

## **NWT Sends Additional Resources to Assist Forest Fire Operations in Alberta**

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*Fort Smith (May 17, 2006)* - Additional fire personnel and resources from the Northwest Territories (NWT) have been sent to Alberta to assist in fighting wildfires in the province.

Six crews of five firefighters each, two sector leaders and one agency representative left last night for Rocky Mountain House. The crews are from Fort Smith, Hay River, Fort Providence and Fort Simpson.

A CL-215 tanker group has also been dispatched to Lac La Biche. The group includes two CL-215 tankers and one bird dog aircraft.

The Government of the Northwest Territories is providing the resources as part of the Canadian Interagency Mutual Aid Resources Sharing Agreement. Fire danger in Alberta is moderate to high across the province.

There are sufficient resources in the NWT to deal with any potential fire situations. People travelling in the bush or on the land this weekend are reminded this is the time of the year when wildfires are likely to start, spread and cause damage to values-at-risk. Anyone travelling in the forest is asked to take care when using fire and to make sure all campfires are properly extinguished. To report a forest fire, call 1-877-NWT-FIRE (1-877-698-3473).

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