**Thursday, May 5, 2016**

**1:00PM**

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**(Immediate Release)**

**Fort McKay First Nation Available for Evacuees**

Fort McKay First Nations is pleased to offer help to all stranded evacuees north of Fort McMurray, Alberta. As of 1pm today, there are a significant number of beds and resources available and the Nation welcomes anyone who is stranded north on Highway 63 to head towards Fort McKay, Alberta.

Operating as a service center, Fort McKay First Nations, which is located 57 kilometres north of Fort McMurray, can provide clean water, food, shelter, clothing and a medical center for all those in need.

Despite the fact that Highway 63 north is closed to the public, emergency vehicles carrying food and clothing are able to get through to Fort McKay. Anyone stranded on or near the highway, should take shelter in Fort McKay.

The Nation is requesting contingency supplies to support their efforts (i.e.: food, clothing, towels, items for infants, feminine products, etc.) These can be dropped off at Fort McKay Logistics in Edmonton – 5744 – 67th Ave, for transport.

Upon arriving in Fort McKay, the Nation asks that all evacuees check-in at the band office (located immediately off the highway) and also register themselves with the Red Cross.

Chief Jim Boucher of the Fort McKay First Nations will be available to the media today. For more information, please contact:

Sandra Burns at 403 993 9795 or sandra@catchphrase.ca

-30-