

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

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Tsunami Warning

Highlights:

- Emergency Management BC received a tsunami warning notification from the National Tsunami Warning Center at 1:38 a.m. PT, January 23, following a magnitude 7.9 earthquake 175 miles SE of Kodiak City, Alaska.
- Emergency Management BC notified coastal communities via the Provincial Emergency Notification System and the Emergency Info BC Twitter feed at 1:51 a.m. PT
- The tsunami warning was cancelled at 4:13 a.m. PT after it was deemed there was no threat to coastal communities.
- News coverage has highlighted how the emergency response was carried out in various communities, with some being described as “textbook” and others showing the need for improvement.

Main Message:

- First of all, I’d like to commend the staff at provincial and local levels who did an amazing job during the warning incident.
- It appears that overall, the tsunami warning systems and emergency response worked well.
- Events like this also highlight the need for improvement, and we’ll determine how to better to keep British Columbians safe.

Solution:

- The earthquake itself took place at 1:31 in the morning and the notification went out shortly after.
- Communities all along the coast were notified, the areas affected, so that they could start to get their local emergency measures plans activated and alerts and warnings out there.
- The majority of communities along the coast deployed their emergency plans and were able to evacuate residents from potential harm.
- Now we want to go back and look at the gaps and look at how we can make improvements and areas that need to be built on.
- Emergency Management BC is building a timeline of the incident to better identify what took place, what went well and what could be improved, particularly with the response of local governments.
- We want to be able to identify improvements, including with the use of advancing technology.
- But it's important to note that local emergency plans are developed in local communities to meet their particular needs.

Validators:

“I was really proud of the way people responded. When the alarms went off, literally thousands of people got themselves organized and out the door and headed for high ground and safety. Those that had the grab-and-go bags — grabbed them and away they went.” – Port Alberni Mayor Mike Ruttan, Jan. 23, 2018

“It seemed like there was an appropriate response at the community level. It was a far better response than the last incident after the Haida Gwaii earthquake.” – John Clague, Earth Sciences Professor at Simon Fraser University, Jan. 23, 2018

Background:

- A magnitude 7.9 earthquake occurred at 1:32 a.m., January 23, 2018, 175 miles SE of Kodiak City, Alaska (360 miles S of Anchorage, Alaska) at a depth of 12 miles.
- Emergency Management BC received a tsunami warning notification from the National Tsunami Warning Center at 1:38 a.m.
- Emergency Management BC notified coastal communities via the Provincial Emergency Notification System and the Emergency Info BC Twitter feed at 1:51 a.m. A broadcast interrupting message was sent to Alert Ready at 2:15 a.m.
- Emergency Management BC did not receive any reports that the earthquake had been felt in BC, and none would be expected. Alaska did not report to EMBC any damage incurred owing to the earthquake (or due to subsequent tsunami waves).
- Overnight, several communities along the coast activated their emergency plans and evacuated those at risk.
- Emergency Management BC also activated the Provincial Emergency Co-ordination Centre (PREOC) and five provincial regional operations centers.
- The TSUNAMI WARNING was cancelled for the BC coast as of 4:12 a.m.

The following areas came under a Tsunami Warning:

- Tsunami Warning timeline: (Highest level of tsunami alert issued due to the imminent threat of a tsunami. Inundation is expected; local

governments should activate their local emergency plans and evacuate low-lying coastal areas)

- Zone A: The North Coast starting at the Alaska, USA/BC border near the town of Stewart BC south to the southern tip of Banks Island including Haida Gwaii
- Zone B: The Central Coast and northwest Vancouver Island from the southern tip of Banks Island to northern tip of Vancouver Island (Cape Scott) including Kitimat, Bella Coola and Port Hardy
- Zone C: The outer West Coast of Vancouver Island from Cape Scott to Sombrio Point
- Zone D: The Juan de Fuca Strait from Sombrio Point to Greater Victoria including the Saanich Peninsula
- A number of communities chose to activate their warning systems, while others chose to monitor the situation further up the coast to determine if, and when, residents should be evacuated. Local governments were notified of the tsunami threat through Alert Ready.
- The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission has announced that Alert Ready will include immediate notifications to the public from wireless service providers by April 2018.

Gun and Gang Violence

Highlights:

- Crime continues to be a significant issue in parts of the lower mainland and gains extensive media attention.
- A shooting in Vancouver's Mount Pleasant neighbourhood on Jan. 13 took the life of a 15 year old innocent bystander.

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Validators:

“At the end of summer, we had 48 kids on the wait-list. With this infusion of new resources, it means that we're servicing 121 families currently.”— Rob Rai, Surrey School District's director of school community connections, Oct. 12 (on WRAP Funding).

“You can bring a kid — and I'm talking serious criminality, where a 13-or 14-year-old kid being in places where there are firearms present — and turn them around. They're back in school, trying to get their studies in order and their negative police contacts are way down.” Former Gang Member and WRAP advocate Jordan Buna, Oct. 12

Background:

- In 2016/17, a total of \$71.6 million (\$62.3 million in 2015/16) was provided to the RCMP for the CFSEU-BC and anti-gang initiatives in B.C.
 - Provincial contribution: \$50.1 million (\$43.6 million in 2015/16)
 - Federal contribution: \$21.5 million (\$18.7 million in 2015/16)
- Civil forfeiture grants also support community programs and measures to stop guns and gangs and improve public safety.

On Federal Government Announcement:

- On November 17, 2017, Public Safety Canada announced federal funding and a summit to tackle gun violence and gang activity.
- The government announced up to \$327.6 million over five years, and \$100 million annually thereafter in new funding to help support a variety of initiatives to reduce gun crime and criminal gang activities.
- A national Criminal Guns and Gangs Summit will take place in March.

On Surrey Wrap:

- Since it was launched in 2009, Surrey Wrap has supported more than 500 families and students to change their lives for the better.
- There are currently 97 youth engaged with the Surrey WRAP program, with 35 youth currently on the waitlist. (This is double Wrap's usual capacity).
- Earlier in August, the government had already doubled funding to \$500,000 to help eliminate the programs waitlist.
- In October, 2017, Premier Horgan reaffirmed that the WRAP annual of \$500K would be on a permanent basis.
- Surrey Wrap is a collaborative partnership between the Surrey RCMP, the Surrey school district (SD 36) and the City of Surrey aimed at youth involved with gangs or at risk of joining gangs.

- This program helps at-risk participants aged 11 to 17 to build positive lifestyles and self-worth through a stronger connection to their homes, schools and community.
- On May 19, 2015, Public Safety Canada announced that approximately \$3.5M in funding over five years would be made available for the Surrey Gang Reduction Program.

On Cariboo-Chilcotin Wrap:

- The development of the Cariboo-Chilcotin Wrap program was announced as one of the key actions in the new Cariboo-Chilcotin Regional Community Safety Model launched on Feb.8, 2017.
- The Cariboo-Chilcotin Wrap program will be modelled on the Surrey Wrap program.
- Total funding committed to the program to date is \$870,000 over three years provided through a civil forfeiture grant.

On End Gang Life:

- The End Gang Life campaign was developed by the Combined Special Forces Enforcement Unit of British Columbia (CFSEU-BC).
- To date, the End Gang Life program has been offered to over 20,000 students throughout the province. End Gang Life continues to be the primary presentation for elementary schools and is involved in after school programs, career fairs and community functions.

On Gang Exit Pilot Program:

- This program was announced Nov. 2, 2016. The province provided \$1M over two years to support this two-year pilot program.
- Though specific information is confidential, CFSEU-BC can confirm that there is already interest in the program with exit planning underway.
- As part of the \$1M Exit pilot, the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training is contributing \$500K to expand the BladeRunners program operated by ACCESS <http://www.accessfutures.com/bladerunners/> and

the Skilled Trades Employment Program (STEP) operated by the BC Construction Association <http://www.stepbc.ca/>.

- This \$500K investment is funded by the 2016/17 Employment Services and Supports (ESS) Rapid Response Fund, under the Canada –BC Job Fund.
- The additional \$500K provided by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General will support the operation and evaluation of the Gang Exit Pilot over two years.

Surrey Crime

Highlights:

- Crime continues to be a significant issue in Surrey and gains extensive media attention.

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Validators:

“At the end of summer, we had 48 kids on the wait-list. With this infusion of new resources, it means that we're servicing 121 families currently.”— Rob Rai, Surrey School District's director of school community connections, Oct. 12 (on WRAP Funding).

“You can bring a kid — and I'm talking serious criminality, where a 13-or 14-year-old kid being in places where there are firearms present — and turn them around. They're back in school, trying to get their studies in order and their negative police contacts are way down.” Former Gang Member and WRAP advocate Jordan Buna, Oct. 12

Background:

- Surrey RCMP's analysis of its 2016 crime statistics show a 16% decrease in violent crime, 32% decrease in attempted murders and 17% decrease in Criminal Code offences overall compared to 2015.
- The same stats also show a 38% increase in homicides, 15% increase in residential break and enters and 22% increase in theft from vehicle.
- Actions that support Surrey (brought forward in recent years) include:
- two new 10 person anti-gang units led by B.C.'s anti-gang unit CFSEU-BC that support Surrey and the province as a whole;
- 100 new officers to the Surrey RCMP;
- over 1M dollars in Civil Forfeiture Grants since 2010 for programs aimed at youth in gangs, domestic violence and other community-based programs;
- continued financial support for the Surrey Wrap and Surrey Safe School program to help prevent young new recruits from entering into gang life;
- ongoing End Gang life school presentations – to students in Surrey and throughout the province;
- a new Gang Exit Pilot program aimed at supporting gang entrenched adult (the pilot is focused on lower mainland clients);
- the Surrey Mobilization and Resiliency Table (SMART) to help address social issues before they become public safety concerns;
- access to the police Real Time Intelligence Centre, the Provincial Tactical Enforcement Priority and the Integrated Homicide investigation Unit;
- a new City of Surrey Community Safety Strategy, developed in partnership with the Surrey RCMP and CFSEU-BC to help combat criminal activity linked to the illegal drug trade and other public safety concerns;
- a Surrey RCMP led parent hotline to help parents who fear their child may be involved in criminal activities or gang life; and
- a parent handbook created by CFSEU-BC to help parents spot and know how to talk to their kids about gang involvement;

Earthquake Preparedness

Highlights:

- According to ShakeOutBC, British Columbia is considered at high-risk for earthquake events compared to the rest of Canada.
- A recent tsunami warning event in January has increased media attention on B.C.'s preparedness for a major disaster event.

Main Message:

- First of all, I'd like to commend the staff at provincial and local levels who did an amazing job during the January tsunami warning incident.
- It appears that overall, the tsunami warning systems and emergency response worked well.
- Events like this also highlight the need for improvement, and we'll determine how to better keep British Columbians safe.

Solution:

- Our government is exploring all possible opportunities to enhance British Columbia's emergency preparedness.
- We are fast-tracking seismic upgrades at schools around the province.
- We are working with other government organizations, public and private industry, and academia to drive seismic related projects that will enhance our preparedness for a catastrophic earthquake event.
- Our government is focussed on looking at potential gaps so we can identify areas that need to be built on.
- We want to be able to make improvements, including with the use of advancing technology.
- It's also important to note that local emergency plans are developed in local communities to meet their particular needs.
- We need to work together to keep British Columbians safe, and our government is focused on doing just that.

Background:

- In March 2014, the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) released a report concluding that EMBC was not adequately prepared for a catastrophic earthquake.
- In response, Henry Renteria was appointed chair of the Province's year-long earthquake consultation. He released a report in March 2015 denoting B.C.'s need for:
 - Additional public education.
 - A province-wide risk analysis along with additional availability of risk management maps and information.
 - A comprehensive training and exercise strategy with EMBC leadership.
 - Enhanced authority and resources for EMBC.
 - Ensuring that funding system-wide is adequate, creates appropriate incentives and, addresses all phases of emergency management.
 - Implementation of performance and accountability measures for ministries and local governments.
 - Development of cross-ministry plans and capacity for catastrophic events.

Support provided:


- In 2016, EMBC hosted Exercise Coastal Response, a \$1.2M earthquake exercise that tested elements of the province's Immediate Response Plan to a catastrophic earthquake event.
- This was B.C.'s first ever full-scale earthquake exercise.
- Seismic investments made in March/September update 2017 include:
 - \$32M to the Union of BC Municipalities for community projects that will help with resilience after an earthquake, like generators for emergency operations centres and funding for evacuation routes.
 - \$1M for the Vancouver-based Canada Task Force 1 Heavy Urban Search and Rescue unit that aids in catastrophic rescue efforts.

- \$2.2M on a project with the Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction to investigate the earthquake hazards of liquefaction, slope instability and ground shaking in the Metro Vancouver area.
- \$800,000 for Marine Environmental, Observation, Prediction and Response Network (MEOPAR) for shoreline accessibility audits to explore how aid can be delivered, and \$500,000 to improve access to professional assistance from the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of B.C. in a disaster.
- \$700,000 for the Salvation Army and \$100,000 for the Canadian Red Cross for mass care and disaster relief supplies.
- Seismic investments made in 2016 include:
 - \$5M to Ocean Networks Canada to develop an earthquake early warning system for the Cascadia Subduction Zone.
- Key activities in the project include:
 - Installation of seismic and positional sensors offshore and on Vancouver Island
 - Enhancing alerting and analysis components of the system
 - Integration and data sharing with existing systems
 - Testing the system

Advice to Minister

Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation/Attorney General/Advanced Education, Skills and Training

- My heart goes out to Colten Boushie's family, friends and community. There is a lot of anger, grief and pain as a result of the killing of this young man, and now the court outcome.
- s.13

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- We are committed to working in partnership with First Nations and Indigenous communities to improve how Indigenous people are treated in the justice system and work towards equality of access.
- In September, my colleagues Ministers Eby and Farnworth signed a memorandum of understanding with the BC Aboriginal Justice Council to collaborate on an Indigenous Justice Strategy.
- This work is focused on improving access to justice and justice services for Indigenous peoples, and designing services for Indigenous peoples that are culturally relevant and appropriate.
- Without meaningfully addressing the systemic inequality in the justice system affecting Indigenous people, we cannot achieve reconciliation.

Cannabis

Highlights:

- Federal legislation to legalize cannabis is set to be implemented by July 2018.
- The provincial government released details on the Province's proposed retail framework on February 5th, including details retail model, public consumption, personal cultivation, public possession limits and impaired driving penalties and prevention.
- Questions may be asked about selling in both private and public stores. The opposition leader's platform proposed only selling in private stores.
- There may also be questions about where people can smoke in public, as at least 4 jurisdictions have decided to not allow consumption in public places.

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Background:

As announced on February 5th, 2018:

BC's Retail Framework

- British Columbians of legal age will be able to purchase non-medical cannabis through privately run retail stores or government-operated retail stores and government online sales. B.C.'s Liquor Distribution Branch (LDB) will operate a new standalone network of public retail stores and the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch (LCLB) will be responsible for licensing private stores and monitoring the retail sector.
- The operating rules governing public and private retail stores will be similar to those currently in place for liquor; however, to promote responsible use, licensed retailers will not be able to sell cannabis in the same stores as liquor or tobacco.
- In urban areas, licensed retailers will only be allowed to sell cannabis and cannabis accessories, and will be prohibited from selling other products such as food, gas, clothing and lottery.
- B.C. recognizes that retail access for people in rural areas will require a different approach than those used in urban communities and will establish exceptions for rural non-medical cannabis retail stores, similar to those of rural liquor stores.
- The criteria for determining these rural areas are currently under development.
- This spring, the Province will launch an early registration process for individuals and businesses who are interested in applying for a cannabis retail licence.
- Although B.C. will not cap the number of retail licences available, licenses will not be issued without the support of local governments, which will have the authority to make local decisions based on the needs of their communities.

Personal public possession limits

- Adults aged 19 and above, will be allowed to possess up to 30 grams of non-medical cannabis in a public place, which aligns with the federal government's proposed possession limit for adults.
- Those under the legal age of 19 will be prohibited from possessing any amount of non-medical cannabis. Additionally, cannabis transported in a motor vehicle will need to be in a sealed package, or inaccessible to vehicle occupants.

Places of use

- B.C. will generally allow adults to use non-medical cannabis in public spaces where tobacco smoking and vaping are permitted.
- To minimize child and youth exposure, smoking and vaping of non-medical cannabis will be banned in areas frequented by children, including community beaches, parks and playgrounds.
- Use of cannabis in any form will also be banned for all occupants in vehicles.
- Local governments will be able to set additional restrictions, as they do now for tobacco use.
- In addition, landlords and strata councils will be able to restrict or prohibit non-medical cannabis smoking and vaping at tenanted and strata properties.

Personal cultivation

- B.C. will align with the proposed federal legislation and allow adults to grow up to four cannabis plants per household, but the plants must not be visible from public spaces off the property.
- Home cultivation of non-medical cannabis will be banned in dwellings used as daycares. Landlords and strata councils will be able restrict or prohibit home cultivation.

Drug Impaired Driving

- Drug impaired driving will continue to be illegal, and B.C. will increase training for law enforcement in this area.
- B.C. will also toughen provincial regulations to give police more tools to remove drug-impaired drivers from the road and deter drug-affected driving, including:
- B.C. will create a new 90-day Administrative Driving Prohibition (ADP) for drug affected driving; and,
- The current zero tolerance restrictions for the presence of alcohol for drivers in the Graduated Licensing Program (GLP) will be expanded to include zero tolerance for the presence of THC.
- Government plans to introduce legislation in the spring legislative session to affect these policy decisions.
- It will also launch a public education campaign to ensure broad public awareness of the provincial rules before they come into force.

On the excise tax:

- The federal government has agreed on a revenue sharing plan from taxation of cannabis that will see 25% of revenues go to the federal government and 75% to the provincial government.

More background:

- On April 13, 2017, the federal government tabled their proposed federal legislation to legalize non-medical cannabis, which is expected to be implemented by July 2018.
- Key points of the proposed federal cannabis legalization legislation include:
 - The law would allow adults 18 and over to legally buy and cultivate small amounts of cannabis for personal use:

- to possess up to 30 grams of dried cannabis or its equivalent in public;
 - share up to 30 grams of dried marijuana with other adults;
 - buy dried/fresh cannabis or cannabis oil from a provincially regulated retailer; and
 - grow up to four plants per residence for personal use, as well as make cannabis-containing products at home.
 - Selling to or using cannabis with a minor will become a serious new criminal offence with new penalties including imprisonment for up to 14 years in prison.
- It will also be against the law to sell cannabis in a package or with a label that could be construed as appealing to young people, to include testimonials or endorsements, or to depict a person, character or animal.
 - Other products, such as edibles, will be made available at a later date, once federal regulations for their production and sale have been developed and brought into force.
 - Proposed regulations were unveiled on November 21 along with another consultation period.
 - RCMP and the Canadian Border Services Agency will work together, along with local police, to uphold laws governing illegal cross-border movement of cannabis, which will remain a serious offence.
 - It remains illegal to import cannabis and cannabis products, and to export them without a valid permit. Permits may be issued for certain purposes, such as medical cannabis and industrial hemp.
 - The Bill includes provisions that until jurisdictions have a regulatory retail framework in place, as an interim measure individuals would be

able to purchase online from a federally licensed producer with secure home delivery.

- Provincial responsibilities under the federal legislation include:
 - Provinces have the authority to develop their own distribution and retail regulations, set a minimum age higher than 18, regulate public consumption of cannabis products, further restrict possession limits, and change provincial traffic safety laws as they deem necessary.
 - Provinces, territories and for some matters, municipalities, would also be able to enact regulations within their jurisdictions, enforcing them through mechanisms such as administrative ticketing schemes

**Confidential Issues Note
ADVICE TO MINISTER**

Ministry: Emergency Management BC
Date: March 5, 2018
Minister Responsible: Mike Farnworth

***EMBC and Emergency
Program Act 2018/19 Budgets***

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

Emergency Management BC Budget

- Emergency Management BC needed to suspend virtually all of its other core activities in order to meet its response and recovery responsibilities during the 2017 large-scale flood and wildfire seasons
- EMBC will use this \$1 million funding lift to:
 - Meet legislative responsibilities while activated for emergency events;
 - Better maintain day-to-day non-emergency responsibilities while under activation, such as prevention, planning, and corporate initiatives;
 - Undertake the strategic and operational adjustments that have been identified through early findings from the ongoing review of the 2017 floods and wildfires.
- The Emergency Program Act funds emergency mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery activities, which do not impact the Emergency Management BC budget.

Emergency Program Act Budget

- The September budget submission provided a unique opportunity to assess the financial impact of large-scale flooding and wildfire events.
- The Province revised the Emergency Program Act budget based on real-time financial projections related to ongoing known emergencies.
- The 2018/19 emergency season has not yet begun, and as such, the Province is not able to predict the costs of unknown emergencies.

If asked: After last year's events, why not allocate more money to the budget?

- In addition to a further investment of \$72 million over 3 years to help communities better prepare for, and respond to, wildfires and to provide further wildfire recovery support (in the Forests, Lands, Natural Resources and Rural Development portfolio), I am pleased to highlight that Budget 2018 also has identified this additional support for Emergency Management BC to increase staff capacity.
- It should be noted that, historically, the province does not budget for extraordinary costs related to unknown emergencies.
- The statutory authority granted through the Emergency Program Act provides direct access to government's Consolidated Revenue Fund. This access is designed as a mechanism for funding extraordinary costs related to emergency mitigation, preparedness and response.

- **In other words, the Province is able to access funds directly from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in the event of a major emergency, or an emergent need to access funds to prevent an emergency.**
- **The Province has also commissioned a number of reviews, the most important of which will be submitted sometime this spring. Future budget requests will be predicated on review recommendations.**

BACKGROUND:

EMBC's budget for 2018/19 will increase by \$1 million over the previous year.

The Emergency Program Act budget for 2018/19 will be \$14.5 million, a \$223.5 million decrease from 2017/18. The EPA budget for 2017/18 was revised in the September budget submission in light of extreme flooding and wildfire seasons that were underway. The historical budget for the Emergency Program Act is \$14.5 million.

The budget will build a greater capacity both during events and in periods of non-emergencies. Examples include:

- EMBC is working with the federal government to focus on a proactive, sustainable approach that includes investments in disaster prevention and mitigation to reduce the impact of these events
- Implementation of a ten year service agreement EMBC has with Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) to provide enhanced emergency management services and support to First Nation communities
- Under the agreement, EMBC will work with First Nations communities to improve community preparedness and awareness through planning, training and public education
- Ongoing catastrophic earthquake and tsunami preparedness
- The planning and development of exercises such as Exercise Coastal Response 2016 and Exercise Salish Sea 2017 to continue to improve the preparedness for a full range of risk
- The development of regional leadership in the Integrated Partnership for Regional Emergency Management (IPREM) in Metro Vancouver, which served as a model for other regional governments to emulate such as the Regional Emergency Management Partnership (REMP) with all Capital Regional District (CRD) local governments

**Confidential Issues Note
ADVICE TO MINISTER**

Ministry: Emergency Management BC
Date: updated Feb. 9, 2018
Minister Responsible: Mike Farnworth

Emergency Program Act

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The ***Emergency Program Act*** outlines the roles and responsibilities of local authorities and the provincial government when preparing for, responding to and recovering from emergencies.
- The Act establishes the conditions under which governments may declare a state of emergency and deploy emergency powers to protect lives, livelihoods and damage to property.
- The Act was introduced more than two decades ago and remains largely unchanged. The B.C. government initiated a review to ensure that the legislation is effective and reflects best practices in the emergency management field.
- EMBC engaged all levels of government, emergency response stakeholders and the public to help shape and modernize proposed revisions to the Act, and develop recommendations for government consideration.
- Given the extensive flood and wildfire events of 2017, we are undertaking further internal and external reviews of core practices such as declarations of emergency, evacuation orders, evacuation planning and other processes outlined in the Act.
 - We expect that once the recommendations from the BC Flood and Wildfire review are finalized and submitted to government, any recommendations related to the Emergency Program Act will be considered as part of this modernization of the Act.

If asked about public consultation and why changes have not yet materialized:

- For 15 weeks starting in January 2016, EMBC hosted an online consultation forum to provide information about the Emergency Program Act and allow an opportunity to submit input.
- EMBC received over 70 consultation submissions from stakeholders, as well as comments from forum participants.
- A review of flood and wildfire practices undertaken throughout the province is currently underway following the unprecedented flooding and wildfire seasons of 2017.
- We expect to receive recommendations related to the Emergency Program Act from this review. Emergency Management BC will review these recommendations and re-engage with key stakeholders regarding potential changes.
- All potential changes to the legal framework will then be collated and presented to government for a decision.

If asked what is changing:

- The Act needs to be robust enough to give B.C. the legal framework to adequately tackle complex emergencies of all natures and magnitudes, and yet, make it more clear, consistent and concrete in with respect to terminology, roles and responsibilities.

Confidential Issues Note ADVICE TO MINISTER

- Easy and obvious improvements include:
 - Referencing the correct name of the lead organization tasked with managing emergencies at the provincial level (Emergency Management BC);
 - Providing further clarification on the responsibilities of provincial, local and critical infrastructure authorities; and
 - Including Treaty First Nations in local governance.
- We also expect to receive recommendations related to the Emergency Program Act as put forward by the 2017 flood and fire review. Emergency Management BC will review these recommendations and re-engage with stakeholders regarding potential changes before presenting them to the government for decision.

If asked about changes to powers of a minister during a declared state of emergency:

- Exceptional powers are available in rare circumstances and only for the sake of public safety. At this point, any changes to emergency powers are still only being considered for possible inclusion in a revised Act.

If asked about forced evacuations:

- The amendments put forth for discussion would give police the authority, during a declared state of emergency, to remove a competent adult if the person's life is at risk or when refusing to evacuate would potentially put the lives of others at risk--such as first responders.
- Stakeholder response to forced evacuations was mixed. Recommendations are still under consideration and will not be incorporated into a revised Act without further consultation.

BACKGROUND REGARDING THE ISSUE:

The Emergency Program Act (EPA) provides a framework for the B.C. government and local authorities to plan for, respond to and recover from emergencies. The EPA also:

- Provides for the use of extraordinary powers if a state of emergency or state of local emergency is declared;
- Authorizes and establishes eligibility for response and recovery expenditures; and
- Protects emergency service workers from civil liability.

EPA Review

In 2015, government directed a review of the EPA to ensure the legislation is up to date and will result in more effective management of emergencies in B.C.

To support public engagement as the government reviews the EPA, EMBC drafted a discussion paper containing a number of policy proposals intended to achieve the objectives of modernizing the legislation, clarifying roles and responsibilities and supporting emergency response and recovery

Results from the 2016 Engagement Process

Between January and April 2016, EMBC and Government Communications & Public Engagement (GCPE) hosted a public discussion forum to discuss the policy proposals. Emergency Management BC invited critical infrastructure providers, the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM), the BC Civil Liberties Association, emergency management stakeholders and First Nation Chiefs and Councils to participate in the engagement process.

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Emergency Management BC received over 70 submissions from stakeholders, as well as blog-style comments from forum participants. The Union for British Columbia Municipalities also prepared a detailed submission summarizing the position and perspectives of its members.

The feedback was generally supportive. Nevertheless, a number of proposals prompted questions and/or concerns. More specifically:

- The prospect of the forcible evacuation of competent adults;
- The proposed powers of Minister to direct changes to local authority plans; and
- Powers to collect, use and disclose information not available under other enactments.

Critical infrastructure providers who are regulated under other provincial and federal enactments (e.g. financial institutions and the energy sector) were also concerned about:

- The potential for the duplication of planning requirements; and
- Uncertainty that could result from the proposed enhanced government powers to alter or suspend an authorization during an emergency.

In addition, many submissions from local authorities expressed concern that the proposals could result in increased costs and downloading of emergency management requirements. The Union for British Columbia Municipalities summary submission recommended that EMBC undertake additional engagement with its members prior to the introduction of new legislation.

After-Action Review Process and Next Steps

Government is engaging in an after-action review process to capture lessons learned and recommendations from the freshet and wildfire events that took place in 2017. It is expected that the results of the internal-to-government process and the review by independent experts Maureen Chapman and George Abbott will contain recommendations that will influence changes to the EPA and regulations.

Once specific recommendations are known, EMBC will reassess and reprioritize its package of potential legislative proposals and re-engage with key internal and external stakeholders to inform them of next steps. A simple report out to the general public to close off the results of the 2016 engagement process will also be needed at that time.

Powers of minister during a declared state of emergency

10 (1) After a declaration of a state of emergency is made under section 9 (1) and for the duration of the state of emergency, the minister may do all acts and implement all procedures that the minister considers necessary to prevent, respond to, or alleviate the effects of an emergency or a disaster, including any or all of the following:

- (a) Implement a Provincial emergency plan or any Provincial emergency measures;
- (b) Authorize a local authority to implement a local emergency plan or emergency measures for all, or any part of the jurisdictional area for which the local authority has responsibility;
- (c) Require a local authority for a municipality or an electoral area to implement a local emergency plan or emergency measures for all, or any part of the municipality or electoral area for which the local authority has responsibility;
- (d) Acquire or use any land or personal property considered necessary to prevent, respond to or alleviate the effects of an emergency or disaster;

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(e) Authorize or require any person to render assistance of a type that the person is qualified to provide or that otherwise is or may be required to prevent, respond to or alleviate the effects of an emergency or disaster;

(f) Control or prohibit travel to or from any area of British Columbia;

(g) Provide for the restoration of essential facilities and the distribution of essential supplies and provide, maintain and coordinate emergency medical, welfare and other essential services in any part of British Columbia;

(h) Cause the evacuation of persons and the removal of livestock, animals and personal property from any area of British Columbia that is or may be affected by an emergency or a disaster and make arrangements for the adequate care and protection of those persons, livestock, animals and personal property;

(i) Authorize the entry into any building or on any land, without warrant, by any person in the course of implementing an emergency plan or program or if otherwise considered by the minister to be necessary to prevent, respond to or alleviate the effects of an emergency or disaster;

(j) Cause the demolition or removal of any trees, structures or crops if the demolition or removal is considered by the minister to be necessary or appropriate in order to prevent, respond to or alleviate the effects of an emergency or disaster;

(k) Construct works considered by the minister to be necessary or appropriate to prevent, respond to or alleviate the effects of an emergency or disaster;

(l) Procure, fix prices for or ration food, clothing, fuel, equipment, medical supplies or other essential supplies and the use of any property, services, resources or equipment within any part of British Columbia for the duration of the state of emergency.

(2) After a declaration of a state of emergency is made under section 9 (1),

(a) The director or such other person as the Minister may appoint is responsible for the coordination and implementation of necessary plans or programs prepared under this Act, and

(b) All persons and agencies involved in the coordination and implementation are subject to the control and direction of the director or the other person appointed by the minister.

**Confidential Issues Note
ADVICE TO MINISTER**

Ministry: Emergency Management BC
Date: updated Feb. 9, 2018
Minister Responsible: Mike Farnworth

Earthquake Preparedness

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **EMBC is continually exploring all possible opportunities to enhance British Columbia's emergency preparedness.**
- **EMBC has partnered with other government organizations the not-for-profit sector and academia, in addition to the private sector in order to develop and implement several seismic-related projects designed to prepare the Province for a catastrophic earthquake.**
- **EMBC has also developed a number of partnerships designed to enhance our capabilities and capacity following a catastrophic event. These include:**
 - **Establishing regional partnerships in major urban centres (Metro Vancouver and Capital Regional District).**
 - **Partnering with the Canadian Red Cross to help build capacity to better support humanitarian aid.**
 - **Enhancing cross-border partnerships such as the Pacific Northwest Emergency Management Arrangement (PNEMA) and Emergency Management Mutual Aid (EMMA). The aim is to support the deployment of critical assistance and resources following a major emergency.**

If asked about earthquake early warning systems:

- EMBC supports the work of our partners in the seismic risk management community with respect to developing and deploying state-of-the-art technologies. The agency is working with a full range of stakeholders within the seismic community to advance the development of an early warning and seismic monitoring program for B.C.
- In November 2016, EMBC put out a Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEOI) for an earthquake early warning and seismic monitoring program. This offers the BC government an opportunity to listen to new ideas and to keep abreast of innovations and approaches that it may not have previously considered.
 - Through 20 submissions to the RFEOI from local, national and international firms, EMBC is now looking at the technological and funding needs required to support an early earthquake warning and seismic monitoring program.

EMBC is also:

- Working with Ocean Networks Canada to develop an earthquake early warning system for the Cascadia subduction zone that will be capable of delivering notifications to a selection of agencies in B.C.
- Reviewing lessons learned from outside of the province to develop a catalogue of recommended actions that will be immediately implemented upon receipt of an earthquake early warning alert. For example: Early earthquake warning technology in Japan and Mexico and its recent use there.
- Collaborating with Natural Resources Canada and a number of non-governmental agencies—including Ocean Networks Canada – to develop a better understanding of earthquake hazards and risks throughout the province.

If asked about public alerting:

- Informing the public quickly in an emergency is a key component to overall public safety and preparedness. That is why the Province has invested in alerting technology and is exploring evolving technology to improve B.C.'s capability for emergency notifications.
- EMBC invested \$95,000 to improve the speed of delivery for the provincial emergency notification system, which receives notification of predicted tsunamis from the National Tsunami Warning Center in Alaska and relays that information to:
 - Local governments and emergency officials;
 - Select media with the capacity for 24/7 reporting;
 - First responders like police and fire departments; and
 - Partner agencies like the coast guard and military.

If asked about the seismic asset management project:

- EMBC wants to ensure all provincial infrastructure assets continue to be tracked, monitored and upgraded in an effective and efficient way. We are developing a cross-ministry strategy that integrates seismic capital planning, prioritization and risk management to ensure that these assets continue to be upgraded in an affordable way.
- We anticipate that contractors from Associated Engineering will provide recommendations to government that will help form the basis of a proposal for managing assets for seismic risk across ministries.

BACKGROUND REGARDING THE ISSUE:

In March 2014, the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) released a report concluding that EMBC was not adequately prepared for a catastrophic earthquake. Government accepted the OAG's report, but noted that disaster preparedness is a shared responsibility. In response, Henry Renteria was appointed chair of the Province's year-long earthquake consultation. He released a report in March 2015 denoting B.C.'s need for:

- Additional public education.
- A province-wide risk analysis along with additional availability of risk management maps and information.
- A comprehensive training and exercise strategy with EMBC leadership.
- Enhanced authority and resources for EMBC.
- Ensuring that funding system-wide is adequate, creates appropriate incentives and, addresses all phases of emergency management.
- Implementation of performance and accountability measures for ministries and local governments.
- Development of cross-ministry plans and capacity for catastrophic events.

Support provided:

In 2016, EMBC hosted Exercise Coastal Response, a \$1.2M earthquake exercise that tested elements of the province's Immediate Response Plan to a catastrophic earthquake event. This was B.C.'s first ever full-scale earthquake exercise.

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Seismic investments made in March 2017 include:

- \$32M to the Union of BC Municipalities for community projects that will help with resilience after an earthquake, like generators for emergency operations centres and funding for evacuation routes.
- \$1M for the Vancouver-based Canada Task Force 1 Heavy Urban Search and Rescue unit that aids in catastrophic rescue efforts.
- \$2.2M on a project with the Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction to investigate the earthquake hazards of liquefaction, slope instability and ground shaking in the Metro Vancouver area.
- \$800,000 for the Marine Environmental, Observation, Prediction and Response Network (MEOPAR) for shoreline accessibility evaluations to explore how aid can be delivered.
- \$500,000 to improve access to professional assistance from the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of B.C. in a disaster.
- \$700,000 for the Salvation Army and \$100,000 for the Canadian Red Cross for mass care and disaster relief supplies.

Seismic investments made in March 2016 include:

- \$5M to Ocean Networks Canada to develop an earthquake early warning system for the Cascadia Subduction Zone. Key activities in the project include:
 - Installation of seismic and positional sensors offshore and on Vancouver Island
 - Enhancing alerting and analysis components of the system
 - Integration and data sharing with existing systems
 - Testing the system

Confidential Issues Note ADVICE TO MINISTER

Ministry: Emergency Management BC Date Updated: updated Feb. 9, 2018 Ministers Responsible: Mike Farnworth	<i>Fire Safety Act</i>
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ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The public safety of all British Columbians is a key priority of this government, and that is why the new *Fire Safety Act* will replace the *Fire Services Act*.
- It has been more than 35 years since the last substantial update to the Act, and there have been important advancements in fire safety and prevention which are not reflected in the current legislation.
- The goal of the new Act is to modernize the legislation and make improvements to help ensure the safety of British Columbians by:
 - Developing a manageable and streamlined out-of-court enforcement system with administrative penalties that will improve compliance;
 - Providing local authorities with the power to evacuate or close a building where there is immediate danger to life or property;
 - Streamlining the fire inspection and investigation process; and
 - Eliminating Local Assistants to the Fire Commissioner and replacing them with inspectors and investigators appointed directly by local authorities.

If asked about training standards:

- Under the new Act and developed with stakeholder consultation, there will be a minimum standard for both the fire inspector and fire investigator roles.
- The standards in the Act will be competency-based and are consistent with the minimum standards used in structure firefighter training.

If asked about consultations:

- The new Act, which is not yet in force, takes into account a full range of feedback we received through an extensive consultation process.
- Discussions were held for several years up until 2012, stakeholders were re-engaged in the fall of 2013 and consultations took place again until the point of the first reading in 2016.

If asked about when the new Act goes into effect:

- The new Fire Safety Act received Royal Assent on May 19, 2016, and work is underway on the required regulations and supporting policies.
- We do not have a specific date for when the new Act will be administered, but until it is, the former *Fire Services Act* remains in force.

BACKGROUND REGARDING THE ISSUE:

Although the Fire Safety Act received Royal Assent on May 19, 2016, UBCM requested an amendment to remove the mandatory requirement for the appointment of fire inspectors and investigators by regional districts.

The Office of the Fire Commissioner has sought direction from government on enforcing a common standard for Fire Safety Act inspections of all public buildings in the province.

Until it is passed, the former Fire Services Act remains the current legislation. The current legislation provides authority to the Fire Commissioner to appoint local assistants who, on the Fire Commissioner's behalf, conduct inspections and investigations, and ensure compliance with the Act and the BC Fire Code.

The goal of the new Act is to modernize the legislation and to make improvements to help ensure the safety of British Columbians including:

- Providing the power to evacuate and secure premises;
- Enabling local authorities to designate fire inspectors/investigators;
- Providing effective tools for Fire Code enforcement; and
- Permitting the flexibility to match resources to compliance requirements.

The new Act includes the following elements:

- A manageable and streamlined out-of-court enforcement system with administrative penalties that will improve compliance;
- Providing local authorities with the power to evacuate or close a building where there is immediate danger to life and/or property;
- Streamlining the fire inspection and investigation processes;
- Eliminating Local Assistants to the Fire Commissioner appointed by the B.C. Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) and replacing them with inspectors and investigators appointed directly by local authorities where appropriate; and
- Providing inspection and investigation consistency in B.C. with the OFC setting the qualification standards.

**Confidential Issues Note
ADVICE TO MINISTER**

Ministry: Emergency Management BC
Date: updated Feb. 9, 2018
Minister Responsible: Mike Farnworth

***2017 Flooding, Flood Support
and Investments***

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

Provincial Flood Support and Investments

- Our government values the public safety of all British Columbians. Anything we can do to understand and prepare for risk is a step in the right direction.
- With this in mind, Emergency Management BC discussed flood mitigation funding programs such as the National Disaster Mitigation Program and the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund with local governments at the Union of BC Municipalities Convention in Vancouver in September 2017.
- The National Disaster Mitigation Program and Community Emergency Preparedness Fund enable communities to develop flood risk assessments, maps and mitigation plans in addition to constructing flood protection infrastructure. A full list of potential funding programs can be found at Emergency Management British Columbia's Disaster Mitigation Branch webpage.
- We continue to work together to help mitigate the risk of catastrophic flooding.
- We are committed to working collaboratively to improve public safety and disaster preparedness for all British Columbians.

If asked about investments in mitigation:

- EMBC is committed to improving the public safety of all British Columbians; that is why we are investing heavily in flood prevention and protection.
 - On Feb. 2, 2018, the Governments of Canada and B.C. announced funding for 30 projects, valued at approximately \$12.1M (including investments from local governments and NGOs) through the National Disaster Mitigation Program.
 - B.C. government contribution: approximately \$5M
 - Previous investments:
 - In March 2017, EMBC announced that it will invest in \$60M for flood mitigation projects in B.C. communities.
 - This followed the announcement in 2016 of \$50M of funding earmarked for 15 community hazard mitigation projects including upgrades to dikes.

If asked about Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA):

- BC DFA assists qualifying home owners, residential tenants, small business owners, farm owners and charitable organizations to recover from major disasters.
- The eligibility criteria for DFA, which has been consistently and fairly applied since 1995, is defined according to the Emergency Program Act and Disaster Financial Assistance Regulation.

If asked about the impact of overland flood insurance on DFA assessments:

- Until recently, overland flood insurance was only available for commercial buildings. The BC Government expects that within two years DFA will be available to family residences throughout B.C. Overland flood insurance is now available in certain municipalities throughout B.C.
- Disaster Financial Assistance is not applicable where flood insurance is readily and reasonably available. In communities where flood insurance has not yet been introduced, DFA is applied according to the eligibility criteria established since 1995.
- All residents or tenants who make a DFA application will be treated on a case-by-case basis and, as is normal practice, will be given a form to fill out and then present to their insurance agent or broker to determine whether the resident was offered the flood insurance option.

If asked about support provided for the 2017 freshet:

- EMBC continues to support local governments, regional districts, First Nations and individuals with direct response and recovery costs relating to the 2017 freshet.
- EMBC also supported all evacuees through Emergency Social Services.
- During the 2017 freshet, EMBC coordinated the deployment of hundreds of personnel to assist communities—including technical experts from several fields and ministries. For example:
 - FLNRORD's River Forecast Centre and Water Stewardship provided water flow expertise, as well as geotechnical specialists and engineers.
 - BC Housing activated its Building Damage Assessment Branch to provide rapid damage assessment services to local governments.
 - BC Wildfire Service deployed hundreds of personnel in the central interior to assist with the flood response.
 - Hundreds of MOTI staff and MOTI maintenance contractor staff repaired damaged roads and protected existing infrastructure, utilizing close to 300 pieces of equipment.
 - The Ministries of Environment, Health and Agriculture have all been involved in the ongoing response to, and recovery from, this emergency.
- EMBC also deployed flood mitigation resources to support local authorities, including:
 - More than 3 million sandbags
 - 7.5 km of gabions (wall-like structures filled with sand)
 - 6.7 km of Tiger Dams (stackable orange tubes filled with water)
 - 9 sandbag filling machines, used in communities throughout the flood season

Confidential Issues Note ADVICE TO MINISTER

BACKGROUND REGARDING THE ISSUE:

Financial Aid

Disaster Financial Assistance was made available to residents living in the central and south Okanagan area and Kootenay Regions following spring flooding in 2017:

- Thompson-Nicola Regional District
- North Okanagan Regional District
- Columbia Shuswap Regional District
- Okanagan-Similkameen Regional District
- Central Okanagan Regional District
- Regional District of Kootenay Boundary
- Regional District of East Kootenay
- Regional District of Central Kootenay

The Canadian Red Cross disbursed flood-related aid of up to \$600 per eligible, registered household whose homes were so badly damaged that they were ordered to evacuate.

On November 17, 2017, DFA was also made available to eligible British Columbians affected by the flooding that occurred between October 23-27, 2017 in the following areas:

- Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine (electoral areas C and E)
- Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (electoral area A)
- Central Coast Regional District
- Village of Queen Charlotte
- City of Terrace
- Village of Telkwa

Community Emergency Preparedness Fund

The Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) is a suite of programs designed to enhance the resiliency of local governments and their residents. The Province provides the funding, which is administered by UBCM. In March 2017, the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure launched CEPF as part of an \$80 million announcement for emergency preparedness.

Funding streams:

- Flood Risk Assessment, Flood Mapping & Flood Mitigation Planning
- Emergency Social Services
- Emergency Operations Centres & Training
- Structural Flood Mitigation

**Confidential Issues Note
ADVICE TO MINISTER**

Ministry: Emergency Management BC
Date: updated Feb. 19, 2018
Minister Responsible: Mike Farnworth

***2017 Flooding, Flood Support
and Investments***

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

Provincial Flood Support and Investments

- Our government values the public safety of all British Columbians. Anything we can do to understand and prepare for risk is a step in the right direction.
- With this in mind, Emergency Management BC discussed flood mitigation funding programs such as the National Disaster Mitigation Program and the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund with local governments at the Union of BC Municipalities Convention in Vancouver in September 2017.
- The National Disaster Mitigation Program and Community Emergency Preparedness Fund enable communities to develop flood risk assessments, maps and mitigation plans in addition to constructing flood protection infrastructure. A full list of potential funding programs can be found at Emergency Management British Columbia's Disaster Mitigation Branch webpage.
- We continue to work together to help mitigate the risk of catastrophic flooding.
- We are committed to working collaboratively to improve public safety and disaster preparedness for all British Columbians.

If asked about investments in mitigation:

- EMBC is committed to improving the public safety of all British Columbians; that is why we are investing heavily in flood prevention and protection.
 - On Feb. 2, 2018, the Governments of Canada and B.C. announced funding for 30 projects, valued at approximately \$12.1M (including investments from local governments and NGOs) through the National Disaster Mitigation Program.
 - B.C. government contribution: approximately \$5M
 - Previous investments:
 - In March 2017, EMBC announced that it will invest in \$60M for flood mitigation projects in B.C. communities.
 - This followed the announcement in 2016 of \$50M of funding earmarked for 15 community hazard mitigation projects including upgrades to dikes.

If asked about Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA):

- Disaster Financial Assistance is a provincial program to help individuals and local governments recover from uninsurable disasters. The program is administered by Emergency Management BC.
- The purpose of DFA is to provide a helping hand to get people and local governments back on their feet after an uninsurable disaster.

- The eligibility criteria for DFA, which has been consistently and fairly applied since 1995, is defined according to the Emergency Program Act and Disaster Financial Assistance Regulation.
- DFA is available in the event of a disaster in respect of which the minister, or designate, has determined that disaster financial assistance may be provided.
- When this determination is made, Emergency Management BC defines the eligible dates and geographic locations, notifies affected local governments, posts this information on its website, publishes information in local papers, and attends community meetings if requested.
- For flooding disasters, DFA is available to qualifying home owners, residential tenants, small business owners, farm owners, and charitable organizations. Applicants should be aware of the following:
 - Financial assistance is provided for each accepted claim at 80% of the amount of total eligible damage that exceeds \$1,000, to a maximum claim of \$300,000.
 - Claims may be made in more than one category (e.g., home owner and farm owner).
 - A home owner or residential tenant must show that the home is the applicant's principal residence.
 - Seasonal or recreational properties, hot tubs, patios, pools, garden tools, landscaping, luxury items (like jewelry, fur coats and collectibles), and recreational items (like bicycles) are not eligible for assistance.
 - Small business owners and farm owners must demonstrate the business or farm is the applicant's primary source of income.
 - Charitable organizations must provide a benefit of service to the community at large.
 - Assistance is also available to local governments for essential materials and to rebuild or replace essential public infrastructures to the condition it was in before the disaster. Assistance is provided for each accepted recovery claim at 80% of the amount of total eligible damage that exceeds \$1,000. There is no maximum claim.

If asked about the impact of overland flood insurance on DFA assessments:

- Until recently, overland flood insurance was only available for commercial buildings. The BC Government expects that within two years DFA will be available to family residences throughout B.C. Overland flood insurance is now available in certain municipalities throughout B.C.
- Disaster Financial Assistance is not applicable where flood insurance is readily and reasonably available. In communities where flood insurance has not yet been introduced, DFA is applied according to the eligibility criteria established since 1995.
- All residents or tenants who make a DFA application will be treated on a case-by-case basis and, as is normal practice, will be given a form to fill out and then present to their insurance agent or broker to determine whether the resident was offered the flood insurance option.

If asked about support provided for the 2017 freshet:

- EMBC continues to support local governments, regional districts, First Nations and individuals with direct response and recovery costs relating to the 2017 freshet.
 - There are 31 outstanding private sector DFA claims (610 individuals have been paid about \$3.4 million).
 - There are 30 outstanding local governments/First Nations DFA claims (2 partial claims totaling \$159,519 have been paid).
 - DFA staff has engaged with all local governments/FN's that have applied for DFA and are working with each towards the approval of recovery plans. For local governments and First Nations, claims are paid after recovery plans are approved and work is completed.
 - Once an event is considered DFA eligible, local governments have 18 months to submit a recovery claim.
- EMBC also supported all evacuees through Emergency Social Services.

Confidential Issues Note ADVICE TO MINISTER

- During the 2017 freshet, EMBC coordinated the deployment of hundreds of personnel to assist communities—including technical experts from several fields and ministries. For example:
 - FLNRORD's River Forecast Centre and Water Stewardship provided water flow expertise, as well as geotechnical specialists and engineers.
 - BC Housing activated its Building Damage Assessment Branch to provide rapid damage assessment services to local governments.
 - BC Wildfire Service deployed hundreds of personnel in the central interior to assist with the flood response.
 - Hundreds of MOTI staff and MOTI maintenance contractor staff repaired damaged roads and protected existing infrastructure, utilizing close to 300 pieces of equipment.
 - The Ministries of Environment, Health and Agriculture have all been involved in the ongoing response to, and recovery from, this emergency.
- EMBC also deployed flood mitigation resources to support local authorities, including:
 - More than 3 million sandbags
 - 7.5 km of gabions (wall-like structures filled with sand)
 - 6.7 km of Tiger Dams (stackable orange tubes filled with water)
 - 9 sandbag filling machines, used in communities throughout the flood season

BACKGROUND REGARDING THE ISSUE:

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- Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (electoral area A)
- Central Coast Regional District
- Village of Queen Charlotte
- City of Terrace
- Village of Telkwa

Community Emergency Preparedness Fund

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Funding streams:

- Flood Risk Assessment, Flood Mapping & Flood Mitigation Planning
- Emergency Social Services
- Emergency Operations Centres & Training
- Structural Flood Mitigation

**Confidential Issues Note
ADVICE TO MINISTER**

Ministry: Emergency Management BC
Date: updated Feb. 9, 2018
Ministers Responsible: Mike Farnworth

***Indigenous Services Canada
Agreement: First Nations
Emergency Management***

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **We continue to improve the delivery of emergency management services for all B.C. residents, including First Nations communities.**
- **The federal and provincial governments have entered into a 10-year, \$30M agreement to improve the delivery of emergency management support services to on-reserve First Nations communities in B.C.**
- **The agreement allows the province to provide direct emergency supports for all B.C. communities regardless of jurisdictional boundaries.**

If asked about benefits:

- The agreement assists EMBC to expand existing support to First Nations on reserves in B.C. and provides greater opportunities for Indigenous communities to further improve their own emergency management capacity.
- This added capacity, enables EMBC to provide First Nation with greater mitigation and preparedness support. This includes offering First Nations direct guidance for emergency planning; increased regional support for joint preparedness, educational and awareness activities via EMBC regional offices.

If asked about results attained thus far:

- EMBC is providing emergency management training to First Nation communities in addition to developing tailored content.
- EMBC has formalized its relationship with the First Nations' Emergency Services Society to develop regional partnerships with First Nations communities.
 - These partnerships will help guide the implementation of the Indigenous Services Canada agreement, as well as help identify specific community needs and programs to address them.
- EMBC and First Nations are engaged in ongoing dialogue related to emergency preparedness, and will be participating in EMBC-led exercises.

If asked why the money is going to the Province rather than to First Nations directly?

- It's important to note that this agreement is about service delivery; the responsibility and authority for emergency management for on-reserve First Nations in the province still remains with the federal government.
- Leveraging existing services and expanding already established programs, training and expertise within EMBC will save money and result in greater efficiency and improved support services.

BACKGROUND REGARDING THE ISSUE:

On Jan. 20, 2017, representatives from the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) partnered with Indigenous Services Canada (Formerly Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) at the time the agreement was signed) and Emergency Management BC (EMBC) to enter into a bilateral emergency management services agreement.

The bilateral agreement came into effect on April 1, 2017 and will take about two years to fully implement. It will last for 10 years and includes approximately \$30M in funding for the province to recruit staff, pay for operational expenses, education and training. The increase in EMBC's service capacity will address concerns raised in the 2014 Auditor General's report, *Catastrophic Earthquake Response*, and establish a more consistent level of service for all B.C residents.

In late 2016, INAC transferred \$1.033M to EMBC to engage directly with First Nations communities to prepare for the implementation of the bi-lateral agreement. EMBC is committed to fully engaging with the FNLC and First Nations communities in order to successfully implement the agreement.

The bilateral agreement will expand and enhance response and recovery services to include planning, training and public education. This agreement is similar to one already signed in Alberta (renewed in March 2015) and Prince Edward Island (September 2015). Both provinces now deliver all emergency management support services to on-reserve First Nations communities within their respective jurisdictions.

The enhanced agreement replaces the 1993 Letter of Understanding between INAC and EMBC.

Although EMBC will provide services to on-reserve First Nations communities, the responsibility for emergency management remains with the federal government. This means that First Nations communities on reserve do not fall under the authority of provincial legislation and are not required to fulfill *Emergency Program Act* requirements (e.g., the completion of an emergency management plan) and in some cases are not required to have the same level of staffing capacity as their non-native municipal counterparts.

**Confidential Issues Note
ADVICE TO MINISTER**

Ministry: Emergency Management BC
Date Updated: updated Feb. 9, 2018
Minister Responsible: Mike Farnworth

***Fraser River Debris Trap
Access – First Nations
Negotiation***

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- Because this matter is still before the courts, I can't speak to any specifics of the case.
- I can say that the debris trap, located on the Fraser River just south of Hope, is very important to the public safety and environmental health of this province. The debris trap is critical because it captures up to 100,000 cubic metres (or 2,400 logging truck loads) of debris each year.
- In other words, the debris trap saves lives, and helps preserve sensitive ecosystems and property that would otherwise be threatened if the trap was withdrawn.
- According to research, the debris trap saves up to \$8 million every year in clean-up costs, repairs to boats, bridge maintenance, shoreline infrastructure and the preservation of wetland habitat.
- We have been negotiating and consulting with the Shxw'ōwhámél (Shu-woh-ha-mel) First Nation since assuming the administration of the Fraser River Debris Trap in 2011. Negotiations revolve around addressing issues such as the operation of the trap, access and land use concerns.

If asked about how the Province is working with Shxw'ōwhámél First Nation on the debris trap:

- The Province remains committed to working with the Shxw'ōwhámél on the safe and efficient operation of the debris trap.
- EMBC and MIRR are currently (February 2018) working with Shxw'ōwhámél First Nation to finalize a funding agreement to support discussions on the debris trap. This includes negotiating a letter of agreement concerning trap operations, jointly developing the next phase of the environmental site assessment, and exploring reconciliation interests.

If asked about SFN access to gravel from sediment removal operations in winter 2018:

- Shxw'ōwhámél First Nation has recently asked EMBC about acquiring gravel from the 2018 winter sediment removal operations. EMBC supports the continuation of operational discussions between Drake Excavating and Shxw'ōwhámél First Nation regarding potential band use of the gravel.

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BACKGROUND REGARDING THE ISSUE:

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The FRDT has been in operation since 1979. From 1979 to 1999, it was administered and funded equally by Transport Canada, BC Ministry of Forests and the coastal forest industry. From 1999 to 2011, it was administered by Fraser Basin Council (FBC), and in 2011, the administration was given to EMBC.

The trap captures 100,000m³ (up to 2,400 logging truck loads) of wood debris annually to prevent downstream risks to public safety, damage to property and infrastructure (foreshore buildings and bridges, docks, piers, boats, etc.) and threats to wetlands.

Historically, the trap was accessed (for debris removal) through a small corner of a Shxw'ōwhámél First Nation Indian Reserve. In 2014, s.16

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all equipment, materials, and site access required to operate the trap were moved from Shxw'ōwhámél lands to Crown Land.

First Nations contractors were invited to compete for the contract s.16

After a competitive bidding process, EMBC awarded Drake Excavating a three year contract¹ in 2016 to operate the debris trap, including wooden debris and sediment removal (i.e. silt and gravel). Due to additional permitting requirements, annual operating costs have increased from approximately \$623,000 to \$1 million.

¹ With two one-year renewal options by EMBC.

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National Disaster Mitigation Program

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **Natural disasters place a significant economic, social and physical strain on individuals, communities and all levels of government.**
- **EMBC is working with the federal government to establish a proactive, sustainable approach to flood prevention, which includes investments in disaster mitigation. The aim is to reduce the impact of flooding events such as those witnessed in the spring of 2017 in B.C.'s Central Interior.**
- **The National Disaster Mitigation Program is a cross-Canada, competitive application-based program. The federal government funds up to of 50% of the costs for flood prevention and mitigation projects designed to help build safer and more resilient communities.**
- **EMBC has aggressively advocated for B.C.-based projects and submitted 30 proposals during the first three program intakes, all of which were approved by the federal government.**
- **On Feb. 2, 2018, the Governments of Canada and B.C. announced funding for 30 projects from the first three application intake periods of the program, valued at approximately \$12.1 million (including investments from local governments and NGOs).**
 - **B.C. government contribution: approximately \$5 million**
- **35 additional B.C.-based projects were submitted during the program's fourth application intake period and are pending federal approval, which will likely take place this spring.**
- **Projects are categorized by stream:**
 - **Stream 1 – Risk assessments**
 - **Stream 2 – Flood mapping**
 - **Stream 3 – Mitigation planning**
 - **Stream 4 – Investment in non-structural or small-scale structural mitigation**

BACKGROUND REGARDING THE ISSUE:

In 2015, the federal government established the National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP), a five-year, \$200M cost-shared program to reduce the impact of natural disasters on Canadians by focusing investments on significant, recurring flood risk areas; and advancing work to facilitate private residential insurance for overland flooding. The NDMP is merit-based: Provinces and territories are required to apply and compete with each other for funding. Because the NDMP does not rely on a regular application or approval cycle, it is difficult to secure annual funding through provincial budget processes.

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There have been four NDMP program application intake periods.

- Intake 1, approved Aug 2016: EMBC submitted 3 projects and all were approved.
- Intake 2, approved May 2017: EMBC submitted 6 projects and all were approved.
- Intake 3, approved October 2017: EMBC submitted 21 projects and all were approved.
- Intake 4, EMBC submitted 35 projects for Public Safety Canada's consideration. A decision is expected in the spring of 2018.
- Intake 5 is expected in 2018.

Attachment A summarizes all approved NDMP projects. Summary of funding related to NDMP-approved projects:

- Total value of all approved projects: approximately \$12.1 million
- Federal government: approximately \$5.7 million
- Provincial government: approximately \$5 million
- Other sources of funding (local governments, NGOs, etc.): approximately \$1.4 million

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Attachment A – NDMP Approved Projects

Stream 1: Risk assessment(s)

City of Pitt Meadows – Flood Hazard Risk Assessment

Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows – Lisa Beare – BC NDP

Total Project Value: \$91,375

Federal: \$42,500; Provincial: \$42,500; City of Pitt Meadows: \$6,375

This project will complete a comprehensive risk assessment of the flood-related hazards in the City of Pitt Meadows floodplain.

Comox Valley Regional District – Oyster River/Saratoga Beach Flood Risk Assessment

North Island – Claire Travena – BC NDP

Courtenay-Comox – Ronna-Rae Leonard – BC NDP

Total Project Value: \$81,700

Federal: \$38,000; Provincial: \$38,000; Comox Valley Regional District and Strathcona Regional District: \$5,700

Project staff will conduct a flood risk assessment for the portion of the Oyster River floodplain, an area that encompasses both the Comox Valley and the Strathcona regional districts.

Cowichan Valley Regional District – Lake Cowichan/Youbou Torrent Flow Assessment

Cowichan Valley – Sonia Furstenau – BC Green Party

Total Project Value: \$209,000

Federal: \$97,250; Provincial: \$97,250; Cowichan Valley Regional District: \$3,000; Cowichan Tribes, Lake Cowichan First Nations, Town of Lake Cowichan: \$4,500; Timberwest Forestry, Hancock Forestry: \$7,000

Project staff will identify the potential hazards based on a combination of flood and landslide risks in and around a number of communities along the shore of Lake Cowichan.

City of Prince Rupert – Tsunami Flood Risk Assessment

North Coast – Jennifer Rice – BC NDP

Total Project Value: \$480,000

Federal: \$225,000; Provincial: \$225,000; City of Prince Rupert: \$30,000

Project staff will analyze geographical data to determine the potential levels of inundation and tidal velocities during a high water event in the Prince Rupert harbour.

District of Squamish – Quantitative Risk Assessment for Squamish River Floodplain

West Vancouver-Sea to Sky – Jordan Sturdy – BC Liberal

Total Project Value: \$190,000

Federal: \$89,000; Provincial: \$89,000; District of Squamish: \$4,000; Kerr Wood Leidal Associates Ltd.: \$8,000

Project staff will provide a quantitative risk assessment that will focus on risks to life and livelihoods within the Squamish River floodplain.

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Resort Municipality of Whistler – Integrated Flood Hazard Management Risk Assessment

West Vancouver-Sea to Sky – Jordan Sturdy – BC Liberal

Total Project Value: \$144,000

Federal: \$67,000; Provincial: \$67,000; Resort Municipality of Whistler: \$10,000

Project staff will identify, classify, and prioritize flood hazards faced by the Whistler community, which will then be incorporated into future flood mapping, including the development of a comprehensive integrated flood hazard plan.

Regional District of Central Kootenay – Flood and Geohazard Risk Review

Nelson-Creston – Michelle Mungall – BC NDP

Kootenay West – Katrine Conroy – BC NDP

Columbia River-Revelstoke – Doug Clovechok – BC Liberal

Total Project Value: \$537,500

Federal: \$250,000; Provincial: \$250,000; Regional District of Central Kootenay: \$37,500

Project staff will establish priorities according to the risk of flood-related hazards within the Regional District of Central Kootenay, 11 rural electoral districts, nine municipalities, and reserve land administered by the Lower Kootenay Band.

Cowichan Valley Regional District: Regional Dam Safety Analysis and Risk Assessment

Cowichan Valley – Sonia Furstenau – BC Green Party

Total Project Value: \$275,200

Federal: \$128,000; Provincial: \$128,000; Cowichan Valley Regional District: \$19,200

Project staff will undertake a high-level risk assessment of four dams to align them with recent local and provincial standards and oversight.

Cowichan Valley Regional District: Risk Assessment of Floodplain Areas

Cowichan Valley – Sonia Furstenau – BC Green Party

Total Project Value: \$107,500

Federal: \$50,000; Provincial: \$50,000; Cowichan Valley Regional District: \$7,500

Project staff will undertake a risk assessment of existing assets related to the three remaining historically mapped floodplains of the Cowichan Valley Regional District to help determine future investments and actions to mitigate flooding.

Corporation of Delta – Flood Protection System Risk Assessment

Delta North – Ravi Kahlon – BC NDP

Delta South – Ian Paton – BC Liberal

Total Project Value: \$161,250

Federal: \$75,000; Provincial: \$75,000; Corporation of Delta: \$11,250

Project staff will produce a flood risk assessment to identify potential flood hazards, the likelihood of occurrence, potential impacts, and to determine a risk threshold and management plan for Delta.

Cowichan Valley Regional District – Coastal Sea Level Rise Risk Assessment

Cowichan Valley – Sonia Furstenau – BC Green Party

Total Project Value: \$96,750

Federal: \$45,000; Provincial: \$45,000; Cowichan Valley Regional District: \$6,750

Project staff will deploy existing maps to undertake a structured risk assessment and analysis of the impacted area to help identify future mitigation and adaptation planning.

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Regional District of Nanaimo – RDN and Town of Qualicum Beach Risk Assessment

Nanaimo – Leonard Eugene Krog – BC NDP

Nanaimo-North Cowichan – Doug Routley – BC NDP

Parksville-Qualicum – Michelle Stilwell – BC Liberal

Total Project Value: \$160,500

Federal: \$70,000; Provincial: \$80,000; Regional District of Nanaimo: \$10,500

Project staff will conduct a risk assessment designed to enhance the cooperative approach to emergency management. This exercise will establish the foundation for the next phase of preparedness and mitigation activities in order to improve resiliency.

Powell River Regional District – Coastal Risk Assessment

Powell River-Sunshine Coast – Nicholas Simons – BC NDP

Total Project Value: \$67,725

Federal: \$31,500; Provincial: \$31,500; Powell River Regional District: \$4,725

Project staff will produce an overview of coastal hazards within the Powell River Regional District, including the City of Powell River, Tla'amin Nation lands, and all rural areas where the hazards could potentially impact public safety.

Fraser Basin Council – Thompson Watershed Multijurisdictional Assessment

Total Project Value: \$645,000

Federal: \$300,000; Provincial: \$300,000; Fraser Basin Council: \$45,000

Project staff will complete a risk assessment, with a focus on flood and land/debris flows. The area covered will include the Thompson River watershed, adjacent sub-watersheds (Nicola, Bonaparte, Shuswap) in addition to the confluence of the Fraser River at Lytton.

Town of Golden – Kicking Horse River Ice Jam Flooding Risk Assessment

Columbia River-Revelstoke – Doug Clovechok – BC Liberal

Total Project Value: \$89,000

Federal: \$42,000; Provincial: \$42,000; Town of Golden: \$5,000

Project staff will conduct a study to assess and evaluate the risks of Kicking Horse River flooding due to ice build-up and the associated potential damages to the Town of Golden, in addition to provincial and federal infrastructures.

City of Richmond – Steveston Island Flood Risk Investigation

Richmond-Steveston – John Yap – BC Liberal

Total Project Value: \$1,620,000

Federal: \$810,000; Provincial: \$405,000; City of Richmond: \$405,000

Project staff will consider geotechnical, environmental and archaeological factors as part of an assessment of Steveston Island for the purpose of diking.

Stream 2: Flood mapping

Fraser Basin Council – Hydraulic Modelling and Mapping in B.C.'s Lower Mainland

Total Project Value: \$1,010,000

Federal: \$500,000; Fraser Basin Council: \$510,000

Project staff will develop multi-purpose flood modeling tools, maps and other forms of technical analysis to better understand flood hazards, risks, and management options.

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City of Chilliwack – Flood Plain Mapping

Chilliwack – John Martin – BC Liberal

Chilliwack-Kent – Laurie Throness – BC Liberal

Total Project Value: \$341,850

Federal: \$159,000; Provincial \$159,000; City of Chilliwack: \$23,850

Project staff will update existing flood maps to identify the inundation area and flood depth resulting from the Fraser River and Vedder River dike breach scenarios during 1-in-200 year and 1-in-500 year flood events.

Regional District of East Kootenay – Elk River Flood Mapping and Hydrology Study

Kootenay East – Tom Shypitka – BC Liberal

Total Project Value: \$250,000

Federal: \$125,000; Provincial \$125,000

Project staff will produce floodplain maps that address several high risk areas including the community of Hosmer, Vanlerberg Road, and Hill Road.

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations, and Rural Development – Lower Mainland Flood Mapping – LiDAR Acquisition, Standards and Framework

Total Project Value: \$1,475,000

Federal: \$700,000; Provincial: \$775,000

Project staff will develop a framework for floodplain management, standards and mapping in the Lower Mainland (from Hope to the Salish Sea and surrounding inlets).

Stream 3: Mitigation planning

Cowichan Valley Regional District – Koksilah Shu-hwuykwselu Stormwater Drainage Mitigation Plan

Cowichan Valley – Sonia Furstenau – BC Green Party

Total Project Value: \$215,000

Federal: \$100,000; Provincial: \$100,000; Cowichan Valley Regional District: \$15,000

Project staff will establish a drainage model for the area to gain a deeper understanding of rainfall on surface water flows.

Village of Lumby – Flood Mitigation Plan

Vernon-Monashee – Eric Foster – BC Liberal

Total Project Value: \$237,000

Federal: \$112,800; Provincial: \$112,800; Village of Lumby: \$11,400

Project staff will develop a plan outlining potential flood mitigation options. The plan will include a public engagement process to determine how best to proceed.

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City of Richmond – Flood Mitigation Strategy Update

Richmond North Centre – Teresa Wat – BC Liberal

Richmond-Queensborough – Jas Johal – BC Liberal

Richmond South Centre – Linda Reid – BC Liberal

Richmond-Steveston – John Yap – BC Liberal

Total Project Value: \$500,000

Federal: \$250,000; Provincial: \$250,000

Project staff will update the city's Flood Protection Strategy to include mitigation planning for Phase 3 of the Dike Master Plan; an update to the Flood Management Strategy and a Pump Station Condition Assessment update.

Stream 4: Investment in non-structural or small-scale structural mitigation

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – Climate Change Scenario Modeling for Fraser River

Total Project Value: \$258,000

Federal: \$125,000; Provincial: \$128,000; Fraser Basin Council: \$5,000

This project is part of a comprehensive program to model the Fraser River and develop a dike upgrade prioritization strategy for the province.

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – Dike Consequence Classification

Total Project Value: \$320,000

Federal: \$150,000; Provincial: \$150,000; Fraser Basin Council, BC Hydro, Fortis BC, Port Authority, Airport Authority, BC Ferries: \$20,000

Project staff will develop an in-depth dike consequence classification system that would provide greater insight into the economic, social, and environmental losses associated with dike failure.

District of Stewart – Bear River Small Scale Structural Mitigation

Stikine – Doug Donaldson – BC NDP

Total Project Value: \$525,000

Federal: \$166,666; Provincial: \$166,666; District of Stewart: \$191,668

This District of Stewart will complete construction of permanent flood mitigation structures at the Bear River Bridge. These will include a debris trap and dike wall additions.

City of Abbotsford – Geotechnical (Seismic) Assessment of Abbotsford Dikes

Abbotsford West – Michael de Jong, BC Liberal

Abbotsford-Mission – Simon Gibson – BC Liberal

Chilliwack – John Martin – BC Liberal

Total Project Value: \$201,000

Federal: \$100,000; Provincial: \$100,000; City of Abbotsford: \$1,000

Project staff will conduct geotechnical testing to confirm soil conditions at key locations along the Matsqui, Sumas and Vedder dikes. Findings will help determine the flooding risk associated with the current and alternative locations.

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Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development – Kootenay Lake Region LiDAR and Ortho-imagery Acquisition Nelson-Creston – Michelle Mungall – BC NDP

Total Project Value: \$1,698,500

Federal: \$790,000; Provincial: \$908,500

This project will focus on using LiDAR and its corresponding ortho-imagery to support the identification of landslide hazards, flooding and the development of floodplain mapping.

Emergency Management BC – Hazard, Risk and Vulnerability Analysis Tool Update

Total Project Value: \$100,000

Federal: \$50,000; Provincial: \$50,000

Project staff will update existing risk and hazard assessment tools to allow the Provincial Government and local authorities to better identify, understand and prioritize hazard risks across the province.

Emergency Management BC – Public Education – Flood Hazard Checklist for Property Purchasers

Total Project Value: \$52,500

Federal: \$25,000; Provincial: \$25,000; B.C. Real Estate Association: \$2,500

Project staff will develop public education materials to better assist homebuyers to identify flood risks when purchasing property.

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Ministry: Emergency Management BC

Date: updated Feb. 9, 2018

Minister Responsible: Mike Farnworth

Okanagan Indian Band Invoices

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The Province is grateful for the support the Okanagan Indian Band provided to the public during last year's historic floods and wildfires.
- Alpha Omega Security has been in touch with the Province because the owner reports he had yet to receive full payment for his company's services to the Okanagan Indian Band during the 2017 spring freshet.
- Emergency Management BC continues to process flood- and wildfire-related invoice payments from local authorities in the order that they are received – including First Nations. EMBC has processed payments to the Okanagan Indian Band to reimburse Alpha Omega Security for services rendered.

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EMBC is currently helping the OKIB to identify contractors that have yet to receive funds from the OKIB for services rendered.

BACKGROUND:

On January 25, the Central EMBC Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centre (PREOC, Kamloops) received a call from Richard Weighhill, owner of Alpha Omega Security. Weighhill informed EMBC staff that he was still waiting for The Okanagan Indian Band to pay for work his company undertook and completed during last spring's freshet.

He states that when he followed up, band staff informed him that they could not pay because the Province has not yet reimbursed them for his firm's outstanding expenses.

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The OKIB informed EMBC on January 26 that a cheque was sent to Mr. Weighhill during the week of January 15.

The OKIB confirmed by email on January 26 that, according to their records all contractors have been paid with the exception of RAM, the City of Vancouver and Woodland Spirit. They are working to settle the invoices. Emergency Management BC paid the OKIB a total of \$1,158,766 for reimbursable expenses to date, and we continue to work with the OKIB to process any outstanding invoices.

A senior regional manager with EMBC reached out to Mr. Weighhill on the evening of January 26.

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Richard Weighhill contact info:

250 503-4853

<http://www.alphaomegasecurity.ca/index.html>

Also – Central PREOC has heard from the OKIB Emergency Program Coordinator that staff overtime wages for OKIB members have also not been paid. Staff at the Central PREOC sent information to the OKIB detailing the payments made by the province for OKIB staff wages. The OKIB subsequently reported that they have yet to submit an invoice for overtime costs after June 6. The OKIB is currently working on that submission for reimbursement.

Colleen Marchand, Director of Territorial Stewardship with the OKIB, has requested that any further discrepancies found or any enquiries from contractors who say they are owed be sent directly to her.

Colleen Marchand
Director of Territorial Stewardship
Okanagan Indian Band

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Outstanding Invoices

Background

Opposition MLAs have queried BC Wildfire Service and Emergency Management BC (including the Office of the Fire Commissioner) regarding why there have been delays compensating and reimbursing payments for contractors and individuals who provided services/support during the 2017 wildfire season.

The bottleneck was primarily the result of the unprecedented number of invoices from 2017's record-breaking wildfire season. Delays are also owing to the number of invoices that required multiple follow-ups with claimants (missing documentation, claims for non-reimbursable costs, etc.).

Why were there delays in EMBC repayments for Emergency Social Services (ESS)? (Figures as of February 16, 2018)

- The 2017 wildfire season was unprecedented both in scope and duration. More than 65,000 residents were evacuated from their homes – the highest number in B.C.'s history.
- Many businesses registered with local authorities and were transformed into ad-hoc Emergency Social Services vendors. Thousands of residents offered their homes as billets to assist those in need.
- It is our priority to make sure that these 'good Samaritans' are reimbursed for the goods and services that they provided to displaced British Columbians.
- The BC Government will continue to work to ensure that all claims are processed as quickly as possible. We encourage any MLAs who have been approached regarding an outstanding payment or processing issue to get in touch with the Minister's Office.
- **EMBC had processed more than 62,500 referral claims, resulting in more than \$17.7 million in ESS payments.**
- **Approximately 2,000 claims are currently outstanding and are being processed. These represent 3% of the total ESS claim submissions. Of these,**
 - **Approximately 1,500 are from larger businesses, who submitted a large number of claims. The large volume of claims is the main driver behind the number of outstanding invoices. EMBC Finance staff has been reviewing these on an ongoing basis, and partial payments are being made as claims are processed.**
 - **Individuals have submitted approximately 500 of the outstanding claims, and incomplete submissions are the main reason for processing delays. Emergency Management BC's Finance and ESS staff are actively working to resolve these outstanding claims.**
 - **The majority of outstanding claims were received in the fall, after the wildfire season.**
 - **EMBC continues to receive claims related to the 2017 floods and wildfires.**
 - **EMBC is working to process all claims as quickly as possible.**

- Normally, only one EMBC employee handles this type of administration, but because of the huge increase in the number of claimants, eight employees from our finance team are processing outstanding claims. At the peak of our efforts, this team consisted of 16 employees recruited exclusively to process 2017 wildfire claims.
- EMBC Finance makes every effort to process valid claims that are accompanied by the requisite documentation within approximately 30 days as per Core Policy.
- There were nearly 70,000 evacuations due to wildfires and floods in 2017, which led to an unprecedented number of ESS claims. Due to the increase, ESS claims have taken an average of 90-120 days to process.
- We continue to make every effort to process claims as quickly as possible, and are examining how best to speed up the process.
- We have also set up an information line for claims related to Emergency Social Services. Staff are currently available to assist from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, at 1-800-585-9559.

What about the BC Wildfire Service invoice backlog? (Figures as of Feb. 2, 2018)

- The 2017 fire season was exceptional and record-breaking.
- The Province relied on – and is grateful for – all of the assistance that contractors and local businesses provided in addition to the assistance they offered to fellow British Columbians and visitors.
- An estimated 800 contractors provided services during the wildfires.
- BC Wildfire Service is committed to ensuring that contractors and individuals are compensated for their assistance.
- Staff has worked diligently ensure that contractors and local businesses as compensated soon as possible.
- **More than \$549.7 million has been paid out so far for the 2017 wildfire season.**
- **Of the 38,495 invoices received province-wide, 38,066 (98.9%) have been paid to date, with 429 invoices (1.1%) still in the process of being verified and paid in the Cariboo Fire Centre and Kamloops Fire Centre.**
- **The vast majority of invoices have already been paid. Staff are working diligently to process the remaining 1.1% that is outstanding.**

What about the Office of the Fire Commissioner invoice backlog? (Figures as of Feb. 9, 2018)

- The Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) processes claims as they are received.
- **As of February 9, all claims that were submitted with the necessary supporting documentation have been processed.**
- **OFC has processed a total of 168 invoices, resulting in more than \$14.5 million in payments.**
- Processing times are delayed when incomplete claims are submitted. In such cases, OFC staff works to obtain supporting documentation in order to confirm costs that are eligible for reimbursement.

- As of February 9, the OFC is processing six invoices. These include a combination of new invoices and those that require additional information and documentation. The OFC is working with the claimants to complete this process as quickly as possible.

Are there any changes planned to the Office of the Fire Commissioner's Structure Protection Program in the aftermath of this past Fire Season?

- The Office of the Fire Commissioner is looking forward to recommendations from the 2017 wildfire season after-action reviews. In the meantime, the OFC is:
 - Refining and simplifying the invoice submission process for local governments.
 - Standardizing forms for tracking costs.
 - Developing new training for both structure protection specialists and those who have administrative oversight of deployed resources.

Are there any outstanding Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) claims? (Figures as of February 9, 2018)

- 2017 Floods –
 - There are 31 outstanding private sector claims (610 individuals have been paid about \$3.4 million).
 - There are 30 outstanding local governments/First Nations claims (2 partial claims totaling \$159,519 have been paid).
- 2017 Fire Season –
 - There are 8 outstanding local governments/First Nations claims (to date no claims have been paid).
 - There are no private sector DFA claims (DFA is not available to individuals in wildfire disasters as wildfire losses are insurable. DFA in the private sector is limited by legislation to uninsurable losses).
- DFA staff has engaged with all local governments/FN's that have applied for DFA and are working with each towards the approval of recovery plans. **For local governments and First Nations, claims are paid after recovery plans are approved and work is completed.**
- Once an event is considered DFA eligible, local governments have 18 months to submit a recovery claim.

What is DFA?

- Disaster Financial Assistance is a provincial program to help individuals and local governments recover from uninsurable disasters. The program is administered by Emergency Management BC.
- The purpose of DFA is to provide a helping hand to get people and local governments back on their feet after an uninsurable disaster.

When is DFA available?

- DFA is available in the event of a disaster in respect of which the minister, or designate, has determined that disaster financial assistance may be provided.
- When this determination is made, Emergency Management BC defines the eligible dates and geographic locations, notifies affected local governments, posts this information on its

website, publishes information in local papers, and attends community meetings if requested.

What is eligible for DFA?

- For flooding disasters, DFA is available to qualifying home owners, residential tenants, small business owners, farm owners, and charitable organizations. Applicants should be aware of the following:
 - Financial assistance is provided for each accepted claim at 80% of the amount of total eligible damage that exceeds \$1,000, to a maximum claim of \$300,000.
 - Claims may be made in more than one category (e.g., home owner and farm owner).
 - A home owner or residential tenant must show that the home is the applicant's principal residence.
 - Seasonal or recreational properties, hot tubs, patios, pools, garden tools, landscaping, luxury items (like jewelry, fur coats and collectibles), and recreational items (like bicycles) are not eligible for assistance.
 - Small business owners and farm owners must demonstrate the business or farm is the applicant's primary source of income.
 - Charitable organizations must provide a benefit of service to the community at large.
 - Assistance is also available to local governments for essential materials and to rebuild or replace essential public infrastructures to the condition it was in before the disaster. Assistance is provided for each accepted recovery claim at 80% of the amount of total eligible damage that exceeds \$1,000. There is no maximum claim.
- For wildfire disasters DFA is not available to individuals because wildfire losses are insurable and DFA in the private sector is limited by legislation to uninsurable losses. Insurance deductibles for private sector losses are also not eligible.
 - DFA can still be made available to local governments/First Nations. Provincial legislation recognizes that local governments may self-insure. If losses were insured, a DFA claim can be made for the insurance deductible. If losses were not insured DFA is available.
- Additional information about the DFA Program and specifics regarding eligible applicants, eligible losses and application process are available at the Disaster Financial Assistance website: <http://www.gov.bc.ca/disasterfinancialassistance>.

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Ministry: Emergency Management BC
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Public Alerting Systems

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The government believes that we need to deploy every tool available to alert British Columbians of any potential public safety threat. Informing the public with accurate and timely information in the event of an emergency saves lives *and* livelihoods.
- EMBC continues to support the Federal Government's implementation of the National Public Alerting System. The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission announced that wireless service providers must have the capability to issue notifications to LTE smartphones connected to LTE networks by April 2018.
- The National Public Alerting System is designed to give the public the notice necessary to save lives and protect property.
- This expanded mandate – which now includes broadband LTE networks – will complement other tools already employed in B.C such as the Provincial Emergency Notification System, social media, and in a number of communities, subscription text alerts, sirens and other alerting mechanisms. The aim is to reach as many people through as many communication platforms as possible.
- Given the number of British Columbians who subscribe to wireless as opposed to landline services, this evolution in alerting represents the next logical step that will save lives and promote greater resilience in the face of disaster.

If asked about how the wireless alerting system will work:

- We've been watching the development of similar wireless emergency messaging in the U.S. and adapting technologies according to BC's unique geography and diverse population. Nevertheless, deploying these innovations doesn't come without complexity.
- While we're still in the early stages of adoption, the BC Governments is discussing how best to move forward with the Federal government, other provincial stakeholders, cellular companies and the CRTC.
- The CRTC has undertaken important work by working with TV and radio broadcasters to develop and implement an alerting system. We expect that this will translate into similar success with respect to the wireless network notification system.

If asked about how this is different from PENS alert system:

- The Provincial Emergency Notification System (PENS) is designed to alert local governments, emergency response officials and the media of tsunami alerts. They in turn are tasked with alerting those communities that are most at-risk. Alert Ready automatically pushes alerts to the public through TV, radio and LTE smartphones connect to LTE networks so long as they are powered up and switched on within the alert area. Alert Ready requires no subscription or opt-in requirement.
- More options translate into saved lives and safer and more resilient communities.

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BACKGROUND REGARDING THE ISSUE:

Effective April 2018, the CRTC is requiring that all wireless service providers join major Canadian radio and television broadcasters, in addition to cable/satellite service providers to immediately broadcast emergency alerts issued by Canadian Emergency Management Organizations (such as EMBC in British Columbia) and Environment Canada.

Owing to the 2017 wildfires, the change in government and the concomitant transfer of ministries, initial capability originally scheduled for March 31, 2018 has been delayed by 12 months to March 31, 2019.

In B.C., EMBC will be the only issuer and initial notifications will be limited to a select number of hazards. By March 31, 2020 and as confidence in the system grows, the number of hazards that qualify for an alert will expand, and the number of alert issuers will grow to include key stakeholders tasked with taking the lead regarding specific hazards (e.g. RCMP for Amber Alerts). The goal is to establish a system similar to that of Alberta, where key stakeholders and local governments issue alerts according to their jurisdiction and/or areas of responsibility.

The specifics around how this alerting system will function are still being evaluated. As the CRTC adopts a wireless-based alerting system, every effort will be made to ensure that alerting systems are stable, secure and effective. This will require repeated testing and refinement. Once the tests are complete and the system is ready, the public can expect to receive free and direct alerts to wireless devices.

Currently, the alerting process for radio and TV breaks into scheduled programming to provide emergency information. In theory, EMBC would issue alerts to wireless devices in the event of imminent, wide-spread and life-threatening hazards such as a potential tsunami, dam rupture, flood or a wildfire that threatens homes. Owing to the many challenges that have arisen with the implementation of a TV/radio broadband alerting system, EMBC currently deploys notifications only in the event of a tsunami.

To compensate for the challenges in the TV and radio alerting system, EMBC secured Telus Strategic Investment Fund monies to build the capacity to push out alerts via a “hub”. Once developed, the hub will use a single interface that transmits alerts via multiple channels (radio, TV, smartphones, social media, etc.) and is similar to what Alberta has established. In January 2016, Telus withdrew from the project.

Later in 2016, MOTI’s Information Management Branch secured \$3.6M in capital funding from the Office of the Chief Information Officer over three years to continue the alerting hub project.

Public emergency alerting will complement, but not replace, emergency alerting already performed by EMBC and/or local governments. Current emergency alerting mechanisms include:

- The notification of local authorities, First Nations, key agencies and the media through the Provincial Emergency Notification System.
- Emergency notifications provided through EMBC’s website (Emergency Info BC), social media (Facebook and Twitter) and by using cross-government email.

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Notably, several local communities have already implemented subscription-based cell alerting through text, email and calls. The CRTC alerting system will be based on non-subscription, intrusive alerts.

Hawaii/Japan Public Alerting Errors – Missile Threats

On January 13, 2018, an emergency public alert was issued to cell phone users in Hawaii warning of an inbound ballistic missile and instructing recipients to seek immediate shelter. The alert was later confirmed to be a false alarm. The event has attracted significant media attention, including from media in B.C., enquiring about the Province's role and capabilities with regards to emergency public alerting.

On January 16, 2018, Japanese public broadcaster NHK erroneously issued an alert claiming that North Korea had launched a ballistic missile. The broadcaster urged the public to take shelter inside buildings or underground. The message was received by individuals with the NHK app installed on their mobile devices. The mistake was corrected in less than 10 minutes.

Summary of Public Safety Canada's Questions and Answers

If asked how the public would be notified of the threat of a ballistic missile attack:

- NORAD is tasked with safeguarding the sovereign airspace of the United States and Canada. In the event of a missile attack it would inform the Department of National Defence (DND) of the incoming threat. The Department of National Defense would then notify appropriate officials, who would then notify the public.
- The public would then be notified through all available channels, including traditional and social media.
- Provincial or territorial emergency management agencies also typically issue alerts. These governmental bodies are responsible for "on-the-ground" response. The Alert Ready system, officially known as the National Public Alerting System (NPAS), is a multi-channel "all-hazards" initiative that provides emergency management organizations throughout Canada with a standardized alerting capability (most commonly natural disasters and amber alerts).
- For more information about how the alert system works, including how it guards against false alarms, please contact the operator of the infrastructure supporting the NPAS, Pelmorex Communications Inc., or consult its web site: <http://www.theweathernetwork.com/about-us/naads/frequently-asked-questions>

If asked whether authorities will issue alerts directly to cell phones.

- In Canada, authorities currently issue public alerts via television and radio broadcast.
- Following the recent CRTC decision mandating that all wireless network providers implement the National Public Alerting System, the Government of Canada is working closely with provinces, territories, and industry to ensure readiness by the deadline of April 2018.
- To prepare for this new alerting functionality, all partners are working together to develop a public awareness campaign to inform the public of how the new system will work. The campaign will also inform the public about what to do in the event of an emergency.

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- The current system is also being used in conjunction with various social media channels in order to expand public outreach via their mobile devices.

ADVICE TO MINISTER

CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE Ministry: Emergency Management BC Date: updated Feb. 9, 2018 Minister Responsible: Mike Farnworth	Search and Rescue
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ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **Search and Rescue volunteers in British Columbia are among the best in the world. Our government will continue to support these organizations and, in turn, the overall safety of British Columbians.**
- **EMBC is steadfastly committed to the 80 Ground Search and Rescue (GSAR) groups and their 2,500 volunteers now operating in B.C.**
 - **We cover operational costs for all deployments, including helicopter contracting and fueling, mileage and meal costs for volunteers, liability insurance, workers compensation benefits and administrative costs for the BC Search and Rescue Association.**
 - **We also fund the critical incident stress management (CISM) program to assist search and rescue groups across the province to manage the emotional and psychological rigors inherent in search and rescue work. EMBC also funds the search and rescue prevention program, AdventureSmart.**

If asked about initiating a search and rescue mission:

- GSAR groups can be requested by a number of provincial and federal agencies, including:
 - Police/RCMP (lost/missing persons),
 - BC Emergency Health Services (injured persons),
 - Joint Rescue Coordination Center (air/marine SAR),
 - Parks Canada (within a National Park),
 - BC Coroners Service (recovery of deceased persons),
 - Fire services (rescue within jurisdiction),
 - Local Authorities (to support community emergency response).
- Activation is done either directly to the GSAR group or through the Emergency Coordination Center (ECC). In either case, the ECC and EMBC Regional Duty Manager are notified.

If asked about suspending a search and rescue mission:

- The decision to suspend a search is the responsibility of the Police.
- The Police will consult with the Search Manager (a GSAR volunteer). Search Manager recommendations are based on Search Management training, including all information relating to the search itself, including risks to searchers, areas searched, subject behaviour profiles, survivability, the number of hours/days/weeks missing, and relevant clues.
- Although EMBC Regional Managers and SAR Specialists are included in discussions, recommendations regarding whether to continue or suspend the search are left to the Search Manager and Police.

If asked about alternative support model proposal:

- EMBC has worked closely and collaboratively with the BC Search and Rescue Association on its proposal for a new support model. The agency is now consulting with other ministries to determine the best option to recommend to government.
- Over the past two years, EMBC has provided exceptional financial support to ground search and rescue groups in B.C. while still committing to finding the best possible and sustainable funding solution.

If asked about charging for SAR costs in order to discourage backcountry recreation in unsafe conditions:

- Emergency Management BC and the British Columbia Search and Rescue Association share the position that charging for SAR response could directly affect whether or not a lost or injured person will request help, as well as the timeliness of that call.
- Anyone requiring SAR support is urged to contact authorities without delay.
- As recreational activity picks up in backcountry areas, the Province issues public information about risks and the safety precautions that should be followed.

If asked about making SAR a “public service”:

- EMBC is committed to continuing the volunteer program, a model that is endorsed by the BC Search and Rescue Association.

General messages around preparedness:

Anyone who makes the decision to go into the wilderness must be able to take care of themselves and their companions. That means suitable equipment, first aid supplies and an awareness of the risks. www.adventuresmart.ca is a helpful resource when preparing for outdoor pursuits, and the following safety tips are recommended for anyone venturing out:

- Leave a trip plan. Let someone know where you’re going and when you expect to return.
- If you do become lost, stay in one place.
- Pack the essentials: flash light, fire starter, signaling device, extra food/water, extra clothing, navigation/communication aids, first aid kit, emergency shelter, pocket knife and sun protection.

SAR Funding

The Province recognizes GSAR groups as a critical resource in B.C. and provided over \$10M in operational funding last year (FY 2016/17):

- \$6.35M in support of operational tasks
 - Equipment repair/replacement, helicopter costs, mileage and meals.
- \$3.3M from gaming funds (equipment and training)
- \$250K GSAR training (Justice Institute of BC contract)
- \$35K to support administrative functions in BCSARA
- \$25K to support travel for the annual BCSARA board meeting
- \$265K in Algoma Liability Insurance for Volunteer SAR Directors and Officers

BACKGROUND REGARDING THE ISSUE:

A number of search and rescue missions received media attention in the fall of 2017 and winter of 2018. Within B.C. there are 80 search and rescue groups with approximately 2,500 volunteer members. These groups take part in over 1,700 ground search missions each year, more than the rest of Canada combined. The deployment of search and rescue groups is funded by EMBC, including their insurance costs. The organizations supplement this by accessing provincial community gaming grants and fundraising.

ADVICE TO MINISTER

CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE Ministry: Emergency Management BC Date: updated Feb. 23, 2018 Minister Responsible: Mike Farnworth	Search and Rescue
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- EMBC has worked closely and collaboratively with the BC Search and Rescue Association on its proposal for a new support model. The agency is now consulting with other ministries to determine the best option to recommend to government.
- Over the past two years, EMBC has provided exceptional financial support to ground search and rescue groups in B.C. while still committing to finding the best possible and sustainable funding solution.

If asked about whether SAR volunteers should be compensated for their time—particularly during prolonged emergencies such as the 2017 wildfire season:

- SAR teams and SAR volunteers are currently compensated for operational and out-of-pocket expenses incurred during deployment, including meals, transportation and accommodation costs.
- To date, a number of SAR teams have not yet invoiced the Province for operational expenses incurred during the wildfire season. The Province is dedicated to reimbursing all SAR volunteers for expenses incurred, but the requisite paperwork must be completed and submitted before it can do so.
- So far as paying volunteer SAR members a wage, the Province relies on a model based on a volunteer workforce that specializes in search and rescue.
- During the wildfire season, a number of municipalities tasked SAR volunteers with non-search and rescue duties, such as traffic control and other functions. The Province strongly encourages municipalities to utilize specialized resources such as SAR for short-term emergency support only.
- Municipalities should consider other support modalities such as contracting out for extended support services that do not involve search and rescue. This will minimize the reliance on SAR volunteers and ensure that volunteers only focus on SAR functions.

If asked about charging for SAR costs in order to discourage backcountry recreation in unsafe conditions:

- Emergency Management BC and the British Columbia Search and Rescue Association share the position that charging for SAR response could directly affect whether or not a lost or injured person will request help, as well as the timeliness of that call.
- Anyone requiring SAR support is urged to contact authorities without delay.
- As recreational activity picks up in backcountry areas, the Province issues public information about risks and the safety precautions that should be followed.

If asked about making SAR a “public service”:

- EMBC is committed to continuing the volunteer program, a model that is endorsed by the BC Search and Rescue Association.

General messages around preparedness:

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ADVICE TO MINISTER

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Confidential Issues Note ADVICE TO MINISTER

Ministry: Emergency Management BC Date: updated Feb. 9, 2018 Minister Responsible: Mike Farnworth	<i>Tsunami Warning/Alert</i> <i>Jan. 23, 2018</i>
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ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

General Emergency Alerting Messaging

- EMBC continues to support the Federal Government's implementation of the National Public Alerting System. The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission announced that wireless service providers must have the capability to issue notifications to long-term evolution 4G (LTE) smartphones connected to LTE networks by April 2018.
- The National Public Alerting System is designed to give the public the notice necessary to save lives and protect property.
- This expanded mandate – which now includes broadband LTE networks – will complement other tools already employed in B.C such as the Provincial Emergency Notification System, social media, and in a number of communities, subscription text alerts, sirens and other alerting mechanisms. The aim is to reach as many people on as many communication platforms as possible.
- The BC Provincial Emergency Notification System alerts local governments, emergency response officials and media of tsunami threats in affected communities.

If asked about the tsunami notification process:

- Emergency Management BC receives notifications from the National Tsunami Warning Center, which include occurrence details and an evaluation of tsunami risks.
- When a threat to B.C. is imminent, Emergency Management BC initiates the Provincial Emergency Notification System and relays the appropriate guidance from the National Tsunami Warning Center to local authorities in each of the affected tsunami notification zones (as well as to other emergency management partners and the media).
- The Provincial Emergency Notification System sends notifications via email, telephone and fax.
- Emergency Management BC also initiates the Alert Ready system, a broadcast-intrusive system that delivers the appropriate guidance from the National Tsunami Warning Center through television and radio networks.

- Emergency Management BC also relies on Twitter (@EmergencyInfoBC) and the Emergency Info BC blog to alert the public of emergencies.
- Once local governments are notified of a tsunami, they are responsible for initiating their emergency response plans.
- Alerting tools are available to the general public through NOAA, which provides direct notices about seismic & tsunami threats from: WWW.EmergencyInfoBC

If asked: What went well? What can be improved on?

- Emergency Management BC is currently building a timeline of the incident to better identify what took place, what went well and what could be improved—particularly with respect to the response of municipal governments.
- It will take some time before EMBC completes an assessment of the incident and the actions of partners and stakeholders.
- What we do know is that the majority of communities up and down the coast received the notification, deployed their emergency plans and were able to evacuate residents from potential harm.

Situation Overview:

A magnitude 7.9 earthquake occurred at 1:32 a.m., January 23, 2018, 175 miles SE of Kodiak City, Alaska (360 miles S of Anchorage, Alaska) at a depth of 12 miles.

Emergency Management BC received a tsunami warning notification from the National Tsunami Warning Center at 1:38 a.m.

Emergency Management BC notified coastal communities via the Provincial Emergency Notification System and the Emergency Info BC Twitter feed at 1:51 a.m. A broadcast interrupting message was sent to Alert Ready at 2:15 a.m.

The National Tsunami Warning Center did not send any reports to Emergency Management BC that indicated the earthquake had been felt in BC nor did they report that any would be expected. Alaska did not report to EMBC any damage incurred owing to the earthquake (or due to subsequent tsunami waves).

Overnight, several communities along the coast activated their emergency plans and evacuated those at possible risk.

Emergency Management BC also activated the Provincial Emergency Co-ordination Centre (PREOC) and five provincial regional operations centers.

The tsunami warning was cancelled for the BC coast as of 4:12 a.m.

The following areas came under a Tsunami Warning:

(Highest level of tsunami alert issued due to the imminent threat of a tsunami. Inundation is expected; local governments should activate their local emergency plans and evacuate low-lying coastal areas)

- Zone A: The North Coast starting at the Alaska, USA/BC border near the town of Stewart

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- BC south to the southern tip of Banks Island including Haida Gwaii
- Zone B: The Central Coast and northwest Vancouver Island from the southern tip of Banks Island to northern tip of Vancouver Island (Cape Scott) including Kitimat, Bella Coola and Port Hardy
- Zone C: The outer West Coast of Vancouver Island from Cape Scott to Sombrio Point
- Zone D: The Juan de Fuca Strait from Sombrio Point to Greater Victoria including the Saanich Peninsula

Although the tsunami warning was eventually cancelled, this event demonstrates that the coast warning systems do work.

In the event of a tsunami alert, residents should follow the instructions of their local authorities. A number of communities chose to activate their warning systems, while others chose to monitor the situation further up the coast to determine if, and when, residents should be evacuated. The public was notified of the tsunami threat through Alert Ready. The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission has announced that Alert Ready will deploy immediate notifications to the public via wireless service providers by April 2018.

About EMBC

- EMBC is the primary BC contact for the National Tsunami Warning Center (NTWC) and is responsible for coordinating the dissemination of provincial tsunami messages to local governments, media and other emergency management stakeholders.
 - Local Governments: **The primary role of local authorities is to notify individuals within their jurisdiction of tsunami watches, advisories, warnings and cancellations.** Once local government (local authorities and First Nations) emergency managers and program staff receive a tsunami message and are made aware of a tsunami risk, they are responsible for notifying response agencies, the public and media in their jurisdiction in accordance to their emergency plans.
 - Media: **The primary role of the media is to provide up-to-date, accurate and timely information to the public in the interest of public safety. This includes broadcasting tsunami messages and public information to areas under threat.**

Confidential Issues Note ADVICE TO MINISTER

Ministry: Emergency Management BC Date: updated Feb. 13, 2018 Minister Responsible: Mike Farnworth	<i>Tsunami Warning/Alert</i> <i>Jan. 23, 2018</i>
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ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

General Emergency Alerting Messaging

- EMBC continues to support the Federal Government's implementation of the National Public Alerting System. The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission announced that wireless service providers must have the capability to issue notifications to long-term evolution 4G (LTE) smartphones connected to LTE networks by April 2018.
- The National Public Alerting System is designed to give the public the notice necessary to save lives and protect property.
- This expanded mandate – which now includes broadband LTE networks – will complement other tools already employed in B.C such as the Provincial Emergency Notification System, social media, and in a number of communities, subscription text alerts, sirens and other alerting mechanisms. The aim is to reach as many people on as many communication platforms as possible.
- The BC Provincial Emergency Notification System alerts local governments, emergency response officials and media of tsunami threats in affected communities.

If asked about the tsunami notification process:

- Emergency Management BC receives notifications from the National Tsunami Warning Center, which include occurrence details and an evaluation of tsunami risks.
- When a threat to B.C. is imminent, Emergency Management BC initiates the Provincial Emergency Notification System and relays the appropriate guidance from the National Tsunami Warning Center to local authorities in each of the affected tsunami notification zones (as well as to other emergency management partners and the media).
- The Provincial Emergency Notification System sends notifications via email, telephone and fax.
- Emergency Management BC also initiates the Alert Ready system, a broadcast-intrusive system that delivers the appropriate guidance from the National Tsunami Warning Center through television and radio networks.
- Emergency Management BC also relies on Twitter (@EmergencyInfoBC) and the Emergency Info BC blog to alert the public of emergencies.
- Once local governments are notified of a tsunami, they are responsible for initiating their emergency response plans.
- Alerting tools are available to the general public through NOAA, which provides direct notices about seismic & tsunami threats from: WWW.EmergencyInfoBC

If asked: What went well? What can be improved on?

- Emergency Management BC has built a timeline of the incident to better identify what took place, what went well and what could be improved—particularly with respect to the response of municipal governments.
- EMBC will survey emergency managers from coastal communities to solicit feedback on EMBC's performance and actions that communities took following the tsunami warning.
- EMBC has begun its internal review, but it will take some time before EMBC completes an assessment of the incident and the actions of partners and stakeholders.
- Preliminary improvement opportunities include:
 - Simplifying alerting procedures,
 - Increasing public education around personal preparedness, and
 - Validating contact information in the Provincial Emergency Notification System database.
- What we do know is that the majority of communities up and down the coast received the notification, deployed their emergency plans and were able to evacuate residents from potential harm.

Situation Overview:

A magnitude 7.9 earthquake occurred at 1:32 a.m., January 23, 2018, 175 miles SE of Kodiak City, Alaska (360 miles S of Anchorage, Alaska) at a depth of 12 miles.

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Overnight, several communities along the coast activated their emergency plans and evacuated those at possible risk.

Emergency Management BC also activated the Provincial Emergency Co-ordination Centre (PREOC) and five provincial regional operations centers.

The tsunami warning was cancelled for the BC coast as of 4:16 a.m.

The following areas came under a Tsunami Warning:

(Highest level of tsunami alert issued due to the imminent threat of a tsunami. Inundation is expected; local governments should activate their local emergency plans and evacuate low-lying coastal areas)

- Zone A: The North Coast starting at the Alaska, USA/BC border near the town of Stewart BC south to the southern tip of Banks Island including Haida Gwaii
- Zone B: The Central Coast and northwest Vancouver Island from the southern tip of Banks Island to northern tip of Vancouver Island (Cape Scott) including Kitimat, Bella Coola and Port Hardy
- Zone C: The outer West Coast of Vancouver Island from Cape Scott to Sombrio Point
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Confidential Issues Note

ADVICE TO MINISTER

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 - Media: **The primary role of the media is to provide up-to-date, accurate and timely information to the public in the interest of public safety. This includes broadcasting tsunami messages and public information to areas under threat.**

Confidential Issues Note ADVICE TO MINISTER

Ministry: Emergency Management BC Date: updated Feb. 19, 2018 Minister Responsible: Mike Farnworth	<i>Tsunami Warning/Alert</i> <i>Jan. 23, 2018</i>
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ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

General Emergency Alerting Messaging

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If asked: What went well? What can be improved on?

- Emergency Management BC has built a timeline of the incident to better identify what took place, what went well and what could be improved—particularly with respect to the response of municipal governments.
- EMBC will survey emergency managers from coastal communities to solicit feedback on EMBC's performance and actions that communities took following the tsunami warning.
- EMBC has begun its internal review, but it will take some time before EMBC completes an assessment of the incident and the actions of partners and stakeholders.
- Preliminary improvement opportunities include:
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 - Increasing public education around personal preparedness, and
 - Validating contact information in the Provincial Emergency Notification System database.
- What we do know is that the majority of communities up and down the coast received the notification, deployed their emergency plans and were able to evacuate residents from potential harm.

Situation Overview:

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Emergency Management BC notified coastal communities via the Provincial Emergency Notification System and the Emergency Info BC Twitter feed at 1:51 a.m. A broadcast interrupting message was sent to Alert Ready at 2:15 a.m.

The on-call seismologist at Natural Resources Canada confirmed that this earthquake was not felt in B.C. and that no impacts from the earthquake were expected. Alaska did not report to EMBC any damage incurred owing to the earthquake (or due to subsequent tsunami waves).

Overnight, several communities along the coast activated their emergency plans and evacuated those at possible risk.

Emergency Management BC also activated the Provincial Emergency Co-ordination Centre (PREOC) and five provincial regional operations centers.

The tsunami warning was cancelled for the BC coast as of 4:16 a.m. following an updated tsunami forecast which indicated that the tsunami would be less than or equal to 15 cm in height for coastal areas of B.C.

The following areas were under a Tsunami Warning (highest level of tsunami alert issued due to the imminent threat of a tsunami. Inundation is expected; local governments should activate their local emergency plans and evacuate low-lying coastal areas):

- Zone A: The North Coast and Haida Gwaii
- Zone B: The Central Coast and northeast Vancouver Island, including Kitimat, Bella Coola and Port Hardy
- Zone C: The outer West Coast of Vancouver Island from Cape Scott to Sombrio Point
- Zone D: The Juan de Fuca Strait from Sombrio Point to Greater Victoria including the Saanich Peninsula

The following areas were not under a tsunami warning but were notified for informational purposes:

- Zone E: The Strait of Georgia including the Gulf Islands, Greater Vancouver, and the Johnstone Strait

Confidential Issues Note

ADVICE TO MINISTER

Although the tsunami warning was eventually cancelled, this event demonstrates that the coast warning systems do work.

In the event of a tsunami alert, residents should follow the instructions of their local authorities. A number of communities chose to activate their warning systems, while others chose to monitor the situation further up the coast to determine if, and when, residents should be evacuated. The public was notified of the tsunami threat through Alert Ready. The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission announced that wireless service providers must have the capability to issue notifications to long-term evolution 4G (LTE) smartphones connected to LTE networks by April 2018.

About EMBC

- EMBC is the primary BC contact for the National Tsunami Warning Center (NTWC) and is responsible for coordinating the dissemination of provincial tsunami messages to local governments, media and other emergency management stakeholders.
 - Local Governments: **The primary role of local authorities is to notify individuals within their jurisdiction of tsunami watches, advisories, warnings and cancellations.** Once local government (local authorities and First Nations) emergency managers and program staff receive a tsunami message and are made aware of a tsunami risk, they are responsible for notifying response agencies, the public and media in their jurisdiction in accordance to their emergency plans.
 - Media: **The primary role of the media is to provide up-to-date, accurate and timely information to the public in the interest of public safety. This includes broadcasting tsunami messages and public information to areas under threat.**

Confidential Issues Note ADVICE TO MINISTER

Ministry: Emergency Management BC
Date: updated Feb. 9, 2018
Minister Responsible: Mike Farnworth

EMERGENCY SOCIAL SERVICES & PAYMENT DELAYS

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The 2017 wildfire season was unprecedented both in scope and duration. More than 65,000 residents were evacuated from their homes – the highest number in B.C.'s history.
- Many businesses registered with local authorities and were transformed into ad-hoc Emergency Social Services vendors. Many residents offered their homes as billets to assist those in need.
- It is our priority to make sure that these 'good Samaritans' are reimbursed for the goods and services they provided to displaced British Columbians.
- The BC Government will continue to work to ensure that all claims are processed as quickly as possible. We encourage any MLAs that have been approached regarding an outstanding payment or processing issue to get in touch with the Minister's Office.
- As of February 5, EMBC had processed 61,390 referral claims, resulting in more than \$17.1 million in ESS payments.
- Approximately 2,000 claims are currently outstanding and are being processed. These represent 3% of the total ESS claim submissions. Of these,
 - Approximately 1,500 are from larger businesses with a large number of claims. These businesses have received payments as claims have been processed, which remains ongoing.
 - Approximately 500 are from individuals, and EMBC's finance and ESS staff have been actively working to resolve these outstanding claims.
- Normally, only one EMBC employee handles this processing, but because of the huge increase in the number of claimants, eight employees from our finance team are processing outstanding claims. At the peak of our efforts, this team consisted of 16 employees to process the 2017 wildfire claims.
- We continue to make every effort to process claims as quickly as possible, and examine how to speed up the process.
- We have also set up an information line for claims related to Emergency Social Services. Staff are currently available to assist from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, at 1-800-585-9559.

FIRE SEASON REVIEW:

- Emergency Management BC estimates that **65,000** people were displaced by wildfires in 2017, compared to the **45,000** displaced during the 2003 fire season.
 - Thousands more (approximately 2,500) were forced from their homes by flooding.
- Compared to 2003, this past season was extraordinary with respect to duration, intensity, and the widespread impact on communities and natural resources, Evacuees in particular, required extended care in multiple locations and for unprecedented periods of time.

- The 2003 fire season scorched **260,000 hectares**, while this year's season devastated **1.2 million hectares—twice the size of PEI**.
- In 2003, the Province declared a State of Emergency that lasted **43 days (6 weeks) from August 2 to September 14**. In 2017, the Province declared a State of Emergency on **July 7. It lasted 70 days (10 weeks) and expired on September 15**.

If asked about BC Wildfire Service invoice backlog (figures as at Feb. 2, 2018):

- The 2017 fire season was exceptional and record-breaking.
- The Province relied on – and is grateful for – all of the assistance that contractors and local businesses provided in addition to the assistance they offered to fellow British Columbians and visitors.
- An estimated 800 contractors provided services during the wildfires.
- BC Wildfire Service is committed to ensuring that contractors and individuals are compensated for their assistance.
- Staff have worked diligently ensure that contractors and local businesses as compensated soon as possible.
- More than \$549.7 million has been paid out so far for the 2017 wildfire season.
- Of the 38,495 invoices received province-wide, 38,066 (98.9%) have been paid to date, with 429 invoices (1.1%) still in the process of being verified and paid in the Cariboo Fire Centre and Kamloops Fire Centre.
- The vast majority of invoices have already been paid. Staff are working diligently to process the remaining 1.1% that remain outstanding.

BACKGROUND:

During the fall of 2017, opposition MLAs queried BC Wildfire Service and Emergency Management BC regarding the backlog of compensation payments earmarked for contractors and individuals who provided services/support during the 2017 wildfire season.

The bottleneck was the result of the unprecedented number of invoices that resulted from a record-breaking wildfire season.

**Confidential Issues Note
ADVICE TO MINISTER**

Ministry: Emergency Management BC
Date: updated Feb. 19, 2018
Minister Responsible: Mike Farnworth

***EMERGENCY SOCIAL
SERVICES &
PAYMENT DELAYS***

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The 2017 wildfire season was unprecedented both in scope and duration. More than 65,000 residents were evacuated from their homes – the highest number in B.C.'s history.
- Many businesses registered with local authorities and were transformed into ad-hoc Emergency Social Services vendors. Many residents offered their homes as billets to assist those in need.
- It is our priority to make sure that these 'good Samaritans' are reimbursed for the goods and services they provided to displaced British Columbians.
- The BC Government will continue to work to ensure that all claims are processed as quickly as possible. We encourage any MLAs that have been approached regarding an outstanding payment or processing issue to get in touch with the Minister's Office.
- As of February 16, EMBC had processed more than 62,500 referral claims, resulting in more than \$17.7 million in ESS payments.
- Approximately 2,000 claims are currently outstanding and are being processed. These represent 3% of the total ESS claim submissions. Of these,
 - Approximately 1,500 are from larger businesses, who submitted a large number of claims. The large volume of claims is the main driver behind the number of outstanding invoices. EMBC Finance staff has been reviewing these on an ongoing basis, and partial payments are being made as claims are processed.
 - Individuals have submitted approximately 500 of the outstanding claims, and incomplete submissions are the main reason for processing delays. Emergency Management BC's Finance and ESS staff are actively working to resolve these outstanding claims.
 - The majority of outstanding claims were received in the fall, after the wildfire season.
 - EMBC continues to receive claims related to the 2017 floods and wildfires.
 - EMBC is working to process all claims as quickly as possible.
- Normally, only one EMBC employee handles this processing, but because of the huge increase in the number of claimants, eight employees from our finance team are processing outstanding claims. At the peak of our efforts, this team consisted of 16 employees to process the 2017 wildfire claims.
- EMBC Finance makes every effort to process valid claims that are accompanied by the requisite documentation within approximately 30 days as per Core Policy.
- There were nearly 70,000 evacuations due to wildfires and floods in 2017, which led to an unprecedented number of ESS claims. Due to the increase, ESS claims have taken an average of 90-120 days to process.
- We continue to make every effort to process claims as quickly as possible, and examine how to speed up the process.

- We have also set up an information line for claims related to Emergency Social Services. Staff are currently available to assist from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, at 1-800-585-9559.

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- Emergency Management BC estimates that **65,000** people were displaced by wildfires in 2017, compared to the **45,000** displaced during the 2003 fire season.
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CANNABIS – Legalization General

SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

KEY Points:

B.C.'s focus remains on:

- **Protecting children and youth.**
- **Prioritizing the health and wellness of British Columbians.**
- **Keeping the criminal element out of cannabis to reduce crime and to ensure consumers get a product they can trust.**
- **Educating drivers and supporting the enforcement of drug-impaired driving laws that keep roads safe.**
- **Supporting B.C.'s economic development**

- The federal government is moving to legalize non-medical cannabis and reform Canada's impaired driving regime.
- Our government is focused on responsibly managing this significant change in public policy and we have important decisions to make about how cannabis will be used, sold and regulated in British Columbia.
- We continue to engage with local and Indigenous governments and organizations, law enforcement, health professionals and organizations, and many others as we work to develop B.C.'s regulatory framework for non-medical cannabis.
- Details of the regulatory framework for B.C. will be announced as policy decisions are made, however, there will still be other decisions to be made which are dependent on obtaining clarity regarding federal legislation and regulations.
- It is important to understand that this is a complex process and changes will not happen overnight.
- As we move forward, we remain focused on the protection of young people, the health and safety of British Columbians, keeping cannabis out of the hands of criminals, keeping our roads safe and supporting the economic development of our province.

KEY FACTS REGARDING THE ISSUE:

Update February 5, 2018:

On February 5, 2018, the Province announced the following decisions regarding non-medical cannabis legalization in B.C.:

- A retail model that includes privately run retail stores or government-operated retail stores and online sales. The Liquor Distribution Branch will operate the public retail stores, and Liquor Control and Licensing Branch (LCLB) will be responsible for licensing private stores and monitoring the retail sector.
- Adults aged 19 and above, will be allowed to possess up to 30 grams of non-medical cannabis in a public place.
- B.C. will generally allow adults to use non-medical cannabis in public spaces where tobacco smoking and vaping are permitted. However, to minimize child and youth exposure, smoking and vaping of non-medical cannabis will be banned in areas frequented by children, including community beaches, parks and playgrounds.
- Use of cannabis, in any form will also be banned for all occupants in vehicles.
- B.C. will align with the proposed federal legislation and allow adults to grow up to four cannabis plants per household, but the plants must not be visible from public spaces off the property.
- Personal cannabis cultivation will be banned in dwellings used as a daycare;
- Landlords and strata councils will be able restrict or prohibit cannabis cultivation and consumption at tenanted and strata properties.
- B.C. will increase training for law enforcement to recognize drug-impaired driving and will toughen provincial regulations to give police more tools to remove drug-impaired drivers from the road and deter drug-affected driving, including:
 - A new 90-day Administrative Driving Prohibition (ADP) for drug affected driving; and,
 - The current zero tolerance restrictions for the presence of alcohol for drivers in the Graduated Licensing Program (GLP) will be expanded to include zero tolerance for the presence of THC.

Update December 5, 2017:

After a month-long engagement period, the Province received input from 48,951 British Columbians as well as submissions from 141 local and Indigenous governments and other interested stakeholders. This input helped inform the first key policy decisions related to the anticipated legalization of non-medical cannabis in July 2018 that were announced on December 5, 2017. These included:

- Minimum age
 - British Columbia will set the minimum age to possess, purchase and consume cannabis at 19 years old. A minimum age of 19 is consistent with B.C.'s minimum age for alcohol and tobacco and with the age of majority in B.C.
- Wholesale distribution of cannabis
 - Like other provinces, B.C. will have a government-run wholesale distribution model. The BC Liquor Distribution Branch (LDB) will be the wholesale distributor of non-medical cannabis in B.C.
- Retail of cannabis
 - The Province anticipates establishing a retail model that includes both public and private retail opportunities and will share details regarding the model in early 2018.

ISSUES NOTE: Public Safety and Solicitor General 2018-01-31

These decisions also reflect the feedback received from the local government members of the Joint Provincial-Local Government Committee on Cannabis Regulation (JCCR) and are endorsed by the Union of B.C. Municipalities executive.

Update October 31, 2017:

The Government of Canada committed to investing an additional \$36.4M over five years in cannabis public education and awareness. This new investment is in addition to the initial \$9.6M over five years for a comprehensive public education and awareness campaign and surveillance activities announced in Budget 2017, which brings total investment in public education, awareness and surveillance to \$46M.

The funding will be used to inform Canadians, including youth and other priority populations such as Indigenous peoples, pregnant and breastfeeding women, and Canadians with a history of mental illness, of the health and safety risks of cannabis use and drug-impaired driving.

The Government is already working with creative agencies to launch advertising campaigns on drug-impaired driving and the health and safety risks of cannabis use. With the additional investments, Health Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada and Public Safety Canada will build on existing efforts and will help strengthen partnerships with professional communities including health professionals and law enforcement, as well as organizations working directly with youth and other priority populations.

Update September 2017: The Government of Canada announced up to \$274.5 million over the next 5 years to support law enforcement and border efforts to detect and deter drug-impaired driving and enforce the proposed cannabis legalization and regulation.

\$161 million is for:

- training frontline officers in how to recognize the signs and symptoms of drug-impaired driving,
- building law enforcement capacity across the country,
- providing access to drug screening devices,
- developing policy, bolstering research, and
- raising public awareness about the dangers of drug-impaired driving.

\$81 million of the \$161 million will be available to provinces and territories for new law enforcement training and to build capacity to enforce new laws related to drug-impaired driving.

\$113.5 million will be given to Public Safety Canada, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) to develop policy to ensure organized crime does not infiltrate the legalized system and keep cannabis from crossing international borders.

In Budget 2017, the federal government also committed \$9.6 million over five years to a comprehensive public education and awareness campaign and surveillance activities. As health is a shared responsibility between the federal and provincial and territorial governments, provinces and territories complement federal public health programming, including management of public health and safety issues, and school-based education and counselling.

Background:

On April 13, 2017, the federal government tabled their proposed federal legislation to legalize non-medical cannabis, which is expected to be implemented by July 2018.

Key points of the proposed federal cannabis legalization legislation include:

- The law would allow adults 18 and over to legally buy and cultivate small amounts of cannabis for personal use:
 - to possess up to 30 grams of dried cannabis or its equivalent in public;
 - share up to 30 grams of dried marijuana with other adults;
 - buy dried/fresh cannabis or cannabis oil from a provincially regulated retailer; and
 - grow up to four plants per residence for personal use, as well as make cannabis-containing products at home.
- Selling to or using cannabis with a minor will become a serious new criminal offence with new penalties including imprisonment for up to 14 years in prison.
- It will also be against the law to sell cannabis in a package or with a label that could be construed as appealing to young people, to include testimonials or endorsements, or to depict a person, character or animal.
- Other products, such as edibles, will be made available at a later date, once federal regulations for their production and sale have been developed and brought into force.
- Cannabis-impaired driving regulations, along with a robust public awareness campaign including authorizing new tools for police to better detect drivers who have drugs in their bodies. This includes new investments to train and equip law enforcement.
- RCMP and the Canadian Border Services Agency will work together, along with local police, to uphold laws governing illegal cross-border movement of cannabis, which will remain a serious offence.
- It remains illegal to import cannabis and cannabis products, and to export them without a valid permit. Permits may be issued for certain purposes, such as medical cannabis and industrial hemp.
- The Bill includes provisions that until jurisdictions have a regulatory retail framework in place, as an interim measure individuals would be able to purchase online from a federally licensed producer with secure home delivery.
- In the months ahead, the federal government will work with provinces and territories to establish a taxation scheme.

Provincial responsibilities under the federal legislation include:

- Provinces have the authority to develop their own distribution and retail regulations, set a minimum age higher than 18, regulate public consumption of cannabis products, further restrict possession limits, and change provincial traffic safety laws as they deem necessary.
- Provinces, territories and for some matters, municipalities, would also be able to enact regulations within their jurisdictions, enforcing them through mechanisms such as administrative ticketing schemes

The new federal legislation reflects the information gathered by the Federal Task Force on Cannabis Legalization in their final report issued Dec. 13, 2016 and in their discussion paper issued earlier in 2016.

B.C. led a delegation to Washington (in 2016) and Colorado (in July 2017) to meet with local officials and stakeholder groups and learn from their experiences with the legalization of non-medical cannabis.

The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP) also issued a discussion paper in April, 2017 just after the new federal legislation. Their key areas of concerns are: personal cultivation (they would prefer this reviewed and considered at a later date), cannabis-impaired driving, impacts on organized crime and the impact to public safety, limiting youth access and the need for public education beginning immediately.

On Federal pricing and taxation:

On December 11, 2017 the federal and provincial governments agreed on a 75/25 tax revenue split that will see 75% of the revenue flow to the provinces, and 25% to the federal government (to a cap of \$100 million). Any revenue collected by the federal government above the \$100 million cap would be returned to the provinces.

The federal government had originally proposed a 50/50 revenue split with the provinces, which did not acknowledge the fact that the provinces would bear the majority of the costs of legalization.

The proposed cannabis-specific tax will not exceed \$1 per gram or 10% of the final producer's selling price, whichever is higher. This agreement is only for the first two years of legalization.

The tax would be applied upstream as an excise tax (an indirect tax on producers similar to the federal excise taxes on liquor and tobacco), be based on the price of the product, have a unified tax base across the country, and would apply equally to medical and recreational cannabis products as recommended by the Task Force.

Canada indicated the cannabis-specific tax would be in addition to sales taxes of general application such as GST/HST or provincial retail sales taxes. Currently, the B.C. provincial sales tax provides a number of exemptions that would apply to cannabis, including the exemption for substances sold on prescription. Amendments to the exemptions would be required to apply provincial sales tax more consistently with the federal GST/HST or the retail sales taxes in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Other issues to consider include whether to impose a proprietary charge (i.e. mark-up), revenue sharing with local governments, and revenue allocation. The B.C. Ministry of Finance has yet to develop B.C.'s taxation framework, but this will need to follow development of the regulatory framework. The primary taxation issue is the sales-tax treatment of cannabis.

On Public Education

The Government of Canada is currently leading efforts to inform Canadians on the health and safety risks associated with non-medical cannabis use and has committed \$46 million over five years for public education and awareness. It is developing a number of public awareness campaigns, including with respect to youth consumption. In November, Public Safety Canada launched a new national public awareness campaign, "Don't Drive High." The goal of this campaign is to educate Canadians about the safety and legal risks of drug-impaired driving. The province will be undertaking a public education campaign to supplement the federal campaigns to ensure British Columbians are familiar with our provincial regulations when they come into force. Details and budget are still to be determined as we await further direction from the federal government.

On Enforcement

To support the proposed Bill C-46 amendments to the Criminal Code, the Government of Canada has announced \$161 million in funding for training frontline officers in how to recognize the signs and symptoms of drug-impaired driving, building law enforcement capacity across the country, providing access to drug screening devices, developing policy, bolstering research, and raising public awareness about the dangers of drug-impaired driving. Of these funds, \$81 million over the next five years will be allocated to provinces and territories.

B.C. has developed and implemented a training plan to increase the number of officers trained in Standard Field Sobriety Testing and certified as Drug Recognition Experts. Until Public Safety Canada confirms the amount to be provided to B.C., it is not known if additional provincial funding for these training activities will need to be considered.

CORRECTIONS

s.22

SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

- Personnel matters are confidential, so I cannot comment on any specifics of the recent labour relations investigation.
- What I can tell you is that BC Corrections worked closely with the Public Service Agency to ensure it observed strict protocols throughout this process.

NEXT STEPS:

- BC Corrections will take appropriate measures, including debriefings and training, to ensure staff are aware of relevant policies and standards of conduct.

STAFF CONDUCT:

- BC Corrections is committed to ensuring the duties of all staff are carried out as required by policy and the law.
- Because of strict privacy and confidentiality obligations, I cannot provide details on this matter. This includes the outcomes or actions for any of the employees who were involved.

BACKGROUND:

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Because of strict privacy and confidentiality obligations, the Ministry cannot disclose specific details of this matter.

POLICE – Next Generation 911 & Call Answer Levy

SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

- Emergency communications must be able to function effectively every day and during a catastrophic event.
- In 2016, the UBCM Executive endorsed the provincial discussion paper and the proposed Call Answer Levy on wireless devices.
- The PSSG Ministry will consider UBCM's recommendation for an independent body to manage funds raised by a levy as we continue our exploration of options for improving emergency communication services in British Columbia.
- The landscape of 911 service delivery is changing –Next Generation 911 (NG911) has the potential to enable citizens to contact 911 through texting, instant messaging and digital images.
- The Canadian Radio-television Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), the regulator of broadcasting and telecommunications in Canada, released their decision related to NG911 on June 1, 2017.
- The CRTC mandates that network carriers be ready to provide 911 calls and text messaging over NG911 (Internet-Protocol) networks by the end of 2020.
- 911 call centres are recommended to make the necessary changes to implement these two services by the end of 2020 or soon thereafter.
- This new service will require consultation with local governments and existing emergency communications providers as well as investments in updated technology and processes.

- **In B.C., two-thirds (67%) of 911 calls are now made on cellphones.**
- **Seven provinces have established a CAL charged monthly to mobile subscriber's bills for 911 services: Alberta (\$0.44), Newfoundland and Labrador (\$0.75), New Brunswick (\$0.53), Nova Scotia (\$0.43), Prince Edward Island (\$0.70), and Saskatchewan (\$0.62). Of these, Alberta and Quebec have delegated responsibility of 911 services to the municipal level.**

BACKGROUND:

The shift away from landlines to cellular phones is reducing traditional funding for 911 services. Most other provinces now have a call answer levy on wireless devices, and most 911 calls are from cell phones. In the current scheme of service delivery, 911 services contracted to E-Comm, which answers more than 86 per cent of the province's 911 calls, are funded through residential property taxes and call answer levies on telephone landlines. In July, 2016, UBCM President Al Richmond advised that UBCM's Executive endorsed the following recommendation from its Community Safety Committee: *That UBCM endorse the provincial discussion paper and proposed call answer levy subject to an agreement with the Province on the establishment of an independent body for revenue administration.* The Province responded by saying it will consider the suggestion for an independent body to manage funds raised by a levy.

On June 1, 2017, the CRTC released Telecom Regulatory Policy 2017-182 outlining CRTC decisions, recommendations, and a roadmap for the implementation and provision of NG911 networks and services in Canada. The CRTC makes recommendations on Governance and Funding, Network Design, NG911 Services, Privacy, and Public Education. Specifically, the CRTC recommends that Public Safety Canada take a leadership role in establishing a national coordination body to assist with the transition to NG911. The decision includes a statement from the Coalition of the Willing (CW), a group of 911 emergency stakeholders, that "...viewed the lack of provincial legislation and leadership in Ontario and British Columbia, two very populous provinces, as being of significant concern. The CW added that variations in NG911 deployment across the country could not only create an inconsistent user experience but could also be dangerous for Canadians." The CRTC also "...recommends that provinces and territories that do not currently have 911 legislation in place...enact appropriate legislation to address issues related to coordination, funding, ...standards, and public education, ...to assist their [call centers] in preparing for NG911."

The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General had been working closely with representatives of Emergency Management BC, Emergency Health Services, and the Ministries of Finance, Attorney General, Municipal Affairs & Housing, as well as Citizens' Services to advance the 911 strategy. The Ministry was in the process of developing a business case with a vision to build on strengths to further BC's safe, secure, and cohesive 911 system and enable commonly used communication technologies. The business case would address governance, standards, and funding of the 911 service system in BC. Due to other emerging priorities, such as cannabis legalization and regulation and gang and gun violence, the Ministry had to redirect resources to other priority issues. Work on the 911 file is expected to be reinvigorated in the future and brought forward to Government for policy direction.

VICTIM SERVICES – Domestic Violence/Violence Against Women

SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

- No amount of violence in families is acceptable.
- It can have devastating effects and long-lasting consequences for victims, children and family members who are exposed to it.
- The safety of women, children and all British Columbians is a priority for this government.
- We are a government that cares about people.
- A government that is committed to increasing supports to people who need them – like those who are experiencing domestic violence.
- I continue to work closely with my colleagues to ensure the safety of women, children and anyone who is affected by domestic violence, as we work collaboratively to strengthen our response to violence against women.
- For too long, support for women who are survivors of violence has been lacking. These women, and often their children, need our help to escape the vicious cycle of abuse.
- In the fall, we invested \$5 million to help expand vital services such as counselling, outreach, and crisis support.
- In Budget 2018, we are again standing with survivors of violence with a commitment of \$18 million over three years to support victim service and violence against women programs.
- In addition, our Government's housing plan also earmarks \$141 million to start building 1,500 housing units for women and children fleeing abusive relationships. This funding will increase services available to victims, including safe housing and relocation support.

Provincial Office of Domestic Violence

- Although the PODV operated under the Ministry of Children and Family Development, the majority of domestic violence programs are funded by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
- Given new investments in Budget 2018 and that the 3-year Provincial Domestic Violence Plan is completed, we are taking this opportunity to move coordination and responsibility for addressing domestic violence to PSSG's Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch.
- As a result of this change the Provincial Office of Domestic Violence will be disbanded at the end of fiscal year 2017/18.
- Placing the responsibility for addressing domestic violence with PSSG will allow for a more harmonized approach that aligns service delivery with broader coordination efforts. Going forward, the Ministry will support cross-government coordination as we work collaboratively to address all types of violence against women.

BACKGROUND:

- Last year, more than 12,300 women and children who were fleeing violence found safety and shelter through transition houses.
- In B.C., more than \$70 million a year is invested in prevention and intervention services and programs that benefit victims of domestic violence and other crimes.
 - This includes \$34.6 million to support more than 830 spaces and 250 short-term shelter spaces in transition houses and safe homes for women and children affected by violence.
 - This also includes \$20 million in funding to more than 240 violence against women counselling and outreach programs across the province.
 - In addition, the ministry funds over 160 Police-Based and Community-Based Victim Service programs, providing emotional support, information, referrals and practical assistance to victims of crime and trauma across B.C.
- In December 2017, the province announced immediate one-time funding of \$5 million to help reduce waitlists and better meet demand for counselling, outreach and crisis support. This funding included:
 - \$4 million in one-time grants for victim service and violence against women programs to better address high demand for programs that help women and children affected by domestic abuse and sexualized violence;
 - \$800,000 to support inter-agency case assessment teams of police officers, victim service workers, transition house service providers and others who provide victim safety in high-risk domestic violence cases; and
 - \$200,000 to enhance education and prevention programs.

ISSUES NOTE: Public Safety and Solicitor General 2018-02-21

- Civil Forfeiture Office projects: Since 2011, \$9.1 million in civil forfeiture grant funding has supported projects that address sexual violence, sexual exploitation and human trafficking, coordinated responses to domestic violence, healing and rebuilding from violence against indigenous women; vulnerable women; provide training and education for service providers; and enhance the capacity and improve the services of child and youth advocacy centres.
- In March 2017, more than \$699,000 in civil and criminal forfeiture grants was provided to enhance existing DVUs in the province, bringing the total investment in DVUs since 2014 to over \$2.4 million.
- In fall of 2017, government launched an expansion of the #SaySomething campaign, which focuses on dispelling myths and increasing awareness around the issue of sexual assault. This builds on the existing campaign, which brings attention to the issue of domestic violence.

Provincial Office of Domestic Violence

- The budget for PODV for Fiscal year 2017/18 is \$685,000.
- Additionally, \$1.5M was secured via One-Time Only funding for the 2017/18 fiscal year to allow for continuity in the plan's direct services while cross-ministry discussions continued on sustainability.
- The Financial Data Book entry for the Provincial Office of Domestic Violence references \$2.5 million in Actual Expenses for FY16/17. Of this, \$1.6 million was provided for the continuity of programs in year four as follows:
 - BC Housing - \$250,000 – transportation costs for women and children fleeing violence in rural and remote areas of the province.
 - Ending Violence Association of BC - \$350,000 – create, train and support Interagency Case Assessment Teams throughout the province.
 - Ending Violence Association of BC - \$160,000 – Be More Than a Bystander Campaign
 - BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres - \$850,000 – to deliver targeted programs and supports to Indigenous communities in BC, including providing services for perpetrators of domestic violence, and dedicated community supports for women fleeing abusive relationships.
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ADVICE TO MINISTER

CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource
Operations and Rural Development

Date: Feb. 8, 2018

Minister Responsible: Hon. Doug Donaldson

Strategic review of 2017 freshet and wildfire seasons (George Abbott, Maureen Chapman)

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The 2017 wildfire season was unprecedented. Over 1.2 million hectares were burned and about 65,000 people were displaced as a result of the wildfires, while about 2,500 people were forced from their homes by freshet flooding.
- Last December, we launched a comprehensive, independent review of the 2017 wildfire and freshet seasons co-chaired by George Abbott and Chief Maureen Chapman.
- The goals of this review are to learn from last year's experiences by determining what worked well and identify opportunities for improvement, including ways to enhance co-operation between agencies.
- Mr. Abbott and Chief Chapman have been holding open houses and meeting with First Nations, local governments and other groups of British Columbians affected by last year's wildfires and flooding.
- People can learn more about the review and offer feedback at: www.bcfloodfirereview.ca
- The report to government is expected at the end of April.

(If asked about specific comments from a community meeting)

- We launched this review specifically to hear from people and learn what we can do better. We look forward to reviewing the recommendations once they're received.

KEY FACTS:

The unprecedented scope of the 2017 wildfire season prompted an all-out response by the B.C. government. That response included the declaration of a provincewide state of emergency on July 7 that lasted for 10 weeks — the longest in the province's history. Flooding activity also severely affected many areas of the province.

George Abbott and Chief Maureen Chapman are serving as co-chairs of an independent strategic review of the B.C. government's emergency response operations. They will be working under terms of reference that were finalized in January 2018, taking into account feedback received from MLAs in December 2017. It's estimated that the review will cost about \$1,100,000.

The strategic review will focus on the four key areas of emergency management: planning and preparedness; prevention and mitigation; response; and recovery. Abbott and Chapman's findings will

supplement the work of internal reviews undertaken within the BC Wildfire Service and Emergency Management BC, as well as an inter-ministry response review.

In-person opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide input into the strategic review are being planned for various B.C. communities. A feedback form has been developed to help respondents organize their comments. The public engagement portion of the review also includes a website where people can learn more about the process and submit their comments and suggestions.

The review team is expected to deliver a report with recommendations by April 30, 2018, so they can be used to inform the 2018 spring freshet and wildfire seasons.

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File Location: W:\PAB_NRO\OPERATIONS\Programs\House notes Spring 2018

Program Area	GCPE	ADM	Minister's Office

**Confidential Issues Note
ADVICE TO MINISTER**

Ministry: Emergency Management BC
Date: Feb. 9, 2018
Minister Responsible: Mike Farnworth

***EMBC and Emergency
Program Act 2018/19 Budgets***

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

Emergency Management BC Budget

- **Emergency Management BC needed to suspend virtually all of its other core activities in order to meet its response and recovery responsibilities during the large-scale emergencies in 2017.**
- **EMBC will use this \$1 million funding lift to:**
 - **Meet legislative responsibilities while activated for emergency events;**
 - **Better maintain day-to-day non-emergency responsibilities while under activation, such as prevention, planning, and corporate initiatives;**
 - **Undertake the strategic objectives that have been identified through early findings from the ongoing review of the 2017 floods and wildfires.**
- **The Emergency Program Act funds emergency mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery activities, which do not impact the Emergency Management BC budget.**

Emergency Program Act Budget

- **The September budget submission provided a unique opportunity to assess the financial impact of large-scale flooding and wildfire events.**
- **The Province revised the Emergency Program Act budget based on real-time financial projections related to ongoing known emergencies.**
- **The 2018/19 emergency season has not yet begun, and as such, the Province is not able to predict the costs of unknown emergencies.**
- **Historically, the province does not budget for extraordinary costs related to unknown emergencies.**
- **The statutory authority granted through the Emergency Program Act provides direct access to government's Consolidated Revenue Fund. This access is designed as a mechanism for funding extraordinary costs related to emergency mitigation, preparedness and response.**

BACKGROUND:

EMBC's budget for 2018/19 will increase by \$1 million over the previous year.

The Emergency Program Act budget for 2018/19 will be \$14.5 million, a \$223.5 million decrease from 2017/18. The EPA budget for 2017/18 was revised in the September budget submission in light of extreme flooding and wildfire seasons that were underway. The historical budget for the Emergency Program Act is \$14.5 million.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Provincial Office of Domestic Violence

Ministry of Children and Family Development

February 9, 2018

Q1. Why is the Provincial Office of Domestic Violence being disbanded and oversight for domestic violence being moved to the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General?

- Our government recognizes the devastating impacts of domestic violence on women, families and communities.
- The safety of all British Columbians remains a priority for this government. We are committed to increasing supports for people who need them – like those who experience domestic violence.
- We're delivering on this commitment - Budget 2018 provides \$5M in new core funding starting in 2018/19, for a total of \$18M over the next three years, to better meet the demand for programs and services such as counselling, outreach, and crisis support for women and children who experience domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes.
- The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General has had a long-standing role in addressing domestic violence and funds over 400 victim service and violence against women programs.
 - PSSG currently funds over 240 violence against women counselling and outreach programs that provide services for women who have experienced domestic violence and other violent crimes. In addition, the ministry funds over 160 Police-Based and Community-Based Victim Service Programs, providing emotional support, information, referrals and practical assistance to victims of crime and trauma.
- Given these new investments and the completion of the 3-year Provincial Domestic Violence Plan, government is taking this opportunity to move coordination and responsibility for addressing domestic violence to PSSG so that there is stronger alignment with service delivery and the increased focus on funding that is reflected in the Minister's mandate letter.
- Over the coming weeks, PSSG staff will be working closely with staff from PODV throughout the transition.

Q2. Domestic violence is a complex issue that is relevant to many ministries. If there is no cross-government organization to coordinate the response, won't it take longer for victims of domestic violence to receive supports?

- Addressing violence against women remains a priority for this government.

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- Going forward, PSSG will support coordination as we work collaboratively across government to address all types of violence against women. Placing responsibility for addressing domestic violence to PSSG will allow for a more harmonized approach that aligns service delivery with broader coordination efforts.
- We do not expect any change in the time it takes to receive support. Programs and services for victims of domestic violence will continue to be available across BC. The funding announced in Budget 2018 will enable programs to enhance frontline service delivery and decrease waitlists.

Q3. If there is no dedicated office to deal with domestic violence, will we lose the expertise and targeted supports that were previously available for victims of domestic violence?

- There will always be a need for expertise and coordination – across ministries and between government and the anti-violence sector.
- Going forward we will continue to leverage our collective expertise to help ensure the safety of women, children and anyone affected by domestic and other forms of violence.

Q4. Domestic violence is an issue that affects many families. How will you support them going forward?

- We know that domestic violence can cause significant trauma – not just to the direct victim, but also to children who witness violence.
- We will continue to work closely with affected families to provide supports, including counselling, outreach and information about safe or transition homes as required.
- We are also committed to increasing supports for people who experience domestic violence. Beginning in 2018/19, \$5M in new core funding will be provided to better meet the demand for programs and services such as counselling, outreach, and crisis support for women and children who experience domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes.
- Information about services is also available from VictimLink BC, a toll-free multilingual, confidential telephone service available across BC and the Yukon 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, providing information and referral services to all victims of crime and immediate crisis support to victims of family and sexual violence.
- In addition, in order to strengthen MCFD's response to Domestic Violence subject matter experts from PODV will be embedded into the Ministry to better support work that is done with families experiencing domestic violence.

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Q5. PODV was responsible for implementing the *Provincial Domestic Violence Plan*. Will there be a similar dedicated plan that focuses on putting an end to domestic violence in B.C.?

- Violence against women – including domestic violence is a priority for this government.
- We know that service providers have been experiencing challenges meeting service demands in communities throughout B.C. Our immediate focus has been on increasing funding for victim services and violence against women programs across BC.
- The funding announced in Budget 2018 is an important step towards strengthening the network of service and supports available to victims of domestic violence. This new funding will enable programs to enhance frontline service delivery, decrease waitlists and address ongoing operational pressures.
- As we continue to strengthen our response to domestic violence, Government will be carefully considering ways to build on the progress achieved through the Plan and existing cross-government initiatives. We will continue to work collaboratively to achieve our long-term vision of addressing violence against women and children.

Q6. Having a dedicated office that focused on domestic violence meant that anti-violence organizations knew who to contact if they needed. How will these organizations approach government now?

- PSSG has established strong relationships with anti-violence stakeholders and organizations, as do other government ministries. Maintaining strong relationships with stakeholders will continue to be a priority across government going forward.
- Organizations can continue to reach out to government by contacting the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.
- In addition, organizations can continue to connect with the Ministry of Children and Family Development for any concerns related to child protection and where domestic violence exists within families.

CORRECTIONS – Body Scanners

SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

- Keeping illegal drugs out of our correctional centres is more vital than ever, given the potency of drugs like fentanyl and the safety issues they raise – for staff and inmates.
- We tested full-body scanners at four correctional centres and they've been successful at intercepting more contraband, which is why we're moving to buy one unit for each of the other six centres.
- The advantage of this technology is that it can detect objects on or in a person's body – while they're clothed, and without any physical contact.

SUCCESS OF BODY SCANNERS:

- So far the pilot has resulted in 265 positive scans – with an overall positive scan rate of approximately 4%, which is in line with the experience of other Canadian jurisdictions.
- In addition, staff have noticed a high degree of inmate awareness about the scanning technology and an increase in attempts to dispose of contraband before being scanned.
- We are finding the scanners a valuable deterrent to bringing contraband into our centres and we will continue to monitor their effectiveness.

OTHER MEASURES TO COMBAT CONTRABAND:

- BC Corrections maintains zero tolerance of illegal drug use within its centres and has comprehensive, related policies and procedures.
- For example, staff use technology to detect and identify trace amounts of illegal drugs.
- They also use intelligence-gathering and video surveillance to intercept contraband items, including drugs.
- Still, inmates with addictions will sometimes take extraordinary measures to get drugs into centres, and that's why it's important for us to explore new options to keep drugs out, for everyone's safety.

BACKGROUND:

In August 2017, BC Corrections began an approximately \$600,000 pilot program testing full-body scanners at three correctional centres with the most inmates moving in and out of custody (Surrey Pretrial Services Centre, North Fraser Pretrial Centre and Alouette Correctional Centre for Women), in addition to a scanner already in place at the OCC. With the pilot showing positive results, BC Corrections has posted a Notice of Intent to purchase one scanner for each of its other six centres, subject to Treasury Board approval, at a total capital cost of up to \$1.3 million. Pursuing the Notice of Intent ahead of that approval was essential to ensure that Visiontec, the Canadian supplier of the SOTOR RS units, will be able to supply them by the end of fiscal 2017/18.

The scanners are designed for correctional use and have so far resulted in 265 positive scans for suspected contraband. Notably, corrections staff do not have legal authority under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms to conduct body cavity searches and the other contraband interdiction technology currently in use cannot detect drugs concealed internally.

While BC Corrections has averaged one death per year related to illicit drugs over the past decade (11 deaths between Jan. 1, 2008, and March 1, 2017), suspected inmate non-fatal overdoses rose from 11 in 2014 to 25 in 2015 and 40 in 2016.

BC Corrections employs a number of contraband interdiction strategies during inmate intake and transfer processes, during the course of routine centre operations, and when intelligence indicates contraband may be in a centre. Other equipment includes ion mobility spectrometry devices (ion scanners) for detecting drug particulate on mail or personal belongings, and body orifice security scanners (BOSS chairs) and walk-through metal scanners for detecting concealed metal objects.