



## Public Notice

### Hay River Breakup Update

Tuesday May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – 5pm

Last update provided was May 10 , 2022 at 5pm.

An evacuation order remains in place for Vale Island / West Channel and Paradise Gardens residents. An evacuation alert is in place for all riverfront properties within the community boundaries which includes the Corridor, Miron Drive, McBryan Drive, Capital Drive, and Riverview Drive. Any residents within the area of the evacuation order should be staying at alternative locations and be registered with the Registration Center (833-699-0188). All residents within the areas of the evacuation alert should be prepared to evacuate if flood risks elevate at their property. Preparedness information can be found at [www.hayriver.com/breakup](http://www.hayriver.com/breakup).

No significant changes have occurred with the river and ice conditions since the May 9<sup>th</sup>, 10am update. Water levels continue to rise slowly within Town boundaries, and ice jams remain in place locally. More flooding is anticipated with pending increases in water and future pushes and releases of ice jams.

An aerial survey of the river was completed at 2pm. Broken packed ice is in place for the majority of the river between the lake and a few kilometers south of Paradise Gardens. Open water is between Riverwoods and the old Homesteaders Inn location.

Water flowing over the highway on Vale Island is impeding safe travel into the area. Access restrictions are in place and will vary based on current conditions and purpose (ie. Essential services).

Warmer temperatures are melting accumulated snow in the Hay River area causing increased stress to storm systems that are already backed up due to height of the river. This will result in pooling of water within areas of town including parts of downtown. Town crews appreciate your patience and understanding as they balance management of public works infrastructure and flood response support.

Support services through evacuees are officially being offered through the Registration Centre at the Hay River Community Centre and Soaring Eagle Friendship Centre. Snacks and refreshments are available throughout the operating day at the Registration Centre while hot food meals are available at the Friendship Centre. United Way NWT has provided support for funding these food services.

Income assistance support programs from the GNWT are available for qualified recipients. More information is available on [www.hayriver.com/breakup](http://www.hayriver.com/breakup) or by calling 833-926-2110. Community mental health and wellness support services are being offered through Hay River Health and Social Services. Call 867-874-8450 for assistance.

While the focus of emergency response team remains on response to the current breakup activity, preparation for recovery activities has started. The GNWT will be deploying resources this week to assist the Town with planning and communication of services for impacted residents.

United Way NWT is now collecting funds to support flood response and recovery. To donate visit [www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/united-way-nwt/](http://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/united-way-nwt/). Follow them on Facebook at [facebook.com/unitedwaynwt](https://facebook.com/unitedwaynwt). A local Facebook group, “Hay River Helps” has also been setup for those interested in directly assisting evacuees at this time.

A public meeting will be held Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm at the Aurora Ford Arena at the Hay River Community Centre. An update will be provided on monitoring and response activities with a question period to follow.

Town of Hay River Breakup Updates are scheduled for standard release at 10am and 5pm daily. Special updates may be released outside of these hours. Updates are available through [www.hayriver.com/breakup](http://www.hayriver.com/breakup), Emergency Measures Information / Registration Line at 833-699-0188, Hay River Facebook page, and through the Emergency Measures Email subscription service.