

Alderman demands smoke action

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Ald. Diane Colley-Urquhart STUART DRYDEN/QMI AGENCY

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In an attempt to avoid the kind of hazy mess south Calgary residents have endured this week, a Calgary alderman is crafting a notice of motion to explore the city's options.

The fire at Tsuu T'ina Nation that began burning Tuesday smoldered until Friday afternoon when firefighters finally tamed the blaze for good, but not before blanketing south Calgary in a haze that lasted for days.

Ald. Diane Colley-Urquhart said she has received hundreds of calls from upset Calgarians about the smoke.

"It was so bad in some places you couldn't see across the street," she said.

"That is unacceptable."

The belching smoke prompted Alberta Health Services to issue a fire smoke advisory to residents.

Health officials said all individuals are advised to monitor their health, and take precautions necessary to minimize irritation and potential health impacts.

"The effects of the smoke are felt by everyone and are particularly hard on those with respiratory conditions," said Colley-Urquhart.

"I have had calls from residents who had to stay in hotels to stay out of the area, it's been so bad."

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