



## OLD FORT LANDSLIDE 2026 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS — RESIDENT GUIDE

Peace River Regional District | May 2026

At noon on May 21, 2026, the Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT) completed work on a temporary access road surface across the landslide area and re-opened Old Fort Road. In parallel, the PRRD Emergency Operations Centre has rescinded Evacuation Order #1, replacing that order with Evacuation Alert #2.

The temporary two-lane road surface will be replaced by a permanent two-lane access road surface, pending MOTT observations of the road surface and landslide mass. Work on the permanent surface is not expected to start one to three months.

Evacuation Alert #2 has been issued as a precautionary measure until MOTT constructs the permanent access road surface in the coming months.

This document answers the most common questions from returning residents. For the latest updates, always check PRRD communications and DriveBC before you travel.

### 1 — RE-ENTRY & ROAD ACCESS

**Q: When can I go back home to Old Fort?**

At noon on May 21, 2026, MOTT re-opened Old Fort Road, ending the community isolation incident and allowing the PRRD Emergency Operations Centre to rescind Evacuation Order #1.

**Q: Do I need to show ID or proof of address to come home?**

No. No identification or proof of address is required at the access control point.

**Q: Will traffic control be present?**

Initially, yes. From 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 21 there will be pilot-vehicle led access only. Following, for the next several days vehicle access will be restricted to single lane, alternating traffic. Follow all traffic lights and signage.

MOTT will monitor the road surface performance and may require intermittent lane or road closures to address issues. MOTT anticipates that full and free two-lane access will be the norm in the coming days.

## 2 — SAFETY & HAZARDS

### **Q: Why are Evacuation Alert #1 and Evacuation Alert #2 remaining in place?**

The landslide has resulted in millions of tonnes of material moving downslope. MOTT will continue to monitor ground movement and the status of the temporary access road. Until the performance of the road access across the slide is known and the permanent access road surface in place, Evacuation Alerts #1 and #2 will remain in place as a precautionary measure.

Keep an emergency evacuation kit ready and register for NEBC Alerts at <https://nebcalerts.com/> to ensure you receive emergency notifications directly from the PRRD.

### **Q: What exactly should I stay away from?**

Keep clear of the active landslide area on either side of the restored Old Fort Road. Stay away from any road construction activity and follow all posted signage.

### **Q: What do I do if I see ground movement impacting the road?**

Immediately call MOTT's road maintenance contractor, Dawson Road Maintenance, on their 24-hour emergency line at 1-800-842-4122. Please also notify the PRRD at 250-784-3200, specifying an Old Fort Road emergency.

### **Q: Could I be asked to evacuate again?**

If for any reason MOTT must close Old Fort Road, an Evacuation Order may need to be issued.

## 3 — MY HOME

### **Q: What should I check when I first arrive home?**

Start outside. Walk the full exterior and check for:

- Debris on or near the structure
- Signs of ground movement or settling near the foundation
- Drainage changes or pooling water near the home
- Gas leaks — smell of rotten eggs (leave immediately if detected)
- Downed power lines nearby

If the exterior looks normal, proceed inside and verify that utilities are functioning.

### **Q: Is my natural gas on?**

Yes. Natural gas service was not interrupted in Old Fort during this event.

Whenever re-entering a home after a prolonged absence, do not smoke, light matches, or flip switches. If you smell gas, leave immediately and call Pacific Northern Gas 24-hr Emergency: 1-800-663-1173.

If you turned off your natural gas service, you are required to contact PNG at 1-800-667-2297 to arrange an appointment for restart and relighting of your natural gas appliances. This service is only available Monday to Friday.

**Q: Is my power on?**

Yes. Power was not interrupted in Old Fort during this event. If you notice any electrical issues upon return, contact BC Hydro: 1-888-769-3766 or \*49376 on your cell.

**Q: What about insurance for any losses?**

Contact your insurer as soon as possible. The Insurance Bureau of Canada can help connect you: 1-844-227-5422.

## 4 — FOOD & WATER

**Q: Is my food safe?**

Power was not interrupted during this event. If your fridge and freezer ran continuously since you left, power-related food spoilage is not a concern. Use judgment for anything that's been sitting for an extended period — when in doubt, throw it out.

**Q: Is my well water safe to drink?**

Your well water is your responsibility. You may elect to have your well tested before consuming. Call Northern Health Fort St. John: 250-263-6000 (Option 7) for testing guidance. Find drop-off locations at: [www.northernhealth.ca](http://www.northernhealth.ca) → find-a-facility → health-units

**Q: Is my cistern water safe to drink?**

Your cistern and water supply is your responsibility. Given the extended evacuation, you may elect to consider stored cistern water as stale. Check the cistern and pipes for leaks, flush the system fully, and refill from a confirmed safe source before drinking.

**Q: How do I disinfect my well?**

Follow BC Gov and Northern Health guidance. Direct resource: [www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/air-land-water/water/water-wells/bc\\_gov\\_5402\\_water\\_well\\_disinfection\\_webbrochure.pdf](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/air-land-water/water/water-wells/bc_gov_5402_water_well_disinfection_webbrochure.pdf) — or contact Northern Health at 250-263-6000 (Option 7).

**Q: My fridge has spoiled food — what do I do with it?**

Double-bag all spoiled food and tie bags closed before taking to the transfer station or restarting your household waste pick up services.

## 5 — SUPPORT & RESOURCES

**Q: I need help returning home — who do I call?**

PRRD Emergency Support Services (ESS) provides short-term assistance with food, lodging, clothing, and transportation. Contact PRRD: 250-784-3200 or via email at [emergency-info@prrd.bc.ca](mailto:emergency-info@prrd.bc.ca).

**Q: I'm struggling emotionally. Where can I get support?**

It's completely normal to feel the effects of displacement and stress. Reach out anytime:

- Crisis Line: 1-800-SUICIDE (1-800-784-2433)
- CMHA TalkInToughTimes: 1-877-427-4884
- BC Mental Health Support Line (24 hrs): 310-6789 — no area code needed
- KUU-US (Indigenous crisis support): 1-800-588-8717
- Alcohol & Drug Info & Referral: 1-800-663-1441

- HealthLink BC: 811

**Q: I have ongoing medical needs. How do I access care?**

Northern Health’s Virtual Primary & Community Care Clinic offers access to a doctor or nurse practitioner, including mental health support: 1-844-645-7811. For non-emergency health guidance, call HealthLink BC: 811.

**Q: I have children who are struggling. Where can I get support for them?**

Contact the Ministry of Children and Family Development for mental health services for children, families, and caregivers: 1-877-387-7027.

## 6 — STAYING INFORMED

**Q: How do I sign up for text, email or text-to-voice emergency notifications?**

The very best way to ensure you receive emergency notifications directly from the PRRD is to sign up for the regional North East BC Alerts system at <https://nebcalerts.com/>.

**Q: How do I get updates on the landslide and road conditions?**

- DriveBC – Old Fort Landslide: [www.drivebc.ca/advisories/old-fort](http://www.drivebc.ca/advisories/old-fort)
- NEBC Emergency Alerts: [www.nebcalerts.com](http://www.nebcalerts.com)
- PRRD: [www.prrd.bc.ca](http://www.prrd.bc.ca)
- PRRD Facebook: [www.facebook.com/OfficialPRRD](http://www.facebook.com/OfficialPRRD)
- PRRD Linktree: [linktr.ee/PRRDOfficial](http://linktr.ee/PRRDOfficial)

**Q: Who is monitoring the landslide?**

BC Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MoTT) continuously monitors the landslide and oversees road access. PRRD receives regular updates and will communicate any changes immediately.

**Q: I have a question not answered here — who do I call?**

- PRRD: 250-784-3200 | Toll Free: 1-800-670-7773 | [www.prrd.bc.ca](http://www.prrd.bc.ca)
- Pacific Northern Gas (emergency): 1-800-663-1173
- BC Hydro: 1-888-769-3766 or \*49376 (cell)
- Northern Health (Fort St. John): 250-263-6000
- RCMP Non-Emergency (Fort St. John): 250-787-8140
- Emergency: 9-1-1