

For immediate release  
September 23, 2022

## **VOLUNTARY EVACUATION FOR RESIDENTS OF INDIAN GARDENS**

### **ANTIGONISH, N.S.**

The Antigonish Town and County Emergency Management Team (EMT) has organized a voluntary evacuation centre for the residents of Indian Gardens whose homes were directly impacted by the November 2021 flood as a precautionary measure leading up to the arrival of Hurricane Fiona.

“Town staff reviewed all homes that were impacted by the November flood. The homes that flooded are the ones who received the voluntary evacuation notification,” says Shannon Long, Information Officer with the EMT. “Staff are delivering notices to residents this afternoon and arrangements for transportation for those who require assistance is being managed by members of the EMT and Antigonish Community Transit.”

The EMT has reached out to volunteers with the St. Joseph’s Lakeside Community Centre and have made arrangements for the Evacuation Centre be open as of 6 p.m. on Friday, September 23, 2022 and it will be open for 24 hours. There will be cots and some supplies on hand for those who choose to evacuate.

“Residents from Indian Gardens are encouraged to pack a small bag of comfort items including a blanket and pillow, as well as any medications required,” says Long. “The shelter will have some food available, however residents are also encouraged to bring small amounts of food for themselves especially if they have any dietary requirements.”

Antigonish Community Transit will be providing transportation for those who need it. Pick ups will begin at 5 p.m. and will be available until 7 p.m.

Residents arriving at the Centre will be asked to register with a member from the Red Cross. The Voluntary Evacuation Centre will be open for 24 hours. Any further need for shelter space will be assessed throughout the storm.

Should residents decide to not voluntarily evacuate and an emergency arises, they should call 911.

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