a record
- Access the "intent to claim forms" for disaster financial assistance. This assistance may be available for uninsurable losses for essential repairs, cleanup and restoration.
- These forms are available through the municipality or regional district or on-line and the intent to claim process can be started right away.

People who have experienced flood damage and need more information can call the toll-free line 1-888-257-4777. Further information on safety precautions is available at www.pep.bc.ca.

Contact:
Dave Townsend
Public Information Officer
250 889-5945