

## NEWS RELEASE

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### City of Nanaimo lends a hand with BC wildfires

#### Summary

With a Provincial State of Emergency in place due to wildfires, the City of Nanaimo is stepping forward to help support our colleagues in the interior. This effort is occurring on several fronts:

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Emergency Social Service (ESS) volunteers from the City of Nanaimo Emergency Program have assisted 7 families who were evacuated from the wildfires using a Provincially-funded program that provides short-term assistance to evacuees.

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A pumper truck and crew of four firefighters from Nanaimo Fire Rescue have been offered to the Province to help provide support and fight fires.

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Four staff members trained in emergency management are providing relief for the Cariboo Regional District's Emergency Operations Centre, also in Williams Lake.

*Strategic Link:* Taking responsibility to be an excellent municipal government.

#### Key Points

- A Province-wide State of Emergency was declared on July 7, 2017, and recently extended by two weeks in response to the high number of wildfires threatening inhabited areas.
- Support from City of Nanaimo personnel was requested through Emergency Management BC. The Province reimburses the City for expenditures such as wages and travel costs.
- Citizens wishing to help aid with wildfire relief will be most effective by donating to the Canadian Red Cross.

#### Quotes

"Our hearts go out to our fellow-citizens in other parts of the Province who are affected by these wildfires. We are very pleased to be able to provide some support in their efforts."

Brad McRae  
Chief Operations Officer  
City of Nanaimo

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