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Page 02 of 75

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Seasonal Hazard Update and Emergency Management Overview

December 16, 2022



Ministry of
Emergency Management
and Climate Readiness

Agenda/Purpose

Purpose: To provide an emergency 101 on the basics of what you need to know when an event occurs.

We will cover:

1. Situational Briefings
2. Cross-government Coordination
3. Roles and Responsibilities
4. Activities to support new Cabinet understand EM role

Situational Briefings

▪ **Daily**

- EMCR Update @ 7:00am
- Emergent Issues

▪ **Weekly**

- Current hazard situation and forecast

▪ **Seasonal Preparation (March-April)**

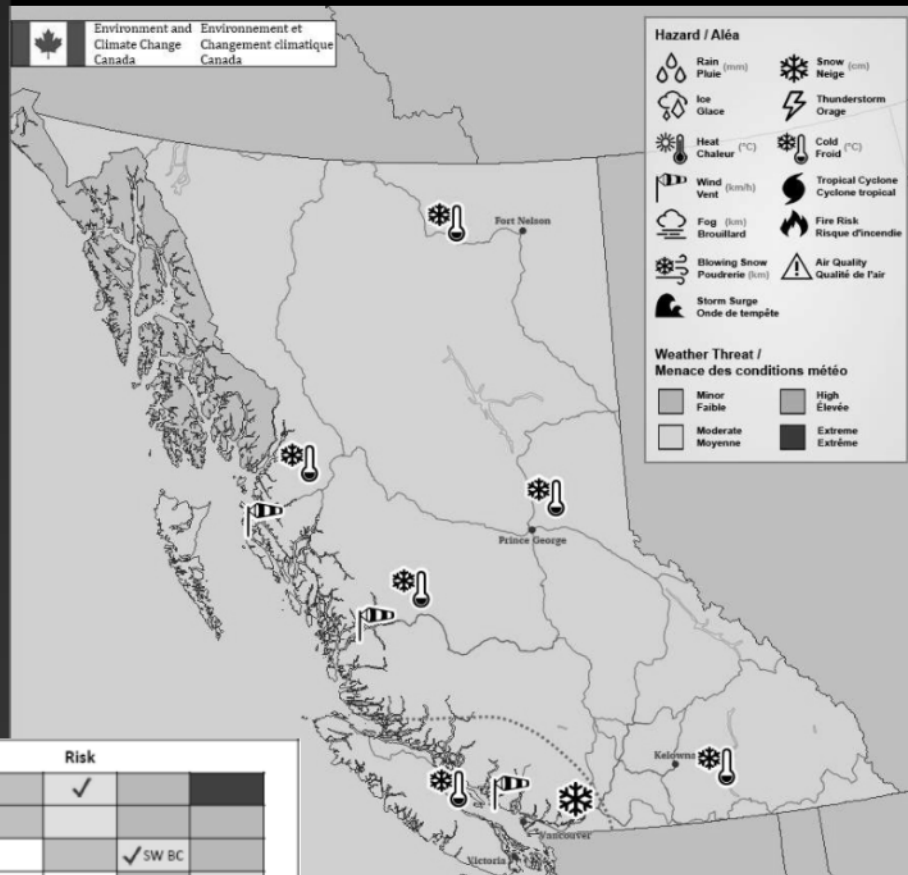
- First Nation and Local Authority
Emergency Management Staff
- Provincial Government MLA Briefings
- First Nation Leadership
– FLNR and All Chiefs
- Local Authority Elected Officials

▪ **Event Specific**

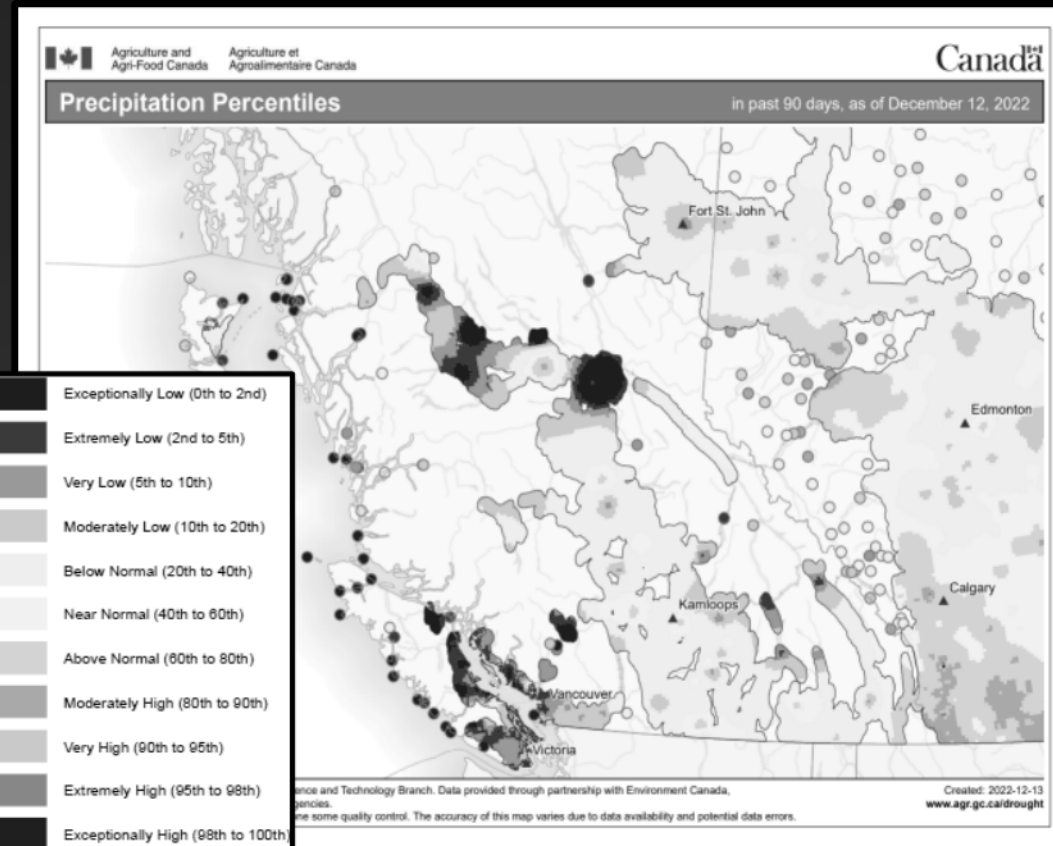
- Minister
- Premier's Office/Cabinet
- MLA Phone Line/Email
- MLA Briefings
- First Nation Leadership – FNLC and All Chiefs
- Local Authority Elected Officials

HAZARD CONDITIONS COLD & DROUGHT

NOTIFICATION OF EXTENDED COLD: DEC 17-22

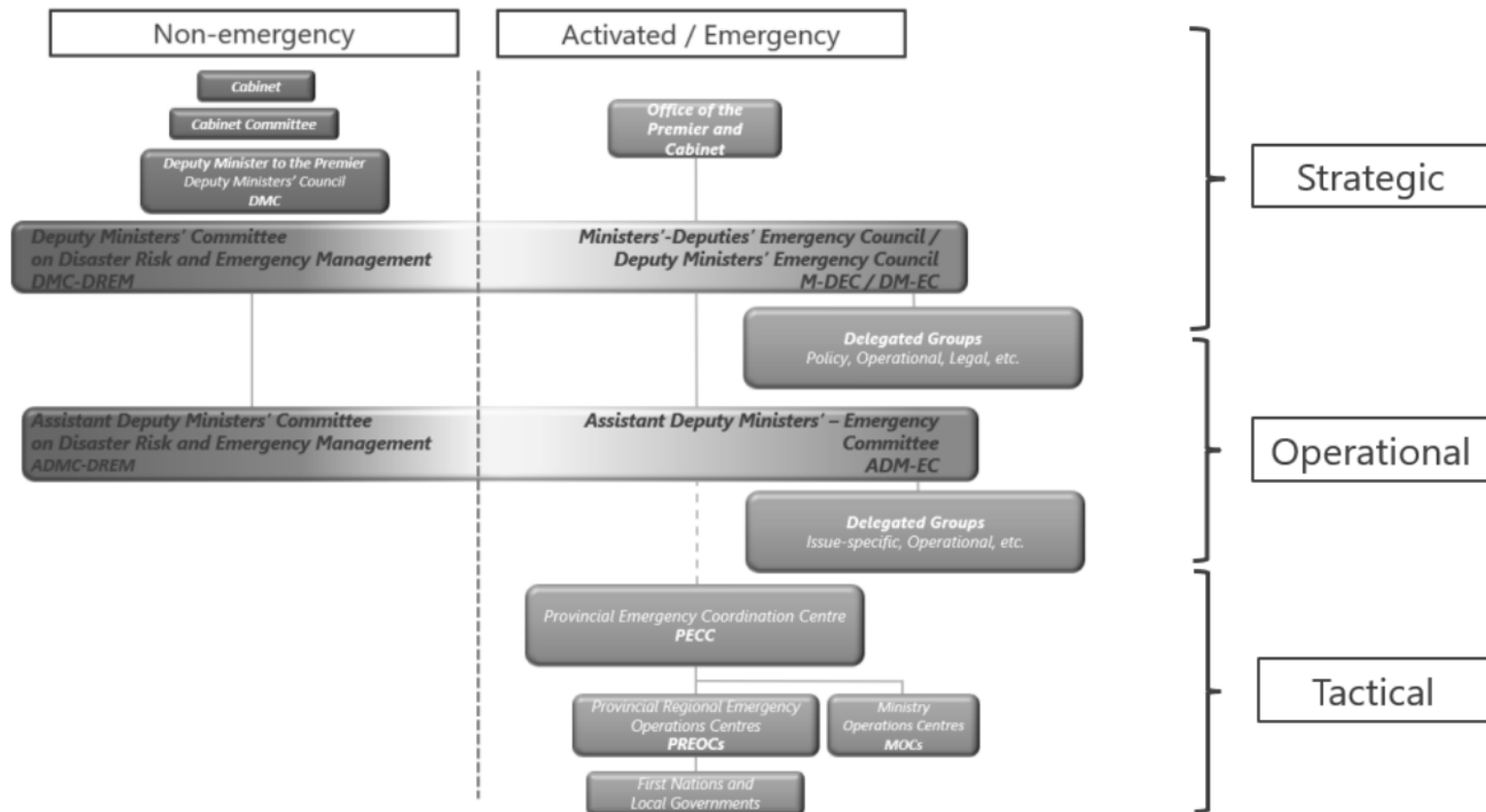


90 DAY PRECIPITATION DEFICIT (DEC 12)



- 90 Day precipitation expressed as a percentile of historical average
- The BC Drought Portal Map is no longer being updated (due to winter conditions)

Provincial Emergency Management Governance



Ministers' - Deputies' Emergency Council (M-DEC)

- Following a catastrophic event, M-DEC will convene, and Ministers and DMs will receive M-DEC and/or DM-EC meeting details or will receive a call through the Deputy Ministers' Emergency Teleconference Line, activated by the DM EMCR, depending on available communication technology.
- M-DEC may be required to:
 - Provide executive policy decisions, strategic direction, and leadership to the overall response.
 - Validate the need for a declaration of State of Provincial Emergency.
 - Authorize extraordinary funds to support disaster risk management and emergency management activities.
 - Ensure support of ministries, crown corporations, and agencies for the integrated government response.
 - Support the development of strategic public communications.

Roles & Responsibilities – PO and MO

- Premier's Office

- Convene Cabinet as needed- provide leadership and strategic direction to M-DEC and/or DM-EC.
- Deputy to the Premier chairs M-DEC.
- Targeted public communication prior to and during emergency events.
- Intergovernmental relations (Federal, Provincial, Territorial, First Nations and Local government).

- Minister, Emergency Management and Climate Readiness

- Provincial spokesperson prior to and during emergency events.
- Declaration of Provincial State of Emergency and associated powers.
- Establish orders to support mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.
- Direct outreach to impacted Indigenous communities and local authorities.
- Intergovernmental relations (Federal, Provincial, Territorial and First Nations).

Roles & Responsibilities in Response - EMCR

- Coordinating agency for the provincial government's emergency preparedness, response and recovery activities supporting:
 - First Nations and local authorities as they activate their emergency management plans
 - Response and recovery agencies/ministries with event
 - Ministries as they continue to deliver government service.
- Provides assets for preparedness and response and support when LG/FN capacity is exhausted.
- The Province covers eligible costs.
- Facilitate strategic communications to deliver accurate, clear, concise, and timely information during emergencies – one source of truth (ex. EmergencyInfoBC).
- Support community delivery of culturally safe Emergency Support Services.
- Issue Broadcast Intrusive Alerts at community request.
- Interface with Federal, Provincial, Territorial partners to receive resources and personnel as needed.

Roles & Responsibilities – Ministries

- Must develop emergency plans and procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency or disaster.
- Ministries with specific hazards as per the Emergency Management Program Regulation (e.g. FOR – wildfire and flood, HLTH – pandemic) are responsible for leading planning and response; EMCR supports.
- Must mobilize to deliver emergency and critical services during emergencies and disasters.
- Must have business continuity plans and activate Ministry Operations Centres, as required.
- Conduct preparedness activities in advance with their partners/stakeholders.
- Provide staff to support response and recovery through the TEAMS Program.

Roles & Responsibilities: Local Authorities/First Nations

- Under the *Emergency Program Act*, Local Authorities must establish and maintain an emergency management organization to develop and implement emergency plans and other preparedness, response and recovery measures for emergencies and disasters.
- Declare local state of emergency or Band Council Resolution regarding event.
- The Province, through agreements with Indigenous Services Canada, provides emergency and wildfire management services and supports to First Nations communities.
- Communities manage the emergency locally, seeking Provincial support when their specific needs (i.e. expertise and/or capacity) are exhausted.
- Work with partners to manage event across jurisdictions.
- Communities continue to show leadership and collaboration with adjacent jurisdictions.

EMCR Support to Government Transition

- Update and issue Senior Officials' Guide (SOG).
- Provide Cabinet and Ministerial Assistants SOG orientation.
- Conduct satellite phone training.
- Provide ongoing situational awareness.

Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy

Key Messages:

- As the gateway to the Pacific and with deep economic and people-to-people ties with the region, British Columbia welcomes strengthened engagement by Canada in the Indo-Pacific as laid out in the new Indo-Pacific Strategy
- British Columbia is deeply connected to the region through its large and diverse diaspora communities. These communities are a significant asset in building stronger relationships in the Indo-Pacific.
- B.C. will continue to seek to expand and diversify opportunities for BC exporters in the Indo-Pacific region, as well as promote international education and tourism.
- The network of B.C. Trade and Investment offices in the Indo-Pacific region is well-placed to promote B.C.-origin exports to these markets.
- We welcome improvements to Canada's visa-processing capacity in the region.
- The B.C. government is in regular touch with the federal government in relation to Canada's evolving foreign and trade policy approach towards China.
- We understand that the federal government will defend Canada's national interests in challenging China and will cooperate with China to find solutions to global issues such as climate change. The Strategy also notes that China's economy offers significant opportunities for Canadian exporters.
- B.C. has long-standing connections with China in trade, education, tourism and in cooperation on the transition to a low carbon economy.
- We welcome efforts to expand market access and trade diversification in the region through trade agreements such as the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) and those being negotiated with ASEAN, Indonesia and India.

Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy

The federal government's long-awaited Indo-Pacific Strategy (IPS) was released at a Sunday, November 27 press conference in Vancouver by Foreign Affairs Minister Mélanie Joly. She was joined by Ministers Anand (DND), Ng (International Trade), Sajjan (International Development and Pacifica), and Mendicino (Public Safety), underscoring the whole-of-government approach to the IPS. The content had largely been telegraphed through Foreign Affairs Minister Joly's speech at the Asia Pacific Foundation/Munk School event on November 9 in Toronto, and subsequent announcements by the Prime Minister during his participation at recent ASEAN, G20 and APEC summits. The IPS is meant to be more of a "generational shift" than a "pivot" to the region, which is the fastest growing economic region of the world and will account for more than half of the global economy by 2040. Managing great power competition and taking measures to fight climate change in the Indo-Pacific region will also be critically important for global security. Not surprisingly, Canada's evolving policy towards China is a core element of the strategy, with China and other elements meant to be mutually reinforcing.

China: In the IPS, China is viewed as "an increasingly disruptive global power" with enormous impact on the Indo-Pacific. "China is looking to shape the international order into a more permissive environment for interests and values that increasingly depart from ours". In response the IPS indicates Canada will, taking a "clear-eyed" approach, "defend its national interest, be it with regard to global rules that govern global trade, international human rights or navigation and overflight rights." At the same time, the strategy acknowledges that China's global heft makes cooperation necessary to address key global issues such as climate change and biodiversity loss, global health, and nuclear proliferation. It also notes that "China's economy offers significant opportunities for Canadian exporters."

According to the IPS, Canada's approach operates across different spheres. *Domestically*, there will be a strengthened defence of infrastructure, democracy and citizens from foreign interference, including new provisions to the Investment Canada Act, protecting IP and research, and cyber security. New resources are being committed to enhancing competencies on China across and beyond government. *Bilaterally*, Canada will dialogue with China to advance national interests, including on market access and human rights, and review all MOUs and

mechanisms to ensure they advance the national interest. Trade Commissioners will be better equipped to offer services to Canadian exporters to ensure commercial opportunities are consistent with national security. At the *regional level*, Canada will balance its approach to China with diversified regional relationships and support a rules-based approach to the region. Canada will continue to work with partners to push back against any unilateral actions that threaten the status quo in the Taiwan Strait, as well as the East and South China Seas. Finally, at the *multilateral level* Canada will work with partners to push back against behaviours that undermine international norms, such as arbitrary detention and economic coercion. Where interests overlap Canada will work with China multilaterally.

The IPS reiterates the need to differentiate between the actions of the current Chinese government, with whom there are differences, and the Chinese people. The people-to-people ties and extraordinary contributions of Canadians of Chinese heritage will continue to bring depth to the relationship.

Indo-Pacific partners: The strategy highlights the importance of India, the North Pacific and ASEAN to Canada's future and describes measures to strengthen engagement. ^{s.16}

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Under the strategy significant new resources will be devoted to increasing engagement in the region and showcasing Canada as a reliable partner. There are five main objectives:

- Promoting peace, resilience and security
- Expanding trade, investment and supply chain resilience
- Investing in and connecting people
- Building a sustainable and green future
- Canada as an active and engaged partner to the Indo-Pacific

Some of these **announcements** (relating mostly to Southeast Asia and mostly over a 5 year period) include:

Security:

- \$493 million to reinforce Canada's Indo-Pacific naval presence and increase Canadian Armed Forces participation in regional military exercises

- \$48 million to help develop cyber security capacity in select regional partners

Trade and Investment

- Appoint a new Canadian Indo-Pacific Trade Representative
- \$24 million to establish the Canadian Trade Gateway in Southeast Asia, an enhanced Canadian hub that will help expand Canada's business and investment networks by linking businesses to existing incubators and accelerators.
- \$45 million to launch a series of enhanced Minister-led trade missions to the Indo-Pacific to support exporters and regionally-based Canadian Chambers of Commerce in Indo-Pacific markets to facilitate long-term trade and investment opportunities. These are billed as a "Modern Team Canada 3.0" trade missions in collaboration with partner departments, provinces and territories and stakeholders
- \$31.8 million to establish Canada's first agriculture office in the region to increase and diversify agriculture and agri-food exports to the Indo-Pacific. The office will engage with stakeholders, regulators and policy decision makers and help diversify export markets and products
- \$92.5 million to significantly expand capacity at Canada's missions in the Indo-Pacific and within Global Affairs Canada to deepen diplomatic, trade, development and climate ties with regional partners and defend Canadian interests in the region. About 60 new positions will be created
- \$13.5 million to expand natural resource ties with Indo-Pacific partners – in trade, investment, and science, technology and innovation. Priority partners include Japan, South Korea, India, Australia, Indonesia, Singapore and Taiwan
- Progress towards an ASEAN-Canada FTA and trade agreement with India
- Progress towards a Canada-Indonesia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, opening new opportunities for Canadians in many sectors, including agriculture/agrifood, advanced manufacturing, clean tech, natural resources and services.

Investing in and connecting people

- \$75 million to enhanced Canada's visa processing capacity in Canada and New Delhi, Chandigarh, Islamabad and Manila

- \$14.2 million to expand the Canada-ASEAN Scholarships and Educational Exchanges for Development (SEED) program, expected to award over 800 new scholarships
- \$40 million to launch a new Indo-Pacific Engagement Initiative to support participation of Canadian civil society in the region, including new research and study opportunities for Canadians
- \$32.8 million to support civil society organizations that have expertise in delivering development assistance in the Indo-Pacific to promote gender equality and inclusion
- \$100 million in development assistance to Indo-Pacific

Building a sustainable and green future

- \$750 million to expand FinDev Canada's global efforts to meet demand for infrastructure and enhance the reach and impact of Canada's private sector activities, allowing for increased engagement in the Indo-Pacific region
- \$48 million for various projects in Indonesia to support climate change adaptation and mitigation and protect coastal and marine ecosystems
- As part of new Just Energy Transition Partnership with Indonesia, Canada will allocate \$550 million to Indonesia through its commitment to the Climate Investment Funds' Accelerating Coal Transition Program
- \$84.3 million for the new Shared Ocean Fund, which will reinforce a healthy marine environment in the Indo-Pacific region and support measures against illegal fishing

Canada as active and engaged partner to Indo-Pacific

- Appoint a special envoy for the Indo-Pacific
- \$24.5 million for a new office of the (Vancouver-based) Asia-Pacific Foundation of Canada in the region, to help build and strengthen relations with local partners, including in the areas of foreign policy, cultural diplomacy and academic ties.
- New Canada-ASEAN Strategic Partnership, representing a strong endorsement of Canada's engagement in the region
- \$13.1 million contribution to the ASEAN-Canada Plan of Action Trust Fund to help close development gaps, ensure strong regional engagement with ASEAN, and advance negotiations toward a Canada-ASEAN FTA.
- Hold inaugural Canada-US Strategic Dialogue on Indo-Pacific in 2023

Page 19 of 75

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**MINISTRY OF ATTORNEY GENERAL AND
MINISTRY RESPONSIBLE FOR HOUSING
OFFICE OF HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS
MEETING BRIEFING NOTE**

PURPOSE: MEETING Note for Premier David Eby

MEETING: Roundtable with Downtown Eastside Providers, on December 5, 2022.

ISSUE:

Community-based collaboration to support people experiencing, or at-risk of homelessness in the Downtown Eastside (DTES)

KEY MESSAGES:

- The Province is taking a lead role to ensure people facing homelessness in the DTES, including those sheltering along Hastings Street and in Crab Park, have access to more safe and suitable housing as well as social and health supports.
- We are working through BC Housing, in partnership with the City of Vancouver, and Indigenous and community providers to coordinate outreach, open new shelter and housing spaces and deliver wraparound supports.
- Grassroots, community, and peer-based responses are key to success in the DTES neighbourhood. We recognise the value of partnerships with service providers who are part of the community and have trusted relationships with people most in need.
- We know encampments provide shelter and sense of community, but they are not safe or appropriate form of permanent housing.
- The Hastings Street encampment poses fire, health, and safety risks for everyone sheltering there and those working and living in the surrounding area.
- In the coming weeks, the Province, BC Housing, and the City of Vancouver will share more about plans to address encampment safety and help more people transition to shelter and housing with supports.
- We are interested in hearing from community service providers as these plans develop, in how we might work together in a people-centred approach. We would also like to hear your input in how we best communicate these plans across partnerships and with the people we intend to serve.
- Government recognizes that service providers, people with lived experience of homelessness, and Indigenous peoples are experts in the needs of their communities.
- We want to see a healthier and hopeful DTES where people from all walks of life can access the housing and supports they need to establish a positive, safe, healthy community, and thrive, together.

BACKGROUND:

Partner Coordination:

- The Province is working across ministries (MMHA, SDPR, HLTH, MCFD), through BC Housing, with the City of Vancouver, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority (VCHA), Indigenous and community partners at leadership and operations-level tables to address the fire order and encampment safety issues, as well as housing and people support needs.
- The City of Vancouver is responsible for decisions and planning regarding its bylaws and facilities.
- In Vancouver, a Housing First approach is supported through a 2021 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing, City of Vancouver, and Vancouver Park Board to establish roles and responsibilities in encampment response and emphasizes a humanitarian and collaborative approach with access to housing and a spectrum of supports.
- Hastings Encampment Response planning includes consideration for a strengthened coordinated outreach approach and additional resources, currently being discussed with ministry partners.

Housing and shelters:

- Since July, more than 150 indoor spaces with support services have opened in Vancouver, including recently renovated single room occupancy (SRO) hotel rooms and new shelter spaces, with dozens more SRO rooms being renovated and expected to open in the coming months.
- More than 200 temporary shelter spaces (Extreme Weather Response and temporary winter shelter spaces) have opened as of November 1, 2022, including one opening on December 1, 2022, at 1660 East Hastings with another 100 spaces.
- BC Housing and the City are also working on plans for dozens of additional temporary housing units to be announced in the coming weeks.
- Carnegie Outreach has connected with more than 300 people sheltering on the DTES in recent months, some of which have housing but do not feel safe or comfortable there for various reasons.
- BC Housing and partners are working to understand the needs of people sheltering outdoors and support them to find safe and suitable options indoors.
- Housing allocations are done through coordinated outreach and a collaborative access table. Since July, 57 people have moved into housing and dozens more have accepted shelter offers, been allocated housing spaces, connected to income assistance, health, and other social supports.
- Since 2017, BC Housing has partnered with non-profit housing providers, municipalities, and health authorities to fund and open more than 4,800 new supportive housing spaces throughout BC for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness, including more than 2,200 in Vancouver. This includes leased hotel spaces that were opened in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic and remain available to prevent people from being displaced, as well as supportive housing.
- Through provincial investments since 2017, there are more than 36,000 new homes complete or underway throughout the province, including more than 8,400 homes in Vancouver.

Health and Social Supports:

- Community Integration Services (Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction) provide outreach-based income support and navigation services to people sheltering outside in the DTES and Crab Park and are co-located with nine service providers in the downtown area.
- Community Integration Services also provide crisis grants to aid in addressing an individual's urgent needs, including funds to return/move to support those wanting to return to their home community.
- VCHA staff provide outreach and referral services for people on the DTES, including harm reduction, overdose prevention, and mental health and substance use supports. Linkages to primary care, urgent and specialized services is also central to the role of VCHA.
- The City of Vancouver provides additional supports include storage at multiple locations and washroom/shower facilities.
 - The City will receive an additional \$4 million in Strengthening Community Services funding for encampment supports this winter. Funding will support services including staff, cleaning, additional park rangers, storage, washrooms, and peer workers and supports.
 - Supports include partnerships with non-profit organizations to meet distinct and intersectional needs such as:
 - Women-only and Indigenous drop-in and storage spaces;
 - Partnerships to support Indigenous people and youth;
 - Partnerships to support peers and people who use substances.
 - This funding can also be used to purchase supplies for individuals sheltering outdoors and in need of cold weather supplies (e.g., blankets) and for fire prevention items.
- There are additional supports for organizations and First Nations responding to homelessness through the Homelessness Community Action Grant Program. These are \$50,000 grants to support community-based research and responses, as part of \$6 million in funding through Budget 2022. This is the second round of funding for this grant program through SPARCBC. The grants have funded things like:
 - Indigenous outreach in encampment response;
 - Cultural food projects;
 - Community voicemail and phone programs;
 - Anti-stigma resources and more.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES CONSIDERATIONS:

- Indigenous People are overrepresented in homelessness in Metro Vancouver, making 33 per cent of the 3,634 people counted in the 2020 Homeless Count, and were more likely to be unsheltered when compared to non-Indigenous peoples (51 per cent versus 28 per cent).
- This overrepresentation is the result of the impacts of colonisation and racism, and Indigenous Homelessness has many dimensions beyond a lack of affordable

housing that includes disconnection from community, culture, land, spirituality, and family – with increased risk of systemic harms.

- Indigenous peoples are the experts in their own communities' needs and healing – the Province supports Indigenous-led solutions and actions towards supporting Indigenous peoples experiencing homelessness, and commits to continuing to work to build relationships with Indigenous organizations and Nations.
- Partners engaged in the provincial response to the encampments are committed to a trauma and culturally-informed response, rooted in feedback from people with lived and living experience of homelessness.
- Currently Aboriginal Front Door Society, via support from the City and BC Housing, is supporting community outreach, storage, food provision, cultural supports, and partnership development with other agencies.
- All Nations outreach is working with SDPR Community Integration Services in Crab Park and Watari Counselling and Support Services is providing Indigenous Circles at the Astoria, and they continue to provide Youth Outreach services throughout the community.

GBA+ OR DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS:

- Women are at increased risk of violence in the DTES; Indigenous, Black, transgender, and Two-Spirit women are at greater risk of violence and negative outcomes due to the legacy of colonialism, racism, stigma, and a lack of appropriate services and supports.
- For fear for their safety and the safety of children, women experiencing homelessness are more likely to avoid accessing services, particularly mixed-gender spaces; instead, women experience “hidden homelessness”, staying in unsafe or overcrowded housing and shelter situations and/or engaging in survival sex work.
- Budget 2022 provides \$100,000 for research into women's homelessness, to better understand women's experiences and how they can be supported.
- Men are more likely to experience street homelessness, and more likely to die as a result of the toxic drug crisis (in 2022 78 per cent of lives lost to toxic drugs were male).

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APPENDIX 1: Community Organizations Invited

- DTES Women's Centre
- Atira Women's Resource Society
- OPS
- Raincity - Housing First ACT Team
- VPL, Carnegie Branch
- SRO Collaborative
- Vancouver Aboriginal Community Policing Centre
- WISH Drop-In Centre
- Aboriginal Front Door
- First United Community Ministry Society
- UNYA
- Lookout Society
- The Bloom Group
- Carnegie Community Centre
- Vancouver Aboriginal Health Society
- (Vancouver Native Health)
- VANDU
- PHS
- BC Housing
- Mission Possible
- LUMA Native Housing

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Page 25 of 75 to/à Page 29 of 75

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Page 30 of 75

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Page 31 of 75 to/à Page 33 of 75

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BC-China Relations

Trade

- China is B.C.'s second-largest trading partner, with \$9.8 billion in exports in 2021. Between January and August this year, B.C.'s exports to China have already surpassed \$6 billion, which represents 37% of the total Canadian exports to China and a 13% increase over the same period last year.
- The top five B.C. origin exports to China and Hong Kong in 2021 included coal (35%), copper ores and concentrates (22%), chemical wood pulp (19%), lumber (5%), and wood in the rough (2%).
- B.C. continues to attract the second highest amount of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from China among Canadian provinces.
- B.C. has an extensive trade and investment representative network in China, with offices in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Chongqing. Forest Innovation Investment (FII) also has an office in China.

Education

- In 2020, there were 36,135 students from China studying at all levels in B.C. China ranked as the 2nd top source country for international students after India.
- B.C. is the 2nd most popular study destination for students from China in Canada after Ontario, with almost 25% of these students studying here.
- B.C. public post-secondary institutions have entered into approximately 500 partnership agreements with institutions in China to facilitate academic exchanges and collaboration; it is the largest number of agreements by country.
- B.C.'s Offshore Schools program is the strongest in China with 37 schools. The offshore schools program provides an effective pathway for international students to enter into post-secondary education in B.C.

People-to-people and cultural ties

- According to the 2021 Census, 517,805 British Columbians identify as Chinese.
- B.C. has had an active sister-province relationship with China's Guangdong Province since 1995. It has a trade focus, primarily on cleantech and mass timber. In addition, 20 B.C. municipalities have sister-city or friendship agreements with 28 Chinese cities.
- The Chinese diaspora in B.C. is extremely diverse, with a range of perspectives and levels of engagement.
- On February 11, 2022, the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport announced that the Wing Sang Building, the oldest building in Vancouver Chinatown, will be the permanent site of the Chinese Canadian Museum. The province is providing \$27.5 million to the Chinese Canadian Museum Society of British Columbia to support continued planning and operations of the society, as well as the purchase of the historic Wing Sang Building. The Chinese Canadian Museum will be owned and operated by the Chinese Canadian Museum Society of British Columbia. It will highlight places of historic significance throughout the province, celebrating the heritage of Chinese Canadians in B.C. The museum is expected to open in 2023.
- In 2019, approximately 452,495 travellers from China & Hong Kong entered Canada through B.C. Those numbers plummeted to 69,000 in 2020.

Page 35 of 75 to/à Page 56 of 75

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Page 57 of 75

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Page 58 of 75

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Page 59 of 75 to/à Page 75 of 75

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s.12 ; s.13