

EMBC Freedom Of Information EMBC:EX

Subject: BCWS MANDATE - MLM added some notes/agenda

Location: Teams Meeting

Start: Thu 2021-01-21 11:00

End: Thu 2021-01-21 11:45

Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Maley, Madeline L EMBC:EX

Required Attendees: Peterson, Dave EMBC:EX; Brach, Pader W EMBC:EX; Forge, Kathryn EMBC:EX; Godlonton, Brian EMBC:EX; Meier, Ian R FLNR:EX; Burleson, Ron EMBC:EX

Optional Attendees: Myers, Mary E FLNR:EX; Chapman, Cliff T FLNR:EX; Jeffreys, Jamie FLNR:EX; Schweitzer, Rob W FLNR:EX; Lewis, Cameron F EMBC:EX; Isfeld, Kurtis FLNR:EX

Hi All

This meeting was established b/f Christmas and since then Ron and Cameron have done some work to advance the Parliamentary Secretary Rice's workplan – which in part addresses her mandate letter linked to LFNROD. Ron will use this time to provide and update on the workplan.

EMBC is interested in an update from BCWS regarding other initiatives

Agenda:

- PSJR Workplan (Ron Burleson)
- Other Opportunities – BCWS (Ian Meier)

MMF and PSJR Mandate Letter

Support the work of the Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development to work with local governments to reduce wildfire risk and better prepare and support communities for future wildfires.

Meeting being moved due to calendar conflicts.

Microsoft Teams meeting

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EMBC Freedom Of Information EMBC:EX

From: Richards, Tara R EMBC:EX
Sent: February 12, 2021 16:41
To: Robinson, Jon PREM:EX
Cc: Douglas, Andrew PSSG:EX
Subject: FW: Minister of State and Parliamentary Secretary working agreements
Attachments: PS work plan PO -- Mandate 1.docx; PS work plan PO -- Mandate 1.docx; PS work plan PO -- Mandate 3.docx

Hi Jon

Submitting the works plans that have been approved by Parliamentary Secretary Rice and developed with the MO and my office. Any questions please let me know

Tara

From: Sanford, Donna L PREM:EX <Donna.Sanford@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 19, 2021 12:04 PM
To: BCPSA Agency DMC List <PSADM@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Robinson, Jon PREM:EX <Jon.Robinson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Minister of State and Parliamentary Secretary working agreements

Hello colleagues:

This is to let you know that Ministers of State, Parliamentary Secretaries, and their respective Ministers and Ministerial Advisors have been requested by the PO to work collaboratively with Deputy Ministers to develop working agreements, by February 15. I've attached the templates that have been forwarded to them. (For DMs with no Parliamentary Secretary or Minister of State – this is FYI and to keep you in the loop.)

The main intent of these work agreement templates is to reflect an agreed-upon approach to roles and responsibilities. The preliminary workplans (template A's) for relevant key commitments submitted by ministries to the Planning and Priorities Secretariat in December can be attached, with any adjustments – to avoid recreating work.

Jon Robinson, Executive Director in the Planning and Priorities Secretariat, will be the liaison for the Premier's Office for this work, and is available to answer any questions and to participate in any conversations that are set up. Jon can be reached at Jon.Robinson@gov.bc.ca or 250-893-4538. MOs have been asked to submit completed documents to Jon by **February 15**.

Thank you,
Donna

Donna Sanford
Associate Deputy Minister
Planning and Priorities Secretariat
Office of the Premier
250-893-4771

Parliamentary Secretary – Work Plan

Work plan: Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness	
Parliamentary Secretary	MLA Jennifer Rice
Mandate commitment	Work with communities to identify gaps in existing emergency response procedures and resources, with the goal of updating and future-proofing our province-wide ability to respond to crises, including pandemics.
Project team / meeting frequency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive lead: Tara Richards, EMBC • MO lead: Andrew Douglas • PO/PPS contact: identify PO contact • Other relevant staff: Cameron Lewis, EMBC, Ron Burleson, EMBC
Objectives	Utilizing existing strategic and operational engagement mechanisms, strengthen relationships with communities and provide a vehicle for listening to community issues as they relate to emergency management. Gaps identified will serve to inform future priorities for existing and/or new programming and investment.
Deliverables / Outcomes	Identification of gaps in emergency response procedures and resources based on experiences in floods, fires and the pandemics and future catastrophic events such as earthquakes or tsunamis.
Stakeholder engagement plan	UBCM Flood and Fire Advisory Committee First Nations Partnership Tables First Nations Leadership Council (through tripartite emergency management working group and EPA sub-committee) Local Authorities and possibly Local Authority Area Associations First Nations Governments Integrated Partnership for Regional Emergency Management Regional Emergency Management Partnership
Proposed Timeline	For the first 12 months, the Parliamentary Secretary will engage in processes as described in objectives, communicating mandate goals, building and strengthening relationships, and creating opportunities for dialogue. In the remaining three years, the approach will be adjusted as driven by issues identified in community dialogue and further direction from Cabinet.
Planning determining factors	<p>The full potential of community engagement may be constrained by pandemic restrictions. Furthermore, community capacity at the local authority and First Nations level may further limit engagement.</p> <p>There have been several significant public reports in recent years (OAG earthquake readiness, Abbot Chapman) as well as emergency management capacity concerns raised by Local Authorities and First Nations. Further inquiries on gaps may contribute to increased expectations on additional investment in emergency management.</p>

Parliamentary Secretary – Work Plan

Work plan: Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness	
Parliamentary Secretary	MLA Jennifer Rice
Mandate commitment	Support the work of the Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development to work with local governments to reduce wildfire risk and better prepare and support communities for future wildfires.
Project team / meeting frequency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive lead: Tara Richards, EMBC MO lead: Andrew Douglas PO/PPS contact: identify PO contact Other relevant staff: Cameron Lewis EMBC, Ron Burleson, EMBC, Jamie Jeffreys, BCWS
Objectives	The Parliamentary Secretary will utilize planned engagements (e.g. Fire Smart Community Advisory Committee) to engage with communities on wildfire risk reduction. This engagement will provide linkages between Emergency Management BC and the BC Wildfire Service by considering both mandates when engaging with communities.
Deliverables / Outcomes	Identification of constraints limiting the reduction of wildfire risk at a community level.
Stakeholder engagement plan (working with BCWS on stakeholder list)	<p>Firesmart Community Advisory Committee</p> <p>First Nations Partnership Tables</p> <p>First Nations Leadership Council (through tripartite emergency management working group and EPA sub-committee)</p> <p>Local Authorities and possibly Local Authority Area Associations.</p> <p>First Nations Governments</p> <p>Integrated Partnership for Regional Emergency Management</p> <p>Regional Emergency Management Partnership</p>
Proposed Timeline	Support of this work will be ongoing throughout mandate with reporting out to the Minister as warranted.
Planning determining factors	<p>The BC Wildfire Service is the lead for the work in this mandate commitment. It is likely there will be similar issues in relation to community capacity and expectations.</p> <p>The full potential of community engagement may be constrained by pandemic restrictions. Furthermore, community capacity at the local authority and First Nations level may further limit engagement.</p> <p>There have been several significant public reports in recent years (OAG earthquake readiness, Abbot Chapman) as well as emergency management capacity concerns raised by Local Authorities and First Nations. Further inquiries on gaps may contribute to increased expectations on additional investment in wildfire risk reduction beyond existing levels (including the FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund).</p>

	As noted in Mandate Commitment 1, capacity gaps and other implementation constraints may impact engagement success.
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EMBC Freedom Of Information EMBC:EX

From: Lewis, Cameron F EMBC:EX
Sent: February 26, 2021 16:45
To: Richards, Tara R EMBC:EX
Cc: Roe, Sandra EMBC:EX; Fraser, Agnes EMBC:EX; Burleson, Ron MUNI:EX; Lewis, Cameron F EMBC:EX
Subject: PSR materials for the UBCM meeting March 5
Attachments: UBCM Flood Fire Advisory Committee Membership Dec 2020.pdf; PSR Speaking Notes UBCM FWAC March 5 2021 (004).docx; PSR Mandate Discussion UBCM FWAC March 5 2021 (003).pptx

Hello Tara,

Attached are draft speaking notes and a PPT for PSR for March 5. Heather has reviewed. Also attached is a committee members list for her reference. Heather has reviewed.

You may have edits for us, but once you are ok with these, will DMO move them through to PSR (cc to MO)?

Thanks!

Cameron Lewis | Executive Lead
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24 Hour Emergency Reporting: 1 800 663-3456
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Director, Emergency Management

Daniel Stevens
City of Vancouver

UBCM Flood and Wildfire Advisory Committee

Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness

Jennifer Rice

March 5, 2021

Mandate Letter

- Work with communities to identify gaps in existing emergency response procedures and resources, with the goal of updating and future-proofing our province-wide ability to respond to crises, including pandemics.
- Considerable existing information for briefings
- Robust engagement mechanisms in place
- Ongoing role in EMBC Public Education



Mandate Letter

- Work to complete the modernization of the Emergency Program Act.
 - Active ongoing and future engagement
 - Community resource needs assessment
 - Implementation planning with Local Authorities and First Nations
 - Support for Regulatory development
 - First Nations co-creation/engagement



Mandate Letter

- Support the work of the Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development to work with local governments to reduce wildfire risk and better prepare and support communities for future wildfires.
- Robust existing engagement mechanisms

Additional Areas of Focus

- Champion for existing public education activities
- Community support prior to, during and post-event



Union of British Columbia Municipalities – Flood and Wildfire Advisory Committee

March 5, 2021 – Speaking Notes

Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness

MLA Jennifer Rice

Thank you Cameron, [add or substitute based on who will introduce] and good afternoon everyone. It is an honour to be with you today. I'm calling you today from my community of Prince Rupert, traditional territory of the Tsimshian peoples, where I am honoured to live, play and serve the people. I really wish I could be with you today in person, but I know this remains the reality for us. Hopefully, in the near future, we will be able to meet face to face. This committee represents so much to the municipalities of British Columbia as I understand that this committee was originally formed with a focus on floods and fires in the wake of the 2017 and 2018 events, but has since broadened its scope to wider EM issues, and has become the primary UBCM point of contact working closely with the Province on the modernized EM legislation. I think we are all seeing the need to do more, and do better on emergency management, given the seriousness and variety of challenges we're now facing. Floods and wildfires, but also pandemic, sea level rise, drought, tsunamis and of course earthquakes. In my four years as

Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness, I've had an opportunity to connect with local authorities and First Nations impacted by natural disasters. These disasters can be widespread like the wildfire seasons of 2017 and 2018, or really focused geographically like the May 2018 flooding events in Grand Forks. Throughout this time, I've built an appreciation that emergency management is not just about response, but all pillars of emergency management including preparation, mitigation and recovery. In addition, emergency management isn't just a single agency accountability, but rather all levels of government and – importantly, an all of society responsibility. This is why I'm really honoured that Premier Horgan not only continued my role as Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness, but also expanded my mandate, and I would like to take a few minutes to tell you about it, and then hear from you if you have any initial thoughts on how I should best move forward in this role.

[Shift to PowerPoint Presentation]

I have a few slides to refer that outline my mandate commitments as well as the initial approach that I am taking. Unless anyone has any pressing questions, perhaps I'll just move through these and then we can have a bit of a dialogue. But before I do that, I should tell you in general what a Parliamentary

Secretary does. Just like all Parliamentary Secretaries, it is my job to assist my Minister, Hon. Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General in carrying out his duties. In doing so, I may be asked to represent the Minister at public events, deliver speeches on behalf of the Minister, or act as a spokesperson for the government's position. It is my job to reach out to stakeholders, businesses, civil society and individuals across B.C. to better understand their perspectives and bring their views to the Minister. Beyond this general mandate though, I do have some specific commitments that I have been assigned.

Moving past the title slide to **Slide 2**, my first mandate commitment focuses on community gaps, with a focus on future proofing communities for a variety of disasters, including things like pandemics. You'll note that the language only references response, but I am interpreting this is being inclusive of all phases of emergency management – preparation, response, mitigation and recovery. Gaps could include many things, and I'm open to hearing what they are. I know the work around the Emergency Program Act is probably top of mind, but I also know that many communities have capacity challenges around emergency management, quite apart from any modernization work. And I know that this

committee has communicated loud and clear, that communities can't take on additional legislative obligations, without additional resources. I look forward to discussing that further.

My approach is not to create new engagement channels, but rather use existing mechanisms such as connecting with this committee as well as working with First Nations Leadership throughout the province and engaging with the emergency management community in public forums. As I engage further in that dialogue, I expect more targeted outreach to occur.

Moving to **Slide 3**, my second key mandate commitment is to support the modernization of the Emergency Program Act. I know this committee has been very involved and I see you are getting an update later in this agenda. I see my role not so much to get involved in the legislative work that has gone on to date, but rather to focus on the implementation angle of the modernization, helping to answer the question "what is this going to take to implement at the community level?". I know that's a big question, and with all the pressures on government, I want to say at the outset that we might not be able to do everything for everybody, but we need to hear where these gaps are or we won't be able to

do anything. Just like in mandate commitment 1, I expect to engage with local authorities and First Nations through existing mechanisms such as this one.

My third mandate commitment is outlined on **Slide 4**, and emphasizes supporting the Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development in its work with communities to reduce wildfire risk. While this work is being led by Ministry Conroy and her ministry, I am pleased there is recognition that we need to work together. Later this month I will be connecting with the FireSmart Community Advisory Committee to have a similar conversation to the one we're having today. I will be working with FLNR and the BC Wildfire Service to identify additional opportunities to dialogue with communities and to support all of our collective work.

And lastly, I would be remiss, if I didn't mention my ongoing responsibilities supporting the work of the public education program at EMBC with events such as the Highwater Hike which promotes tsunami awareness. In addition, I will continue to support senior political EMBC operations with my MLA colleagues as emergency events unfold and am fully committed to directly support communities that have been impacted by disasters, as I did with Grand Forks during their response and recovery.

I think I'll pause there and see if there are any initial comments or thoughts.

Probing questions if required:

1. Do any of these mandate commitments require clarification from your perspective?
2. Is there anything missing?
3. Are there other key engagement opportunities we should be identifying now?
4. Is there any work you would see as a priority for me?
5. How would you like to engage with me moving forward?