

**When faced with a wildfire threat, Strata Corporations must prioritize the safety and well-being of their residents.**

**Effective evacuation procedures** can make all the difference in ensuring the smooth and secure evacuation of the community. Here are some important tips and guidelines for Strata Corporations to follow when preparing for and executing an evacuation plan in the event of a wildfire.



### Stay informed

Stay updated on the latest news and information regarding wildfires in your area. Sign up for emergency alerts provided by local authorities, as they will notify you of evacuation orders, road closures, and safe locations nearby. Follow official social media accounts and engage with reliable news sources to receive accurate and timely information.



### Prepare ahead of time

Take proactive steps to prepare your family and property before a wildfire occurs. Create an emergency kit that includes essential items such as non-perishable food, clean water, medications, crucial documents, flashlights, spare batteries, and a first aid kit. Secure important documents in a fireproof and waterproof container for easy evacuation if needed.



### Develop an evacuation plan

Create a detailed evacuation plan for your home. Identify escape routes, ensuring they are clear of any potential obstructions throughout the year. Establish a designated meeting point outside the affected area to reunite with your family members. If you have pets, make arrangements for their evacuation as well, either in advance or by identifying nearby pet-friendly shelters or boarding facilities.



### Pack important belongings

When evacuation orders are issued, time is of the essence. Pack essential items quickly, including your emergency kit, important documents, identification, cash, and any sentimental belongings you can safely carry. Keep these items readily accessible and consider loading them into your vehicle in advance to minimize delays during an evacuation.



### Secure your home

Take necessary precautions to safeguard your property before leaving. Close all windows and doors, including garage doors, to prevent embers from entering. Leave outdoor lights on to increase visibility for firefighters.



### Communicate

Inform trusted family and friends about your evacuation plans. Share your location, routes, and estimated time of arrival at your destination. It is essential to keep your phone charged and have an external battery pack handy to stay connected and receive important updates.



### Stay calm and follow instructions

During an evacuation, it is vital to remain calm and follow the instructions provided by emergency responders and authorities. Stick to the designated evacuation routes, avoid shortcuts that may lead to dangerous areas, and do not return home until it is deemed safe to do so.



### Contact your insurance broker

As a condo owner, you should contact your personal insurance broker and advise them of your situation. Ask what your policy provides for coverage, specifically enquiring about your additional living expenses. This coverage can help for temporary relocation during an evacuation order.

As a Strata Corporation, your strata's insurance policy may also have coverage for additional living expenses if your personal limits are exhausted or if you don't have insurance. In the event of a claim, your strata's insurance broker can help you navigate through the complexities and different parties involved.

## Wildfires pose severe risks, but by following these wildfire evacuation tips, you can greatly increase your chances of staying safe during an emergency.

Remember to prioritize the safety of you and your family, stay informed, and be prepared. Stay vigilant, and remain open to adapting your plans as situations evolve.

**Once safe, contact your insurance broker to help navigate your way through any potential claim scenarios.**

## Our team understands the risks faced by Strata and Condo Corporations.

### ABOUT THE BFL CANADA REALTY INSURANCE SERVICES TEAM

Our team of real estate specialists works collaboratively with you to develop a cohesive, sustainable, long term risk management plan. We are here to guide your annual insurance and risk management solutions to provide you with complete peace of mind.

### CONTACT US

Our in-house claims team will track your claim from start to finish, providing "front of line" access to preferred restoration firms and adjusters. Their advocacy ensures your claim is well managed.

### REPORT A NEW CLAIM

#### DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS

**Toll Free:** 1 866 669-9602

**Email:** realestateclaims@bflcanada.ca

#### 24/7 EMERGENCY CLAIMS LINE

**Toll Free:** 1 866 938-5691