



Part of the Bow River pathway under the Centre Street Bridge has been closed as a precaution against potential flooding. The Bow River is expected to peak in Calgary on Tuesday evening and widespread flooding is not expected, a ministry of environment spokesperson said. **GAVIN YOUNG**

# Communities along the Bow River keeping watch as water levels rise

Widespread flooding not expected, though advisories remain in place

**DANIEL GONZALEZ**

The “June Monsoon” is in full effect, and communities along the Bow River are keeping a close eye on rising water levels in the region.

Water levels in rivers across the province are being monitored by the Alberta River Forecast Centre as rainfall continues, said Ryan Fournier, spokesman for the ministry of Environment and Protected Areas.

Widespread flooding is not expected, Fournier said, but high streamflow advisories are in place for parts of central and southern Alberta.

The Bow River upstream of Banff to

the Ghost Reservoir is under a high streamflow advisory.

Flood watches remain in effect for the Pipestone River and Bow River at Lake Louise due to snowmelt run-off.

Water levels have peaked at Lake Louise, and are approaching their peak in Banff, Fournier said.

“The Bow River is expected to peak in Calgary on Tuesday evening and widespread flooding is not expected, but low-lying pathways and parks may flood,” he said.

Rain is expected to continue in Calgary on Tuesday, with some relief expected by Wednesday, Environment Canada meteorologist Christy Climenhaga said Monday.

For now, it’s “cats and dogs” across the province due to a low pressure system pulling moisture into Alberta, and a yellow rainfall advisory remains in effect for the city.

“There’s a lot of variation through the city, as you often see, like 27.8 millimetres (of rain) at the airport over the last 48 hours, whereas toward Springbank it’s 42 millimetres,” Climenhaga said. “And just south of Calgary, if you head toward Staveley, about 100 millimetres.”

The city is forecast to receive anywhere from 20 mm to 60 mm over the next few days.

June usually brings 112.7 mm of rain to Calgary, Climenhaga said.

The city is also experiencing high wind gusts that are likely to persist until Tuesday night.

“Peak wind gusts over the past 24 hours have been around 80 kilometres per hour,” Climenhaga said.

Although the weather will clear up by Wednesday, the city could see more showers and possibly thunderstorms heading into Thursday.

Closures are in effect for the Elbow River south bank pathway underpasses on 25th Avenue; Macleod Trail north and south; and the CN bridge.

Bow River pathway closures include the underpasses on the Reconciliation Bridge north bank, the Centre Street Bridge, the Louise Bridge north bank and the Baines Bridge pathway.

Additional closures include the Bowmont Park pathways and channel bridge and the north bank pathway along the south side of the Calgary Zoo.

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# Province unveils new funding model linking money for hospitals to care

**CINDY TRAN**

EDMONTON Alberta is rolling out a new funding model that connects hospital funding to patient care.

At a Monday news conference, the province announced 12 hospitals are currently operating under Phase 1 of the new patient-focused funding (PFF) model, which is an activity based funding formula where

health services providers will be funded depending on the care they deliver.

Phase 1 applies to four surgeries — hip replacements, knee replacements, cataract surgery, and shoulder rotator cuff repair.

Hospital and Surgical Health Services Minister Adriana La-Grange said hospitals that treat more patients will receive more

funding under the new funding model.

It moves away from the traditional funding model where hospitals would receive a fixed block budget, regardless of how many patients were treated or surgeries performed.

“Funding follows the patient,” La-Grange said.

“That (traditional) model doesn’t

align incentives the right way. It can actually discourage hospitals from doing more.”

Officials said of the 12 hospitals in the province operating under the PFF, nine are operated by Alberta Health Services (AHS), and three operated by Covenant Health.

The province says the new model will increase efficiency and transparency. There are 26,000 procedures funded under the PFF model in 2026-27.

The cost of each surgery varies under the new model depending on how it is classified.

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