



John Aldag

Member of Parliament
Cloverdale-Langley City

Wildfires in British Columbia have continued at an extreme level during the last week, with evacuations, loss of personal property, and damage to critical infrastructure happening in communities across the province. My heart goes out to all who have been impacted by the fires.

On August 25, the Honourable Harjit S. Sajjan, Minister of Emergency Preparedness, approved a Request for Federal Assistance from the Government of British Columbia to provide additional fire-fighting resources — increasing the level of support that is already being provided to the province.

In response to this request for assistance, the Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of National Defence, authorized the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) to provide personnel to assist and enable planning and coordination support, and type III fire-fighting operations, which typically include turning over and dousing hotspots and mopping-up affected areas.

CAF resources will be provided for three weeks starting on August 28, with an extension possible following a joint evaluation of the situation to determine if support is still required. This assistance is in addition to the federal support already being provided to the province through a Request for Federal Assistance, which was approved on August 19.

Locally, Langley Mounties are among the approximately 100 personnel from across the province deployed North to help with the wildfire battle, along with material resources. Officers will aid with evacuations, safeguard evacuated regions, ensure secure evacuation routes, and offer operational relief to local detachments. I sincerely thank the officers for risking their lives to protect the people fleeing wildfires in the Central Interior and Southeast BC.

The Government of Canada's Government Operations Centre is working closely with federal and provincial partners to coordinate the federal response to the situation in British Columbia.

[Government of Canada supporting British Columbia with response to wildfires - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/government/department/departmental-information/2018/08/government-of-canada-supporting-british-columbia-with-response-to-wildfires)

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