

SHELTER RESOURCES

Center of Hope - (780) 743-3912

Drop-in Centre: Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., every day. A daytime drop-in program with free access to laundry, shower, basic first aid and personal care items.

The Salvation Army - (780) 743-4135*

Diversion - Support for individuals who are entering shelter to quickly divert them to other housing options.

Emergency Shelter - Open 24/7 for a stay up to 21 days. A dry shelter for men and women experiencing homelessness. Breakfast, supper and showers provided.

MAT Program - Open 24/7. A shelter for men and women experiencing homelessness with a 35-mat capacity. Breakfast, supper and showers provided.

Waypoints - (780) 743-1190*

The only domestic violence emergency women and children's shelter in the region providing shelter for up to 21 days. Unity House has 45 bedrooms.

Woods Homes - (780) 750-2252*

A 24/7 short-term shelter for youth aged 12-17 who are not living at home for various reasons.

**Support staff available 24/7.*

CONTACT INFORMATION

The contact information below can be used if you encounter an encampment and would like to learn about the resources available and response processes.

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|----------------|----------------|
| Center of Hope | (780) 743-3912 |
| Salvation Army | (780) 743-4135 |
| Pulse (RMWB) | (780) 743-7000 |



Giving Hope Today



WOOD BUFFALO
WELLNESS SOCIETY



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO



Heading Home:

A collaborative approach towards encampments in Fort McMurray



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO

RESPONDING TO ENCAMPMENTS

Maintaining dignity for individuals living rough and providing access to support services is a priority. The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo collaborates with local service providers and the RCMP in a combined response to encampments in Fort McMurray. The process is as follows:

1. An encampment is reported to the Municipality.
2. Bylaw Enforcement Services (Bylaw) respond to the identified site.
3. Risk assessments are completed to determine whether there are safety concerns with the encampment, surrounding businesses and residents. During these visits, Bylaw will observe:
 - The well-being and number of individuals living in the encampment.
 - Safety hazards such as propane tanks, fire pits, heat sources.
 - The location of the encampment and its proximity to other hazards.
4. Community outreach teams are notified of the encampment and work with Bylaw and RCMP to create a support plan to provide services and complete housing assessments.
 - In a low-risk situation, Bylaw takes the lead responding. Coordination of community supports, safety and regulations are prioritized.
 - In a high-risk situation, RCMP takes the lead. Coordination of community supports, safety and regulations are prioritized.
 - The closure of an encampment may only occur once all individuals have been provided with appropriate housing or shelter options.
 - o If forced closures occur, the housing needs of the individuals within the encampment will be appropriately met when possible.

COORDINATED ACCESS POINTS

Coordinated Access Points are service providers that assist individuals experiencing homelessness with housing assessment and support. The following is a list of community service providers that can support.

Alberta Health Services
(780) 788-1556

Centre of Hope
(780) 215-1622

The Salvation Army
(780) 743-4135*

Nistawoyou Association Friendship Centre
(780) 743-8555

Waypoints
(780) 743-1190*

Wood Buffalo Wellness Society
(780) 537-8477 or (780) 742-4003

**Support staff available 24/7.*

5. After an encampment is closed, Bylaw will conduct a site visit to ensure the encampment is vacant.
 - The Municipality will initiate the cleanup in closed encampments on lands owned and managed by the Municipality.
 - The Municipality will not initiate cleanup on private land, or land owned by the Provincial or Federal governments.

COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY ENCAMPMENT RESPONSE PROGRAMS

The Centre of Hope Outreach Programs

Outreach workers support individuals who are living rough with immediate needs, provide resources and referrals for community programs and work with individuals on housing support plans. The Centre of Hope ensure participants have access to snacks, water and shelter at the Drop-in Centre, and transportation to and from overnight shelters.

The Salvation Army of Fort McMurray Community Response Unit (CRU)

The Community Response Unit (CRU) Outreach Program assists persons who are living rough or who are outside in community needing supports. The CRU Chase Truck is a mobile unit that goes out in the evening to assist individuals by providing goods and services. The CRU Coordinator provides snacks and beverages, seasonal outerwear, bag lunches and referrals to services.

Both programs above partner with Northreach Society to assist with harm reduction and education for those wanting supports. They also have harm reductions supplies and Naloxone kits available.

RCMP Community Response

The RCMP support encampment initiatives by providing much needed community resources and, when necessary, through crime prevention efforts.