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North Zone - Slave Lake Staff Update (May 19, 2011)

May 20, 2011

We are pleased to let you know that Alberta Health Services has confirmed salary continuance for Slave Lake staff will be provided during the recovery period to resume health service operations in the community.

This means Slave Lake staff will continue to be paid for their regularly scheduled shifts until further notice so that they suffer no loss of regular earnings. This will be reviewed weekly as more information becomes available.

Casual employees who work an average of six or more hours a week will also continue to be paid. They will be paid based on the average number of hours worked per week.

Work is underway to ensure payroll processing for all impacted Slave Lake staff.

AHS has a number of contract workers in the area too, and we are looking at options for that group as well.

AHS staff benefits will remain in force and effect until further notice.

A reminder to HSAA staff that there will be a change to their benefits June 1, 2011

- HSAA staff may have, or will be, receiving letters from benefit providers that were mailed before the May 14/15 weekend. The letters advise HSAA Employees of a change in their benefit coverage and specify timeframes for replying
- We want to reassure staff we are working to extend those timeframes and assure you your benefits will be in place throughout the recovery period.
- We will be providing ongoing updates regarding these changes.

For HSAA Employees only with questions related to this benefit change you may contact:

- Lena Workman, Benefit Lead at 780 350-3145 or email at Lena.Workman@albertahealthservices.ca
- Patty Williams, Benefit Administrator at 780 350-3210 or email at Patty.Williams@albertahealthservices.ca

Housing and other supports for staff and all Slave Lake residents are also being determined by other government agencies, and information is being posted on websites and distributed in hard copy at evacuation centres.

Some links include:

For information on housing and other supports please call Alberta Supports toll-free at 1-877-644-9992, or online at: www.albertasupports.ca

At 2 p.m. today, government also posted an updated map outlining where property damage occurred in Slave Lake. Links to that information are below.

<http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/May2011/19/c6255.html>

<http://alberta.ca/home/>

Some banks, such as the RBC and ATB, are also offering to defer mortgage and loan payments for up to one year for Slave Lake Residents.

Website link to that information are:

RBC: <http://www.rbc.com/newsroom/2011/0518-slavelake.html>

ATB: <http://www.atb.com/Pages/Dev/News/details.aspx?newsid=420>

Information continues to be updated on the following sites:

Face Book: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/AHS-Staff-Wildfire-Support-Page/199047446805972>

Insite: <http://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/?from=aspen>

AHS External Web Page: <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca>

Be aware that all information posted on Face Book is available to the general public. Please refrain from posting private information or private health information.

The following Human Resources contacts remain available to assist employees that may have questions or concerns:

- General Intake Line – 780-350-3164
- Gladys Nelson, HR Advisor at 780-350-3173 (Slave Lake) or email Gladys.Nelson@albertahealthservices.ca
- Jacquie Wolff, HR Advisor at 780-350-3165 (Westlock/Athabasca/Boyle) or email Jacquie.Wolff@albertahealthservices.ca

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