I have to Evacuate and go to a Reception Centre
When there is an emergency, I might have to leave my house. It will be ok. I am safe.
I might not be able to take anything with me, especially if there is a fire.
Sometimes, there might be an evacuation alert and we will have more time to pack and prepare.
I am going to go to a Reception Centre along with the other families that had to leave their homes.
We will be safe at the Reception Centre.
The Reception Centre is at a local recreation centre or community centre. The recreation centre or community centre will be set up a bit differently then it usually is and I won’t be able to do the activities that I can normally do there.
Volunteers and staff, called “responders” will be there to help me. They have special training and know what to do in an emergency.
At the Reception Centre, responders will meet us and will help us get things we need like food, clothing and a place to stay.
There might be lots of noise at the Reception Centre and there might be lots of people including helpers and other people who had to evacuate.
I might have to wait in line ups to talk to a responder. I can wait patiently in the line or in the waiting area until it’s my turn.
There will be signs and responders to tell me where to go next. I can follow the signs and listen to the responders.
There will be tables set up where I will meet with a responder. The responder will ask my family questions and help us fill out forms. These forms will help us get the supplies we need.
The responders will tell us where we can go to get our supplies and where we will go to sleep. They might send us to a hotel or, we might spend the night with friends or family.
Emergencies are stressful and a lot can change very quickly. If I feel stressed, I can take deep breaths or ask if there is a sensory space or quiet space to relax.
A few days after the evacuation, we will have a “Recovery Meeting” at the Reception Centre. At this meeting, we will learn about our home and we will get more help from organizations like the Canadian Red Cross if we need it.
The Fire Chief will tell us when we can go home or if we need to find another place to stay. We might not be able to go home right away. That’s ok.
Everything will be ok.