

## Evacuation Process

The following information outlines an overall process for evacuation of Predator Ridge residents during a wildfire incident at or near Predator Ridge.

The PRCS committee's main purpose is to assist with prevention/mitigation, and preparedness activities; therefore, the PRCS committee's work in support of this procedure occurs prior to an actual evacuation. The PRCS maintains and distributes our Resident Emergency Handbook and Evacuation Preparedness Package, which encourage all residents to maintain a personal evacuation kit, and to be prepared to follow the instructions of First Responders during an evacuation. We will also participate with the City of Vernon Emergency Management Program, Predator Ridge Resort, and Sparkling Hill Wellness Resort in (e.g., annual) discussions, that focus on the coordination, communication, and cooperation aspects of such an evacuation scenario.

An emergency Evacuation Alert or Order (see definitions below) would be declared when the assessment of the emergency by First Responders (e.g., Fire, RCMP) determines that an evacuation of the Predator Ridge community is or may become required. The Vernon Director of Emergency Management (DEM) will be notified by First Responders of the need to evacuate the Predator Ridge community.

Accurate and timely information gathering, and sharing will be critical. Residents of Predator Ridge will be able to receive information about the evacuation via the City of Vernon Emergency Program and the Alertable App, radio/TV, First Responders, or Predator Ridge Homeowner Intranet (see references under Evacuation Stages).

## Evacuation Stages

**Note:** A **Tactical Evacuation** may be required by First Response agencies if the emergency does not allow time for an Evacuation Alert or Order. The evacuation will be immediate due to the threat to life and safety, and actions will need to be taken as per an Evacuation Order. In all other situations, the City of Vernon will declare an Evacuation Alert, Order, or Rescind:

### 1. Evacuation Alert

This means that people need to be on standby and prepared to evacuate the area. If not already prepared, residents will need to use this undetermined period of time to prepare for a possible evacuation order. Residents have been advised (via the Evacuation Preparedness Package) that they do not need to wait for an Evacuation Alert or Order to leave, if they feel that is the prudent thing to do.

#### Communication

Residents will be advised about an evacuation alert via:

- City of Vernon Emergency Program (evacuation alert via the Alertable App, email or Twitter). Residents are encouraged to subscribe to Emergency Alerts via: <https://www.vernon.ca/homes-building/fire-safety/emergency-management/emergency-alert-notifications>
- Radio/TV
- Predator Ridge Homeowner Intranet
- Vernon Connect or BC Wildfire Service Apps available on the App Store or Google Play.

# Emergency Management Plan

## 2. Evacuation Order

This means that people have been ordered to evacuate the area. A **State of Local Emergency** *may* be declared by the City of Vernon, or the province *may* declare a **State of Emergency** (for any portion of, or the entire province) to support this requirement.

### Communication

1. Residents will be advised about an evacuation order via:
  - Predator Ridge Wildfire Evacuation Siren.
  - Direct notification by First Responders (e.g., RCMP or Firefighters knocking on doors, using bull horn announcements), if possible or practical to do so.
  - City of Vernon Emergency Program (evacuation alert via Vernon Connect App email or Twitter). Residents are encouraged to subscribe to Emergency Alerts (<https://www.vernon.ca/subscribe>) or follow the City of Vernon on Twitter.
  - Predator Ridge Resident Intranet (updated by Predator Ridge, upon direction from the City of Vernon Emergency Management Program/First Responders).
  - Radio/TV.
  - Apps available for your mobile phone such as: BC Wildfire Service App
2. Evacuation routes will be identified and controlled by First Responders (most likely RCMP).
3. When applicable (and practical to do so), evacuees will be given written instructions by First Responders (see Evacuation Notice –sample copy provided to residents as part of the Evacuation Preparedness Package).
4. Residents can make use of the “OK/Help” sign during an evacuation, by placing the applicable side in a window visible to the street to let First Responders know whether they need assistance or have already evacuated.

### Transportation

1. It is anticipated that most people will provide their own transportation during an evacuation order; however, any person in need of transportation will need to contact 911 and make arrangements to be picked up or met at a designated Assembly Area.
2. Persons with physical limitations that would make them unable to go to the Assembly Area on their own will need to pre-arrange for pickup (family/friends), or by phoning 911 to request assistance.
3. Persons with extra space in their vehicles may be requested by First Responders to assist others needing transportation from the Assembly Area (see Predator Ridge map in Appendix A).
4. Further instructions for evacuees will be given with the official public announcement and evacuation advisory.
5. If necessary, the City of Vernon Emergency Program will coordinate busses for transporting evacuees and will communicate with First Responders (Incident Command) regarding those details. Residents will be informed by First Responders, and via the communication channels as noted above.

### Assembly Area

For purposes of evacuation, an Assembly Area may be designated by First Responders, in consultation with Predator Ridge and Sparkling Hill, for those without transportation of their own, or those requiring assistance. The Assembly Area will be announced via the communication channels as noted above.

# Emergency Management Plan

## Registration

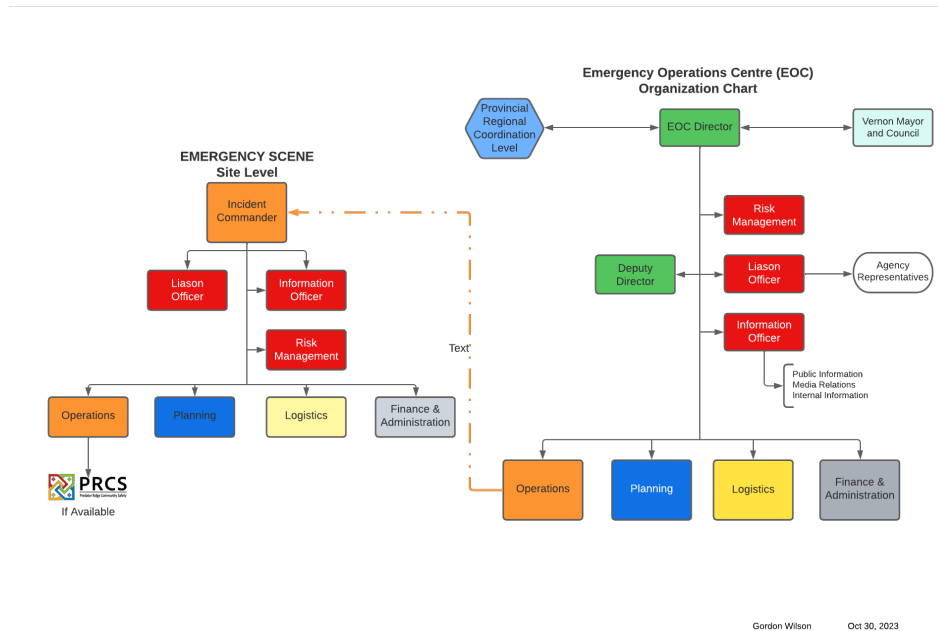
This is a very important component of the emergency response process that is too often overlooked by residents who have evacuated during an emergency. The City of Vernon Emergency Program will set up an Emergency Registration & Information Centre at a safe location. All residents will be instructed to register at the designated Centre, regardless of whether they already have a place to stay. Registration allows responders to confirm that all residents have evacuated and can help reunite evacuees with family members.

## 3. Evacuation Rescind

This means that, once the danger has passed, the City of Vernon Emergency Program will rescind the evacuation order, and residents will be allowed to return to their homes, as directed. Residents may still be required to remain prepared to evacuate again if the situation changes.

## Incident Command System

The Incident Command System (used throughout North America) will be used by the City of Vernon Emergency Program and First Responders during an emergency evacuation. PRCS members may be asked (by the City of Vernon Emergency Program or First Responders) to assist with certain response activities if members are available. It is anticipated that PRCS activities would come under Operations, as noted in the diagram below.



## After the Evacuation

The PRCS will conduct its own debriefing of the evacuation to identify things that went well, and opportunities for improvement. Debriefing information (summary report) will be made available to residents of Predator Ridge. PRCS members may participate in other debriefings (City of Vernon, Predator Ridge Resort, Sparkling Hill Wellness Resort), as requested. The City of Vernon will provide access to Emergency Social Services counsellors if residents of Predator Ridge need assistance.