



Estimates eBinder 2025

Ministry of
Emergency Management and Climate Readiness
March/April 2025

Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness
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Ministry of
Emergency Management
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Ministry

2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 17, 2025

EMCR Mandate Letter

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- The EMCR Mandate Letter outlines five priority areas for the ministry to make progress on over the mandate, including four as the lead ministry and one as a support ministry.
- Lead ministry priorities:
 - Work with the Minister of Finance to review all programs and initiatives to ensure programs remain relevant, are efficient, grow the economy and help keep costs low.
 - Advance work that allows for the efficient and effective delivery of emergency services to British Columbians everywhere in the province in times of crisis by leveraging cost-effective technology solutions.
 - Lead cross-ministry coordination to enhance B.C.'s resilience and seek a more appropriate level of support from the Federal Government.
 - Develop provincial and regional hazard risk assessments, including modernized tools for access, to improve transparency, awareness, and informed planning and preparedness for communities.
- Support ministry priority:
 - Support the Minister of Forests to identify ways to mitigate wildfire risk and assist in ensuring consistent fibre supply to businesses that produce wood products or are reliant on wood byproducts in B.C.
- Two priorities are new for this mandate (program and initiative review and working with Ministry of Forests (FOR) to mitigate wildfire risk and assist in ensuring consistent fibre supply). Work planning for these priorities is underway.
 - FOR is the lead on the priority to mitigate wildfire risk and ensure consistent fibre supply – questions relating to this file should be referred to FOR.
 - EMCR will continue to meet with FOR staff to assist.

Background:

- Minister Greene's mandate letter was provided to her on January 16, 2025.
- Further details of how the mandate will be met are outlined in the Ministry Service Plan.
- Refer to the Service Plan Estimates Note for more details.

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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 17, 2025

Program Review

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

Advice/Recommendations

Background:

- In Minister Greene's mandate letter, Premier Eby tasks Minister Greene to work with the Minister of Finance to review all existing EMCR programs and initiatives to ensure programs remain relevant, are efficient, grow the economy, and help keep costs low for British Columbians.

Advice/Recommendations

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- In addition, EMCR has begun reviews on space usage, cell phones, vehicles and other ministry assets. This work will result in a reduced number of Ministry assets and space usage and will be implemented in Q1 of 2025/26.

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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 17, 2025

EMCR Service Plan Overview

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- The 2025/26 – 2027/28 EMCR Service Plan is consistent with government’s strategic priorities and EMCR’s ministerial mandate.
- Key goals stated in the service plan remain unchanged from the previous 2024/25 Service plan and are:
 - Goal 1: B.C.’s strategies and systems reduce the impacts of climate-driven hazards and other emergencies and disasters.
 - Goal 2: Indigenous Peoples are true partners and leaders in emergency and disaster risk management.
 - Goal 3: B.C. has modernized and enhanced emergency management in all four phases (prepare, mitigate, respond, and recover).
- Key activities and strategies to be undertaken to deliver on these goals include:
 - Leading provincial coordination for disaster risk reduction and climate readiness initiatives to improve awareness and transparency, increase resilience, and build back better from disasters (e.g. Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan).
 - Championing evidence-based approaches across the B.C. government to identify and reduce disaster risk and climate risks and invest in disaster risk reduction (e.g. Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessments).
 - Including First Nations during all phases of emergency management, including all levels of planning, decision making, and implementation (e.g. Multi-lateral service agreement for the delivery of emergency management services on reserve lands).
 - Better shaping the delivery of services to Indigenous Peoples to consider both the needs and cultural perspectives of individual members and communities (e.g. regional and provincial emergency management meetings and forums).
 - Implementing B.C.’s modernized emergency and disaster risk management legislation (e.g. Supporting implementation of Indigenous engagement requirements within the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act*).

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- Supporting Indigenous communities, local authorities, and individuals to access the tools and resources needed to manage emergencies and disasters in alignment with local conditions and needs (e.g. ClimateReadyBC).
- Supporting urgent coordinated government response and recovery to communities in times of emergency (e.g. Emergency Support Services; Disaster Financial Assistance).
- Performance measures to support the goals include:
 - Provincial and regional risk assessments developed.
 - Number of new Indigenous Emergency Management Agreements.
 - Percentage of eligible communities onboarded and utilizing the Evacuee Registration and Assistance (ERA) tool.
 - Percentage of complete Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) private applications processed within 90 days.

Background:

Purpose of the Service Plan

- The *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act* (BTAA) provides the legislative framework for B.C. Government planning, reporting, and accounting. It requires three-year service plans and annual service plan reports be made public annually.
- The service plan is intended to provide the public a high-level overview of the ministry's purpose, strategic direction, key priorities, and the results it expects to achieve with the use of its financial resources.

Changes to the 2025/26 Service Plan compared to 2024/25:

- Service Plan Goals remain unchanged from 2024/25.
- Updated Objective for 2025/26:
 - Objective 3.1: "Implement B.C.'s modernized emergency and disaster risk management legislation."
 - Updated to reflect the implementation of the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* now that it has come into force.
- New Key Strategies for 2025/26:
 - Objective 1.2: "Expand disaster risk management evidence base through strategic review of significant emergencies impacting the province to identify lessons learned, to reduce risk, strengthen preparedness and response, and support continuous improvement."

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- Objective 3.1: “Bring into effect requirements for local authorities for risk assessments, emergency management plans, and business continuity plans.”
- Objective 3.2: “Provide guidance and tools to First Nations and local authorities to develop risk assessments and emergency management plans.”
- Removed 2024/25 Service Plan Key Strategies:
 - Objective 1.1: Develop a Provincial Disaster and Climate Risk Reduction Plan that assesses risk priorities and systematically coordinates and implements cross-government interventions consistent with those priorities.
 - Combined with a similar key strategy under objective 1.1.
 - Objective 1.2: Implement the recommendations of the Premier’s Expert Task Force on Emergencies and enhance preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery to better support people on the front lines of emergencies.
 - Recommendations were implemented in the 2024 fire season.
 - Objective 2.2: Facilitate an Indigenous Agency Working Group to promote situational awareness and support response to communities during emergency events.
 - Added to the discussion paragraph to be broader and reflect other support organizations and working groups EMCR works with.
 - Objective 2.2: Provide coordinated provincial, federal, and Indigenous partner emergency management services through the Multi Agency Support Team initiative.
 - Multi Agency Support Teams is a tool of the Indigenous Agency Working Group, which is more generally reflected in the discussion paragraph.
 - Objective 3.2: Enhance catastrophic earthquake preparedness in collaboration with partners through the ongoing development of plans, training, exercises, and public education.
 - Strategy was in reference to Earthquake Early Warning, which was implemented in the previous year.

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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 11, 2025

Budget 2025/26 Overview

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- *Budget 2025* provides:
 - Increase of \$10.000 million increase for disaster resilience innovation funding, bringing the funding stream to \$25.000 million in 2025/26.
 - \$0.177 million increase to fund salary increases, for both excluded and unionized employees.
 - \$0.105 million increase to fund staffing requirements in the Ministers office.
 - \$(0.400) million decrease to disaster risk assessment contract funding, as funding was granted for one year only.
- *Budget 2025* includes the *Budget 2024* base budget increase for the Ministry of \$12.411 million over three years which provided for the permanent staffing of 25 positions which were previously temporary seasonal positions. This has allowed the ministry to:
 - Reduce the reliance on seasonal staff to support Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centre activation in light of more frequent and longer duration events.
 - Improve emergency communications capacity to support preparedness and execution of public communications related to evacuation alerts and orders.
 - Better support Local Authorities in their preparation and administration of the Emergency Support Services (ESS) program.
 - Provide the resources required to build out and administer the provincial Disaster Recovery Framework and policies.
 - Position the Disaster Finance Assistance (DFA) team to effectively surge up when an emergency is declared.
 - Provide timely review of Disaster Financial Assistance program appeals recognizing the need highlighted by the Ombudsperson.
- *Budget 2025* confirms access to Contingencies funding to support local authorities to implement Indigenous Engagement Requirements set out in the *Emergency and*

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Disaster Management Act (EDMA).

Contingencies:

- *EMCR has the following Formally Approved and Approved-In-Principle contingencies vote access:*

Contingencies: Formally Approved and Approved-In-Principle

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Notes:

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Background:

- The *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* better reflects the changing nature of emergencies and disasters in British Columbia and shifts the historic focus of responding and recovering towards a four-phase approach to emergency management (preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery).
- **Vote 21** Ministry Operations - This vote provides for the 355 permanent staff across the province supporting the delivery of programming spanning across all four pillars of emergency management, including:
 - Preparedness and mitigation programming such as PreparedBC, ClimateReadyBC.
 - Emergency communications such as EmergencyInfoBC and the public alerting program.

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- Response focused staff who support the operation of the Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre and the six Provincial Regional Operations Centres and key programs, such as Emergency Support Services staff who assist communities and evacuees during emergencies.
 - Staff to support community recovery and the delivery of the Disaster Financial Assistance program which provides funding to assist individuals and communities in recovering from eligible events.
 - Mitigation funding programs to address disaster risk reduction in communities across the province – this includes BC funded programs such as the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund, and those costs shared with the federal government such as the Green Adaptation, Resilience and Disaster Mitigation program.
 - Working with Indigenous partners, local authorities and other organisations and interest groups to promote effective coordination, collaboration and information sharing amongst emergency management partners.
- **Vote 22** Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA) - This vote provides the budget for the *Disaster Financial Assistance* program and a base allocation for the four-phase approach to emergency management.
 - Voted 22 also provides for statutory spending authorized through the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* which enables the Province to spend whatever is required to respond to and recover from emergencies should the base budget not be sufficient.

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- The Ministry service plan financial summary below details the estimates budget for each core business line:

(\$000s)	2024/25 Restated Estimates ¹	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Plan	2027/28 Plan
Operating Expenses				
Emergency and Disaster Management Operations	39,033	38,718	38,718	38,718
Climate Readiness Programs	28,429	38,458	38,458	38,458
Executive and Support Services	11,363	11,531	11,531	11,531
Sub-total	78,825	88,707	88,707	88,707
Emergency and Disaster Management Act	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Financial Assistance	6,420	6,420	6,420	6,420
Total	115,245	125,127	125,127	125,127
Capital Expenditures				
Emergency and Disaster Management Operations	548	53	53	53
Total	548	53	53	53

Key Facts and Figures:

Budget 2025 by expense type:

Vote 21	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	(\$millions)		
Salaries & benefits	40.355	40.355	40.355
Operating costs	11.165	11.165	11.165
Government Transfers	48.178	48.178	48.178
Other expenses	0.032	0.032	0.032
Recoveries	<11.023>	<11.023>	<11.023>
Totals	88.707	88.707	88.707

Vote 22	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	(\$millions)		
Operating costs	23.700	23.700	23.700
Government	12.720	12.720	12.720

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Transfers			
Totals	36.420	36.420	36.420

Capital	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	(\$millions)		
Office Equipment	0.003	0.003	0.003
Vehicle Replacement	0.050	0.050	0.050
Totals	0.053	0.053	0.053

Prior Year budget decisions:

Budget 2024 provided additional operating funding of \$12.411 million over three years and one-time capital funding of \$0.292 million in 2024/25:

Initiative	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Totals
Operating	(\$millions)			
Response capacity (25 FTEs)	2.951	2.951	2.951	8.853
Community Recovery/DFA capacity (10 FTEs)	1.186	1.186	1.186	3.558
Totals	4.137	4.137	4.137	12.411
Capital	0.292	Nil	Nil	0.292

Budget 2023 provided for enhanced capacity, disaster mitigation program and EDMA implementation. *Budget 2022* provided for Wildfire Services and Prevention², and *Budget 2020* provided funding to support Ground Search and Rescue.

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Totals
	(\$millions)			
Budget 2023				
Enhanced capacity, disaster mitigation program, EDMA implementation	\$27.937	\$37.537	\$37.537	\$103.011
Budget 2022				
Wildfire Services and Prevention	\$7.431	\$7.431	\$7.431	\$22.293
Budget 2020				

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GSAR	\$6.433	\$6.433	\$6.433	\$19.299
Totals	\$41.801	\$51.401	\$51.401	\$144.603

Notes

² Prompted by the 2021 wildfires, one of the costliest wildfire seasons in B.C. history, Budget 2022 provided \$145 million in additional funding for the BC Wildfire Service and Emergency Management BC (now EMCR). EMCR's portion was to help prepare and respond to climate-related events, ensure impacted communities are supported during and after events, improve the public alerting system, and help communities with emergency planning. EMCR's \$7.431 million annual increase was comprised of a lift to salaries and other operational expenses.

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Ministry of
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Disaster Risk Management Division

2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 19, 2025

Provincial Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- The Province's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) is the emergency plan for government that includes:
 - All-Hazard Plan: outlines the overall operational structures, governance, and responsibilities in emergency management.
 - Lead ministry hazard emergency management plans as assigned by regulation.
- EMCR is updating the CEMP to align with new requirements of the Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA).
- This update will reflect lessons learned from previous disasters in addition to new, enhanced provincial preparedness requirements, including outlining provincial actions across all four phases of emergency management – mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.
- EMCR is engaging with and seeking feedback from First Nations, local authorities, and emergency management partners on the All-Hazard Plan ^{Advice/Recommendations}
Advice/Recommendations
- Ministries will be updating their hazard specific emergency management plans, as assigned by regulation, in the coming years to align with the EDMA.

Background:

- Under the previous emergency management legislation, the Emergency Program Act (EPA), key ministers had planning obligations in relation to specific hazards and the minister of EMCR was responsible for the preparation of provincial emergency plans. These requirements were clarified and expanded through EDMA along with the introduction of new statutory rules for a province-wide emergency management plan—referred to in EDMA as the "comprehensive emergency management plan (CEMP)."
- EDMA mandates that the CEMP apply throughout B.C., include the lead ministry hazard plans, be done in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Governing Bodies, be done in consultation and coordination with Local Authorities (not yet in force), and be made publicly available.
- All ministers must take actions identified in the CEMP.
- Lead minister emergency management planning requirements include that plans must:

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- Be based on a risk assessment
 - Be done in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Governing Bodies, and in consultation and coordination with Local Authorities
 - Include measures for all phases of emergency management; roles and responsibilities; emergency resource requirements; emergency systems; training and exercising; mitigating disproportionate impacts; and promote cultural safety.
- The current All-Hazard Plan was drafted in 2012 and outlines the response framework for emergencies and disasters in B.C. to coordinate provincial integrated response. It includes roles and responsibilities, intergovernmental integration, hazard information, and governance concepts.
 - Engagement with First Nations and Local Authorities on the All-Hazard Plan began April 2024. In early 2025, a technical team was established with partners to provide an ongoing forum for feedback and engagement on provincial emergency management planning initiatives, including the All-Hazard Plan and future hazard-specific planning in the coming years.

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Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment (DCRRA)

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- The Province is working to keep people safe by preventing and reducing disaster and climate risks throughout B.C.
- We know investments in disaster mitigation pay off significantly. Every dollar spent on mitigation can save far more on recovery costs down the road.
- The Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment (DCRRA) is being led by the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness in partnership with the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions.
 - The DCRRA will provide updated risk and resilience information to the Province and other partners to support disaster mitigation and planning for disaster and climate related events.
 - Data, analysis, and other products from the DCRRA will be made public through [ClimateReadyBC](#) – an online platform designed to provide guidance on disaster and climate readiness strategies and supports.
- The DCRRA is being developed in collaboration with First Nations and Treaty Nations, taking a distinction-based approach, and through engagement with Indigenous organizations, all levels of government, industry, critical infrastructure owners, academia, non-governmental organizations, and other key partners.

Background:

- A provincial scale risk and resilience assessment will be completed in 2025 and will be followed by regional risk and resilience assessments.
- The provincial DCRRA assesses six hazards, including extreme heat, water scarcity and drought, wildfire, coastal flooding, riverine flooding, earthquake, and a multi-hazard event. Priority hazards for the regional assessments are still to be determined.
- An updated and modernized assessment of disaster and climate risks across B.C. is critical for the Province to strategically prioritize risk reduction and climate adaptation investments and develop policies and programs to strengthen the Province's resilience.
- The DCRRA will support the Province to meet obligations under the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* (EDMA) and the *Climate Change Accountability Act*.

- The Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions is responsible for meeting the *Climate Change Accountability Act* requirements of assessing and publicly reporting on climate risks every five years, with the next report due in 2025.
- The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness is responsible for meeting the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* requirements of disclosing risk information to the public and completing risk assessments for ministry-assigned hazards.
- EDMA will require regulated entities, including local governments, critical infrastructure owners and public sector organizations, to undertake risk assessments that consider equity, climate change, and use the best available local and Indigenous knowledge. The DCRRA will provide foundational data, information, and methodology for regulated entities to meet these requirements.
- Engagement and research show that disaster risk awareness is a positive motivator to reduce risk. Past evidence has indicated that the disclosure of risk information does not negatively impact insurance premiums or property values.
 - The public is aware of many of the risks they are facing and wants to see action to address these risks.
 - The insurance industry already has substantial proprietary information about disaster risk and is supportive of provincial efforts to enhance understanding of disaster risk.
- In 2018, B.C. adopted the United Nations Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction that provides guidance for using an all-hazards approach and considering climate change when assessing disaster risk and resilience.
 - The DCRRA aligns with the United Nations Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction and builds on the 2019 provincial climate risk assessment by including local and Indigenous knowledge, equity-focused analysis, and outputs that provide value to communities.

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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

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Disaster Mitigation and Preparedness Funding Programs

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- We know that investments in disaster mitigation and climate adaptation pay off significantly; every dollar spent on disaster mitigation can help save far more in response and recovery costs down the road, and can reduce impacts to the lives, safety, and livelihoods of the people of B.C.
- The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) supports First Nations and local governments to advance disaster risk reduction through several funding programs, including provincial programs and federal/provincial cost shared programs.
- Since 2017, EMCR's disaster preparedness and mitigation programs have provided approximately \$498.22 million in provincial funding to First Nations and local governments supporting 2,493 projects. Of this, just over \$64.13 million in provincial funding has been provided to 151 First Nations communities who are the lead applicants for 518 projects.
- This funding has gone to projects across the province to support communities to reduce their risks through disaster mitigation and preparedness projects. The funding was delivered through the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF), the National Disaster Mitigation Fund, the Adaptation Resilience & Disaster Mitigation Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, and end of year grants.
- In addition to the above, project approvals will soon be announced for:
 - \$20 million in Provincial funding through the Disaster Resilience and Innovation Funding (DRIF) program Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information
 - CEPF Emergency Support Services Equipment and Training stream (amount TBC). These projects are currently embargoed.

Background:

Disaster Resilience & Innovation Funding Program

- Through Budget 2023, the Province increased EMCR's base budget for disaster mitigation and preparedness by \$5 million in 2023/24, \$15 million for 2024/25, and \$25 million for 2025/26 and onwards to support First Nations and local government projects that strengthen defenses against natural and climate-driven hazards, such as floods, drought, extreme heat, and landslides through the DRIF program. (Note that wildfire risk reduction projects are funded through BC Wildfire Service programs.)

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- Funding is allocated through two streams:
 - Stream 1 for non-structural activities such as risk mapping, feasibility studies and flood-plain mapping, with a maximum contribution of \$0.40 million per partner applicant per expression of interest (EOI).
 - Stream 2 for structural activities such as infrastructure construction, replacement, or upgrades, and nature-based solutions, for up to \$5.00 million per partner applicant per EOI, with a total cap of \$15.00 million per EOI.
- The 2024/25 intake closed on September 15 with 154 expressions of interest for \$208.70 million.
- EOIs for the 2025/26 intake will be accepted up to June 17, 2025.

Community Emergency Preparedness Fund

- The Province has provided contributions to the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) totaling \$369.00 million since its creation in 2017. The program is administered by the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) and supports First Nations and local governments to better prepare for disasters and reduce risks from natural hazards in a changing climate.
- There are five CEPF preparedness streams, which can contribute up to 100% of the cost of eligible activities to a maximum of \$40,000 per community. CEPF streams that are currently active:
 - Emergency Operations Centres Equipment and Training;
 - Emergency Support Services Equipment and Training;
 - Indigenous Cultural Safety and Cultural Humility Training;
 - Public Notification and Evacuation Route Planning; and
 - Volunteer and Composite Fire Department Equipment and Training.
- UBCM can use up to 5% of the total \$369.00 million for administration, approximately \$18.40 million. In practice, they use far less. Interest, unused administrative fees, and any cancelled or underspent project funding can be reinvested in future intakes.
- 2025/26 intake dates are to be determined.

Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Adaptation, Resilience, and Disaster Mitigation Stream (partnership with Infrastructure Canada)

- The Adaptation, Resilience and Disaster Mitigation Program (ARDM) is a sub stream of the larger federal Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP).
- ARDM supports projects that increase structural and/or natural capacity to reduce or negate the effects of flooding. Maximum project cost is \$10.00 million for a single applicant, or \$20.00 million for a regional application.
- No future intakes are scheduled and all funds for this program have been committed. Funds will continue to be distributed through contingencies until the funds are depleted or agreements expire.

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Federal Programs

- Historically, the federal government has been a funding partner for disaster risk reduction projects, including risks that have impacts to supply chains across western Canada, such as what we saw in the 2021 atmospheric river.
- The federal government has supported First Nations, local governments, and the Province through programs such as:
 - **Infrastructure Canada's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF).** A \$2.00 billion program across Canada to reduce risks across all natural and climate-driven hazards. There is no Provincial contribution, and all the funds have been allocated to projects with no additional intakes scheduled.
 - **The National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP).** Established in 2016 to provide funding for projects that included non-structural flood mitigation (flood risk assessments, flood mapping, and mitigation planning) and small-scale structural flood mitigation (upgrading existing dike structures to improve resilience). No further intakes of the NDMP are expected.
 - **The ICIP ARDM streams.** There are no additional intakes scheduled, and no new funding added to these programs.

Key Facts and Figures:

- Appendix 1 - Disaster Mitigation Adaptation Funding Summary
 - provides a summary of total investments to date by funding program.
- Appendix 2 - Project Breakdown by Hazard Type for Preparedness and Mitigation
 - provides a breakdown of total investments by hazard.

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Appendix 1 – Disaster Mitigation Adaptation Funding Summary*

DMAP Program	Funding Stream	Number of Approved Projects	Total Actuals to Date
CEPF	1 Flood Risk Assessment, Mapping, and Mitigation Planning (stream retired). To ensure communities have accurate knowledge of the flood hazards they face and to develop effective strategies to mitigate and prepare for those risks.	128	\$16.98M
	2 Emergency Support Services Equipment & Training To build local capacity to provide emergency support services through training, volunteer recruitment and retention, and the purchase of ESS equipment.	485	\$13.88M
	3 Emergency Operations Centres & Training To build local capacity through the purchase of equipment and supplies required to maintain or improve an EOC and to enhance EOC capacity through training and exercises.	562	\$16.10M
	4 Structural Flood Mitigation (stream retired) To prevent, eliminate or reduce the impact of flood and geological hazards through construction of structural mitigation projects	52	\$30.73M
	5 Public Notification & Evacuation Route Planning To develop Public Notification Plans and Evacuation Route Plans that provide information for local governments, First Nations, and community members on public notification and recommended evacuation routes for the community in the event of an emergency.	143	\$4.75M
	6 Extreme Temperature Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (stream retired) To ensure accurate knowledge of risks associated with extreme heat and how these will change over time, and to develop effective response plans and strategies to prepare, mitigate, and adapt.	45	\$2.13M
	7 Volunteer & Composite Fire Department Equipment & Training To build the resiliency of volunteer and composite fire departments in preparing for and responding to emergencies through the purchase of new or replacement equipment and to facilitate the delivery of training.	478	\$26.39M
	8 Indigenous Cultural Safety & Cultural Humility Training To support eligible applicants to enhance cultural safety and humility in the delivery of local emergency management programs and services.	62	\$2.37M
	9 Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Adaptation To support eligible applicants to reduce risks from future disasters due to natural hazards and climate related risks	350	\$197.04M
	Total	2305	\$310.37M
ARDM	Covid- 19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream For communities to complete disaster mitigation and adaptation infrastructure projects	23	\$9.37M*
	Green Infrastructure Build or modify infrastructure (including natural) to prevent, mitigate, and protect against floods and related hazards.	16	\$37.50M*
	Total	39	\$ 46.87M
NDMP	Flood risk assessments, mapping, mitigation planning, and non-structural mitigation	114	\$20.8M
Grants	DMU Grants Cost share NDMP flood projects and non-eligible ARDM project expenses	20	\$6.33M
	End Of Year Grants Provincial priority disaster risk reduction projects, including seismic projects	13	\$5.58M
	Large Scale – Grand Forks & Abbotsford	2	\$108.27M
	Total	35	\$120.18M
	Total	2493	\$498.22M

*Only includes Provincial contributions. Does not include associated federal, and recipient funds. Including all funding sources the total project amounts for CVRIS is \$53.38M Green is \$100.65M.

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Appendix 2 – Project Breakdown by Hazard Type for Preparedness and Mitigation

The below table summarizes disaster mitigation projects funded by EMCR funding programs at since 2017. These are projects that were approved under one of the funding programs and not subsequently withdrawn or cancelled.

Hazard Type	Number of Approved Projects	Provincial Actuals to Date	Total Actuals to Date
All-hazard	1362	\$74.87M	\$76.12M
Avalanche	2	\$0.13M	\$0.19M
Extreme Heat/Extreme Temp	62	\$4.07M	\$4.07M
Fire *	481	\$26.60M	\$26.60M
Flood	558	\$376.78M	\$519.89M
Seismic	3	\$0.48M	\$0.78M
Tsunami	12	\$1.64M	\$1.85M
Drought	13	\$13.65M	\$13.65M
Total	2493	\$498.22M	\$643.15M

*Does not include embargoed projects such as DRIF and ESS Intake 8

*Fire refers to funding provided to volunteer and composite fire departments for equipment and training in support of structural fires, not wildfires, which are funded through Ministry of Forests, BC Wildfire Service.

2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 20, 2025

Provincial Disaster Preparedness

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- EMCR is the lead coordinating agency for provincial disaster and emergency preparedness, including emergency management planning, training and exercising, and government continuity.
- EMCR provides leadership and guidance for emergency management training standards and works closely with technical training institutions and emergency management training providers to build provincial capacity for emergency response and recovery operations.
- Within the contracted services from post-secondary service providers, local authorities and First Nations communities can access training, consisting of emergency management, emergency support services, and search rescue training.
- EMCR has a Multi-Year Provincial Emergency Management Exercise Program outlining key exercise priorities based on known hazards, risks, and vulnerabilities to ready the Province for wide range of hazards before disaster strikes.
- This includes major provincial exercises for catastrophic emergencies, like Exercise Coastal Response 2023, that included over 1500 participants and 50 agencies.
- EMCR's Provincial Business Continuity Program provides leadership, coordination and guidance to ministries and their programs to reduce risk to critical government services and ensure continuity of operations in emergencies.
- EMCR also regularly conducts after action reviews to incorporate lessons learned from exercises and disasters into emergency management programs, policies, and plans.

Background:

- The Emergency and Disaster Management Act requires EMCR to develop, maintain and implement the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). The CEMP will include the All-Hazard Plan, and hazard specific plans assigned to lead ministers.
- EMCR is the lead hazard ministry for earthquake, tsunami, volcano, and extreme temperature (in partnership with the Ministries of Health and Housing).

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- The Emergency and Disaster Management Act introduced new preparedness requirements for regulated entities, including lead hazard ministries, such as risk assessments, four phase emergency management plans and business continuity plans.
- Emergency management training delivery partners include: the Justice Institute of BC, Incident Command System Canada (ICS Canada), Rescue Canada, and the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology.
- Provincial exercises for catastrophic earthquake (Exercise Coastal Response) were conducted in 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2023. The next is scheduled for 2028.
- Ministry business continuity plans are required to be tested internally on an annual basis and EMCR leads bi-annual cross-government exercises to enhance provincial preparedness.
- Provincial and ministry business continuity programs are governed by Core Policy (Chapter 16).
- EMCR provides support to First Nations, local authorities, and other agencies by creating publicly available tools, templates, and guidance to guide preparedness efforts across the province.

Contact: Katie Robb Executive Director, Disaster Preparedness Branch Disaster Risk Management Division	Mobile: Government Financial Information
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 24, 2025

Disaster and Climate Risk Reduction

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- Disasters in B.C. are becoming more frequent and more severe. We are routinely seeing record-breaking hazard events in the Province. These events have a significant impact on economic prosperity, affordability, health, and community safety. People living in B.C. have a strong desire to see more proactive planning, investment, and communication and want the Province to keep up with the scale and pace of increasing risk.
- We know we need to work together to address the risks we face. By investing in disaster and climate risk reduction we can strengthen and safeguard our economy and increase the resilience and sustainability of our communities.
- B.C. has made important strides in reducing disaster and climate risk including moving to year-round Wildfire Service, bringing in new emergency management legislation, and launching the Disaster Resilience and Innovation Fund.
- EMCR is leading work to set cross-government priorities, coordinate action on disaster and climate risk reduction, and create a roadmap to a more sustainable and resilient B.C.

Advice/Recommendations
Advice/Recommendations

Background:

- B.C. adopted the United Nations' Sendai Framework¹ for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2018.
- In November 2023 the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* (EDMA) was brought into force, helping to align B.C. with key principles of Sendai. Under EDMA, regulated entities will be required to conduct risk assessments and develop emergency management plans.
- EMCR is developing a disaster and climate risk reduction strategic roadmap in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy. Work is currently in Phase I: Building Understanding and Evidence.

¹ The Sendai Framework is an international framework that outlines seven clear targets and four priorities for action to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risks.

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Key Facts and Figures:

Examples of EMCR Programs and Initiatives that support Disaster Risk Reduction

- Since 2017, EMCR's disaster preparedness and mitigation programs have provided approximately \$498 million in provincial funding to First Nations and local governments supporting 2,493 disaster mitigation and preparedness projects (see Disaster Mitigation Adaptation Funding Programs Estimates Note).
- Project approvals will soon be announced under the first intake of EMCR's new Disaster Resilience Innovation Fund Program (DRIF) (\$20 million in funding toward 58 projects). The 2025/26 DRIF program budget has increased to \$25 million.
- A provincial scale risk and resilience assessment will be completed in 2025 and will be followed by regional risk and resilience assessments.
- EMCR has a Multi-Year Provincial Emergency Management Exercise Program outlining key exercise priorities based on known hazards, risks, and vulnerabilities to ready the province for wide range of hazards before disaster strikes
- EMCR regularly conducts after action reviews to incorporate lessons learned from exercises and disasters into emergency management programs, policies, and plans

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Ministry of
Emergency Management
and Climate Readiness

Partnerships, Engagement & Legislation Division

2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 19, 2025

EDMA Overview

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- Under B.C.'s new emergency management framework, people and communities are safer and better prepared for the increasingly severe emergencies and disasters the province is experiencing due to climate change.
- B.C.'s *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* (EDMA) became law on November 8, 2023, replacing the *Emergency Program Act*. The EDMA has a focus on disaster risk reduction, emergency preparedness, recovery, and climate adaptation and is the most comprehensive and forward-looking emergency management legislation in Canada.
- The EDMA is being implemented in phases. Emergency powers and tools became available to the Province and local authorities when the law came into force, while many duties are being brought into force gradually with the introduction of regulations. New hazard-specific planning and risk assessment obligations are now in place for provincial ministries.
- The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness is supporting local authorities and First Nations in implementing the new legislation through the development of new tools, guidance, and templates, as well as by providing capacity funding for Indigenous engagement.
- Intergovernmental Communications

Background:

Local authority obligations and implementation support:

- Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications
- While the EDMA provides more details around the completion of risk assessments, emergency management plans and business continuity plans, these requirements were already largely in place under the old Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation (LAEMR).¹

¹ For example: while not called "risk assessments," local emergency plans were required to reflect "the potential emergencies and disasters that could affect all or any part of the jurisdictional area for which the local authority has responsibility" and "the local authority's assessment of the relative risk of occurrence and the potential impact on people and property of [those] emergencies or disasters" as a result of LAEMR s. 2(1). Conceptually, this is similar to an EDMA s. 51 risk assessment, though the EDMA requirements include more detail. An analogous example for business continuity plans can be found at s. 2(3)(g) and (h) of the LAEMR.

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- EMCR is working closely with the Local Government Advisory Committee on EDMA Regulations and with First Nations partners to develop regulations that work for local authorities.
- EMCR has released many resources to support implementation, including:
 - Guidance documents and templates for states of local emergency, evacuations, response and recovery powers, post-event reporting requirements, and Interim Indigenous Engagement Requirements.
 - Plain language videos that provide an overview of the EDMA, risk assessment concepts, and the recovery period concept.
 - Factsheets on Indigenous engagement requirements, phased implementation, multijurisdictional emergency management organizations, and the definition of "emergency."

Penalties and enforcement:

- Shortly after the introduction of the EDMA, citizens raised concerns around penalties and enforcement of orders under the EDMA. There were misunderstandings related to when penalties could be issued, the amount of those penalties and the overall approach to enforcement of the Act.
- Enforcement of emergency orders has not changed under the EDMA. Government's priority is to obtain compliance through public education and awareness rather than enforcement.
- When it is necessary to consider penalties, enforcement officers can issue violation tickets under the Offence Act for amounts far below the maximum monetary penalties established by the EDMA.
 - Default violation tickets are \$2,000 plus a \$300 victim surcharge, for a total ticketed amount of \$2,300.
 - Historically, lower amounts have been prescribed for certain event-specific offences (e.g., "fail to stop for police officer" during the 2021 atmospheric river event was \$200 plus \$30, for a total ticketed amount of \$230).
 - Consideration of lower event-specific violation ticket amounts will occur whenever the province is dealing with a significant emergency.

Contact: Keith Preston Policy and Legislation Partnerships, Engagement and Legislation	Mobile: Government Financial Information
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 18, 2025

Emergency and Disaster Management Act Regulations

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- On November 8, 2023, the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* (EDMA) received Royal Assent. While many powers and duties under the Act are now in force, some components of the Act will come into force through regulations.
- Regulations started to be implemented shortly after the EDMA became law and have been used to provide additional detail, or to round out aspects of the legislative framework.
- Initial regulations were used to ensure the liability protections under the EDMA function as intended. Amendments in 2024 were largely focused on phasing in risk assessment and planning duties for provincial ministers and on defining the term “treaty area,” ensuring that the consultation requirements of the EDMA worked as intended for the Modern Treaty Nations.
- Other regulations under the EDMA will be developed over time. The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness will continue consultation and cooperation with First Nations and engagement with other partners to inform the development of regulations.
- Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

Background:

- Below are details on key regulation “subject areas” authorized under the EDMA. The current focus is on regulations for local authorities and post-emergency financial assistance.
- Local Authorities: The core risk assessment and planning duties of local authorities are found in s. 47 of the EDMA and may be brought into force by regulation. The EDMA also authorizes regulations that:
 - relate to the risk assessment, emergency management, and business continuity planning requirements of municipalities and regional districts;
 - set a scope for regional district planning and risk assessment, and
 - provide rules related to multijurisdictional emergency management organizations.

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- Post-Emergency Financial Assistance: The EDMA authorizes regulations in relation to the provision of financial assistance following non-insurable, essential losses experienced from an eligible emergency. Regulations can also establish rules for compensation for damages resulting from provincial or local exercises of emergency powers.
- Critical Infrastructure: The EDMA authorizes regulations that give definition to the term “critical infrastructure.” The EDMA also authorizes regulations that relate to the risk assessment, emergency management, and business continuity planning requirements of critical infrastructure owners.
- Compliance and Enforcement: The EDMA authorizes regulations in relation to compliance and enforcement, such as regulations that detail rules for cost recoveries or that complete the legislative framework for administrative monetary penalties.
- Public Sector Agencies: The EDMA authorizes regulations to make specific government organizations, within the meaning of the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act* (e.g., a Crown corporation), subject to risk assessment, emergency management, and business continuity planning requirements.
- Definition of “Person”: Like many statutes, the EDMA uses the term “person” to refer to both individual human beings, as well as other entities, such as corporate “persons.” The use of this term in relation to Indigenous governing bodies (IGB) is nuanced. EMCR is consulting with First Nations partners and rights holders to ensure that throughout the statute IGBs are included, or excluded, as appropriate, in instances where the term “person” is used.
- Technical Rules: Like most statutes, the EDMA authorizes regulations to add specificity to, or to otherwise complete, aspects of the legislative framework established by the statute. For example, the EDMA s. 1 definition of “emergency system” was drafted in such a way that regulations were required to provide specificity as to how warnings or notices are geographically targeted and delivered.
- In summer 2024, EMCR and UBCM established a Local Government Advisory Committee on EDMA Regulations (LGAC).
- The LGAC has a local government co-chair (Director Jerrilyn Kirk, Regional District of Fraser Fort George), a provincial government co-chair (Keith Preston, Executive Director, EMCR), and includes two representatives from each local government area association in B.C. Seven of the 10 seats are drawn from regional districts, with the remaining three drawn from municipalities (the largest being Vancouver and the smallest being the district municipality of Lake Country). Three seats are held by elected officials, with the other seven seats held by staff involved in emergency management.

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- LGAC representatives were selected by UBCM executive out of a pool of individuals nominated by local governments. EMCR staff were given an opportunity to provide UBCM staff with input on principles (e.g., that strong representation from regional districts and the north would be advantageous, given feedback received by the ministry after the introduction of the EDMA), but the ministry did not contribute to the selection process.
- Terms of Reference provide that the LGAC will run until December 31, 2025, with an option to extend.
- The LGAC is currently being used to consult with local governments on potential options for regulations in relation to local authorities. EMCR anticipates also using the LGAC in 2025 to discuss options for regulations in relation to post-emergency financial assistance.
- In parallel, EMCR is continuing to consult and cooperate with First Nations partners to ensure legislative alignment with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as required under the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.
- Generally, this consists of consultation with smaller technical teams prior to and during regulation drafting, and then, under confidentiality agreements, sharing consultation drafts of regulations with First Nations rights holders and providing opportunities for discussion and feedback (e.g., through webinars and written submissions).

Contact: Keith Preston Policy and Legislation Partnerships, Engagement and Legislation	Government Financial Mobile Information
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 16, 2025

Indigenous Engagement Requirements Consultation and Cooperation

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- The *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* (EDMA) includes new Indigenous engagement requirements for regulated entities to consult and cooperate with Indigenous governing bodies prior to using certain land-based response or recovery powers and when developing risk assessments and emergency management plans.
- Indigenous engagement requirements in the EDMA are being phased in through regulation and currently, regional districts and municipalities (i.e. local authorities) are required to make reasonable efforts to reach agreement with Indigenous governing bodies for the purposes of consultation and cooperation during the response and recovery phases.
- In 2024, the Province released the *Indigenous Engagement Requirements Interim Guidance* document, facilitated regional engagement forums with local authorities and Indigenous governing bodies, and offered capacity funding to all First Nations and local authorities in B.C. through the Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program.
- Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) is developing supplemental guidance material and resources to support implementation of Indigenous engagement requirements including factsheets about reaching agreement, cultural safety, and Indigenous knowledge.

Background:

- The *Emergency and Disaster Management Act*, passed in November 2023, recognizes Indigenous governance, emphasizes the importance of consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples, and contains requirements for engaging with Indigenous governing bodies across all phases of emergency management.
- The EDMA incorporates obligations to consult and cooperate with Indigenous governing bodies, in alignment with the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, passed in 2019.
- In December 2023, the Province announced \$18M for the Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program and provided an update in September 2024 that another \$18M is available for a second year of funding.
- The Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program supports Indigenous engagement requirement activities related to consultation and cooperation, relationship-building, planning, reconciliation, and capacity building, and reaching agreement.

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Key Facts and Figures:

- For Year 1, First Nations in BC were eligible to receive \$45,500 and local authorities were eligible to receive between \$40,000 to \$65,000, recognizing that the number of Indigenous governing bodies that local authorities engage with will vary.
- For year 1, ^{Intergovernmental Communications} accepted funding and signed contribution agreements. All First Nations and local authorities in B.C. are eligible for a funding award through Year 2, regardless of whether the offer of Year 1 funding was accepted.
- For Year 2, First Nations in B.C. remain eligible to receive \$45,500 and local authorities are eligible to receive between \$42,000 to \$65,000.

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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: 2025-03-18

Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- The *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* emphasizes the importance of consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples, and it sets out a suite of engagement requirements for regulated entities.
- Through development of the Act, EMCR heard from Indigenous communities and local authorities that capacity funding will be required to implement the legislation.
- In December 2023, the ministry announced \$18M for the Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program as one way of supporting implementation of the legislation.
- In September 2024, EMCR announced another \$18M in funding for Year 2 of the program, responding to feedback from recipients that collaboration takes time, and ensuring continuity of support for engagement and coordination efforts that have gained momentum across the province.
- This funding program is intended to be flexible in that recipients can choose one or more eligible activities if the scope of work is related to implementing Indigenous engagement requirements.
- Information about the funding program, including a program guide, is available online and is regularly updated to ensure the latest information is available for recipients.

Background:

- On December 15, 2023, the ministry announced \$18M in funding available through the Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program, which made up Year 1 of the program.
- Recipients who received funding in Year 1 have received information about how to access funding in Year 2 of the program.
- Recipients must return a signed funding agreement, and complete an Interim Progress Report by March 31, 2025, to access Year 2 funding.
- Recipients that accept Year 2 funding have until March 31, 2026, to use the funding for their chosen eligible activities.
- There is no requirement to spend Year 1 funds before receiving Year 2 funds.

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- All First Nations and local authorities in B.C. are eligible for a funding award through Year 2, regardless of whether the offer of Year 1 funding was accepted.
- Funding provided to local authorities and First Nations is intended to:
 - support relationship-building across jurisdictions through consultation and co-operation with Indigenous governing bodies;
 - ensure the incorporation of Indigenous knowledge and cultural safety across emergency management practices;
 - support policy improvements that reflect the lived experience of Indigenous Peoples, and
 - address the disproportionate effects on Indigenous Peoples during emergency events.
- The funding program is consistent with the Minister's mandate letter in that EMCR is striving to advance reconciliation, implement the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, and work in partnership with First Nations rights-holders to advance shared interests.

Key Facts and Figures:

- For Year 1, First Nations in B.C. were eligible to receive \$45,500 and local authorities were eligible to receive between \$40,000 to \$65,000, recognizing that the number of Indigenous governing bodies that local authorities engage with will vary.
- For Year 2, First Nations in B.C. remain eligible to receive \$45,500 and local authorities are eligible to receive between \$42,000 to \$65,000.
- An Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program informational page on the ministry website was added on December 15, 2023, and is regularly updated.
- The webpage includes a Program Guide and other related resources.

Contact: Devon Ramsay Division: Partnerships, Engagement & Legislation Division Branch: Partnerships, Agreements & Reconciliation Initiatives	Government Financial Mobile:Information
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 13, 2025

Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- In the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan*, the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) is responsible for leading and reporting on action 1.10 to co-develop modernized emergency management legislation with First Nations.
- EMCR supports the Ministry of Forests on action 2.11 to integrate traditional practices and cultural uses of fire into wildfire prevention and land management practices and support the reintroduction of strategized burning.
- In the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act 2023-24 Annual Report*, the ministry's progress on action 1.10 is characterized as reaching an elevated level of implementation, having notable complexity and some challenges, and notable engagement.
- By April 2025, EMCR will complete contributions to the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Annual Report* which will be publicly released by June 30, 2025.

Background:

- In November 2019, the Province enacted the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.
- The *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan* is a five-year, cross-government action plan that guides the Province's work to implement the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, passed in 2019.
- The *Emergency and Disaster Management Act*, passed in November 2023, is being phased in through regulation including consultation and engagement with Indigenous governing bodies in BC.
- Reporting on action 1.10 in the upcoming *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Annual Report* includes:
 - Progress on Emergency and Disaster Management Act regulation development.
 - Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program.
 - Indigenous Engagement Requirements Interim Guidance.

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- Disaster Recovery Framework.
- Disaster Resilience and Innovation Funding Program.
- BC's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

Contact: Jessica Miller Partnerships, Agreements and Reconciliation Initiatives Partnerships, Engagement and Legislation	Mobile: Government Financial Information
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First Nations Emergency Management Services & Supports

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- B.C. works closely with various levels of government, First Nations, and First Nations partner agencies to deliver and advance emergency management support to First Nations in B.C.
- The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) is implementing a ten-year, \$3 million per year, agreement with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to deliver emergency management services to First Nations on reserve lands. Advice/Recommendations
- To strengthen overall service delivery to First Nations communities, EMCR maintains partnership agreements with Indigenous led organizations including the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), First Nations Emergency Services Society (FNESS) and the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT).
- EMCR works directly with First Nations through nation-based agreements, such as the Collaborative Emergency Management Agreement (CEMA) with the Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) that focuses on Indigenous-led emergency management.
- The Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA), passed in 2023, recognizes First Nations as decision-makers with law-making authority in emergency management. It promotes a coordinated approach, where First Nations, local governments, and the Province work together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies.
- EMCR also provides funding to First Nations through the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF), Disaster Resilience and Innovation Funding (DRIF) Program, and the Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program (IERFP).

Background:

- Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications
- Each partnership agreement between EMCR and Indigenous-led organizations, such as FNHA, FNESS, and NVIT, involves the development of an annual workplan with mutual goals and objectives and joint priorities to strengthen community centric and culturally safe approaches to emergency management.

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- The TNG CEMA was initially signed by TNG, EMCR and ISC in 2018. In 2022, the agreement was renewed and in 2023 the Province provided \$1 million to support agreement implementation and \$5 million for planning and design of a nation-led emergency center.
- The Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program (IERFP) offers funding to First Nations and local authorities in B.C. to support the implementation of new Indigenous engagement requirements including consultation and cooperation under the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act*. The funding supports capacity needs, relationship-building and collaboration.
- The CEPF program offers five funding streams. Each stream is designed to enhance specific aspects of resilience for First Nations and local governments. These funding streams support community preparedness and mitigating risks from natural hazards and climate-related challenges.
- The DRIF program supports First Nations and local governments in British Columbia to enhance their capacity to withstand and adapt to natural and climate-driven hazards such as droughts, erosion, storms, floods, landslides, and tsunamis.

Key Facts and Figures:

- Since 2017, EMCR disaster preparedness and mitigation programs have provided funding to 151 First Nations communities for 518 projects totalling approximately \$64.1 million in provincial funds.

Contact: Carol McClintock Partnerships, Engagement & Legislation Strategic Partnerships & Negotiations	Mobile Government Financial Information
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 17, 2025

T̓silhqot̓'in National Government (TNG) Collaborative Emergency Management Agreement

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- A renewed, five-year Collaborative Emergency Management Agreement (CEMA) between the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, Ministry of Forests (BC Wildfire Service), the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, Indigenous Services Canada, and the T̓silhqot̓'in (sill-ko-teen) National Government (TNG) was signed in 2022.
- T̓silhqot̓'in (sill-ko-teen) leadership was critical this past summer, in the management of the Chilcotin Slide response at Farwell Canyon.
- TNG published Learnings from the 2024 T̓silhqox (sill-ko) Landslide in March 2025 including calls to action to integrate consultation, cooperation and consent-based protocols to ensure Indigenous jurisdiction is respected in emergency response.
- The *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* enables to the province to enter into agreements with Indigenous governing bodies, including CEMAs, Coordination Agreements, and *Declaration Act* decision making agreements.

Background:

- The TNG tripartite CEMA was originally signed in 2018 following the 2017 wildfires and was renewed in 2022 for a five-year term.
- A funding announcement in June 2023 highlighted the province's investments of \$1M to support agreement implementation and \$5M to support feasibility studies related to the development of emergency management infrastructure.
- A nation-led emergency centre is a key priority for the T̓silhqot̓'in Nation and was noted in both the original and renewed agreements. The need for an Emergency Centre to support regional emergency management needs was identified in the 2022 CEMA, the T̓silhqot̓'in's 2017 *The Fires Awakened Us* report, and in the 2018 Chapman-Abbott report.
- In the summer of 2023 and 2024, TNG stood up Rustic Group Lodging at Riske Creek to ensure that T̓silhqot̓'in members and neighbouring nations had access to a culturally safe environment in the event of evacuation.
- CEMA Steering Committee members and Senior Officials met regularly and will be sharing

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respective learnings from the Chilcotin Slide.

- TNG, B.C., and Canada are also implementing the Gwets'en Nilt'i Pathway Agreement, a tripartite reconciliation agreement signed in August 2019 that creates a framework to work together through the Declared Title Area transition process, and in June 2024, all parties celebrated the ten-year anniversary of the declaration of Aboriginal title.

Key Facts and Figures:

- To support the renewed CEMA, the province provided \$1.28M (\$280K in 2022 and \$1M in 2023 to support the remaining four years of the agreement) for agreement implementation.
- In 2023, the province provided \$5M to the TNG to support a feasibility study for the development of an emergency operations centre and other infrastructure costs.
- The federal government committed to \$250K annually to support agreement implementation, in addition to other program-based investments such as TNG's Wildfire Capacity Building Project.
- The TNG's report titled, *"Nagwentled – Changing Waters: Learnings from the 2024 T̓silhqox Landslide"* is publicly [available online](#).

Contact: Devon Ramsay Partnerships, Agreements & Reconciliation Initiatives (PARI) Partnerships, Engagement & Legislation (PEL)	Government Financial Mobile Information
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COLLABORATIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Dated for reference February 19, 2022
("Agreement")

BETWEEN

**The T̓SILHQOT'IN NATION as represented by the T̓silhqot'in National
Government**
("T̓silhqot'in Nation")

AND

**HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF CANADA as represented by the
Minister of Indigenous Services**
("Canada")

AND

**HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
as represented by the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural
Development**

("the Province")

(Collectively, the "Parties")

PREAMBLE:

- A. The Parties entered into the Collaborative Emergency Management Agreement (CEMA), dated February 19, 2018, which was extended by agreement on February 18, 2021.
- B. The Parties wish to enter into a multi-year agreement to renew and advance the Parties' collaborative work under the CEMA.
- C. The Parties have made progress that informs overall emergency management work with Indigenous Nations in British Columbia. The Parties have developed a governance structure (Schedule A) and committed to advance shared goals.

BACKGROUND:

- A. In the summer of 2017, the T̓silhqot'in communities were at the heart of the largest wildfires in the history of British Columbia at that time. As a result of climate change and other factors, wildfires pose a constant and increasingly significant risk for T̓silhqot'in communities and the Chilcotin region that is already at risk of flooding, landslides and other natural disasters.
- B. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic threatened the communities and presented challenges in emergency management.
- C. Each of the Parties holds significant responsibilities in respect of emergency management for T̓silhqot'in communities. British Columbia enters this Agreement with the support of the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation. Additional parties will be invited to participate when and where necessary.
- D. The 2017 T̓silhqot'in wildfire experiences and 2020 COVID-19 experiences highlighted the strengths, expertise, and opportunities within T̓silhqot'in communities—as well as issues that the Parties wish to collectively address to ensure seamless and effective emergency management, including wildfire response, across governments (federal, provincial and T̓silhqot'in).
- E. The Parties have made progress that informs overall emergency management work with Indigenous Nations in British Columbia. The Parties have drawn from the experiences of the T̓silhqot'in in emergency management through the Calls to Action from the jointly released *Nagwedižk'an Gwaneš Gangu Ch'inidžed Ganexwilagh - Fires Awakened Us Report* (April 24, 2019) and *Dada Nentsen Gha Yatastiq: T̓silhqot'in in the Time of COVID* (March 18, 2021).
- F. In a spirit of collaboration, the Parties wish to draw on the T̓silhqot'in experience as a critical opportunity to support the role and capacity of the T̓silhqot'in Nation and T̓silhqot'in communities as true partners and leaders in emergency management.
- G. The above work is being done within the context of a broader provincial commitment to learn from unprecedented recurring wildfires and spring flooding and to improve emergency management. The work done with the T̓silhqot'in Nation and communities is intended to inform work with other Indigenous governments and communities, and the broader commitment to improve overall emergency management in the Province.

NOW THEREFORE THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

Purposes of the Agreement

1. The Parties share the common goals of:
 - a. improving risk assessment and emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities related to natural hazards (“Emergency Management”) and making best efforts to develop recommendations to take advantage of learnings from the experience in the T̓silhqot’in communities;
 - b. enhancing the role and capacity of T̓silhqot’in citizens in Emergency Management;
 - c. building trust and relationships in the spirit of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), which recognizes the “the urgent need to respect and promote the inherent rights of indigenous peoples which derive from their political, economic and social structures and from their cultures, spiritual traditions, histories and philosophies, especially their rights to their lands, territories and resources”, noting that the provincial *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and the federal *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* commit the federal and provincial governments to implementing UNDRIP;
 - d. delivering emergency services in a way that is culturally safe, efficient and effective for all Parties and all British Columbians;
 - e. supporting the T̓silhqot’in Nation and T̓silhqot’in communities as true partners in Emergency Management, including all-hazard mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery activities;
 - f. coordinating the Parties’ respective decision-making, interests, values, roles and responsibilities into an integrated and effective Emergency Management regime; and,
 - g. establishing a government-to-government framework for Emergency Management and Wildfire Management based on recognition and respect.
2. The Parties will work together, through a collaborative tripartite process, to:
 - a. identify and address potential strategic operational and jurisdictional gaps, issues and opportunities for improvement;

- b. ensure available emergency services are at a high standard for T̓silhqot̓in and other residents in the region, and are delivered in an efficient and effective manner;
 - c. co-develop and collaboratively implement strategies to enhance the role and capacity of T̓silhqot̓in peoples in Emergency Management, including a review of infrastructure, operational requirements and other capacity needs for effective Emergency Management in the T̓silhqot̓in communities;
 - d. identify and support the implementation of policies and protocols and legislation to allow seamless and effective Emergency Management across all levels of governmental authorities (federal, provincial, regional, municipal and Indigenous);
 - e. continue to seek collaborative approaches to enhancing T̓silhqot̓in emergency services to a high standard and ensuring that they are delivered in an efficient and effective manner;
 - f. jointly identify recommendations to further streamline and simplify processes for response and recovery efforts, including processes for reimbursement of costs, and processes for working collectively to find resources to address unmet needs;
 - g. build on the strengths and expertise of the T̓silhqot̓in Nation to improve Emergency Management, and support the creation of a new model of excellence in Indigenous Emergency Management and Wildfire Management, that can serve to inform other Indigenous communities, British Columbia and Canada;
 - h. jointly work to explore, and develop as feasible, the T̓silhqot̓in proposal for a regional emergency centre, training facility and evacuation centres as set out in section 7, below; and,
 - i. address other issues in Emergency Management as may be identified by the Parties.
- (collectively, the “Purposes”).

Steering Committee

- 3. The Parties will continue the Steering Committee established by the CEMA dated February 19, 2018, with the mandate to work collaboratively to advance the Purposes of the Agreement set out in sections 1 and 2.

4. The Steering Committee will continue to brief and report to senior officials to make immediate and longer-term recommendations to advance the Purposes of the Agreement set out in sections 1 and 2.
5. The Parties will work together in good faith to review and implement recommendations, as agreed to by the Parties, in a timely manner.

Building T̓silhqot̓in Capacity

6. As a priority, the Parties will jointly identify and seek to secure resources for the capacity needs of the T̓silhqot̓in communities for effective Emergency Management and Wildfire Management.
7. The Parties support the proposed T̓silhqot̓in-led regional emergency centre as a potential component of a new 'model of excellence' for a partnership approach in Emergency Management. The T̓silhqot̓in Nation, Canada and the Province will (a) expeditiously explore and seek to advance options to fund the next stage of feasibility assessment and design for the proposed emergency centre; and (b) work to further develop and implement the elements of the proposed regional emergency centre identified by the Parties as feasible and consistent with the common goals of this Agreement.

Term

8. Upon execution by all Parties, this Agreement is effective as of February 19, 2022 and remains in effect for five years from that date, unless extended by agreement of the Parties in writing.
9. This Agreement may be terminated by any Party with six (6) months written notice.

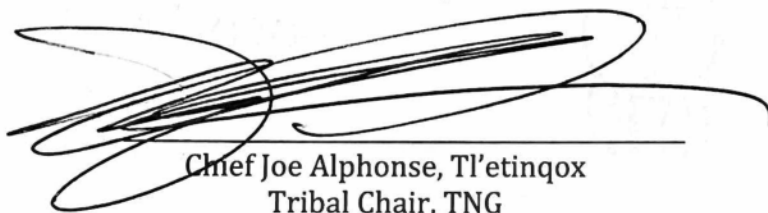
Funding

10. The Parties recognize that adequate funding is essential to the success of the Agreement. The Parties will determine the funding necessary to support the T̓silhqot̓in Nation to achieve those actions set out in sections 1 through 5 of this Agreement in a collaborative manner, and will endeavour to reach agreement, by February 19, 2023, on funding from Canada and the Province to support this Agreement over its five year term.
11. Canada will continue to provide funding to T̓silhqot̓in Nation for eligible project activities under the Emergency Management Assistance Program (EMAP) terms and conditions, at no less than \$250,000 annually for the term of this Agreement.

General Clauses

12. Nothing in this Agreement will be construed as:
 - a. an admission of any fact or liability in relation to activities or decisions of any Party that occurred prior to this Agreement;
 - b. an acknowledgment of any obligation to provide any particular financial, economic or other funding unless or until agreed to by the Parties.
13. This Agreement is without prejudice to the Aboriginal rights and Aboriginal title of the Tâsilhqot'in Nation or to the positions that any Party may advance in any proceeding.
14. This Agreement does not fetter or limit, and shall not be deemed to fetter or limit, the decision-making authority of any Party or their authorized representatives.
15. The Parties agree that this Agreement will be implemented in a manner consistent with the established rights of other First Nations under section 35 of the *Constitution Act 1982*, as well as the Province and Canada's ongoing duty to consult with First Nations and seek to accommodate potential adverse impacts on asserted Aboriginal rights and title claims, as appropriate, in accordance with the common law and the provisions of applicable First Nations' Treaties and engagement agreements.
16. Any payment contemplated under or for the Purposes of this Agreement is subject to appropriations approved by the appropriate authority, and payments may be terminated or reduced in the event that funds are not available in the fiscal year in which payment is to be made.
17. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts and by electronic transmission by the Parties.
18. The Parties adopt the same definition of "Wildfire Management" set out in the CEMA dated February 18, 2018.

Representing the T̓silhqot'in National Government



Chief Joe Alphonse, Tl'etinqox
Tribal Chair, TNG

March 30, 2022

Date

Representing the Government of Canada

Honourable Patty Hajdu
Minister of Indigenous Services

Date

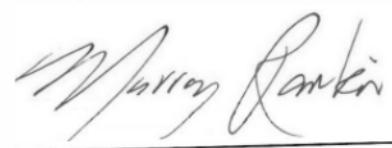
Representing British Columbia



Honourable Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

March 28, 2022

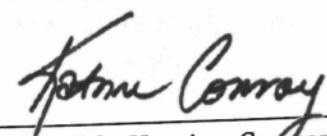
Date



Honourable Murray Rankin
Minister of Indigenous Relations
and Reconciliation

March 31, 2022

Date



Honourable Katrine Conroy
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource
Operations and Rural Development

April 01, 2022

Date

Schedule A

Collaborative Emergency Management Agreement

Governance Structure



Collaborative Emergency Management Agreement Governance Structure

Senior Level Engagement

Elected Officials: Tsilhqot'in Chiefs, Minister of Indigenous Services Canada, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Minister of Indigenous Relations

Senior Officials: Regional Director General for Indigenous Services Canada, Assistant Deputy Ministers for Emergency Management BC, BC Wildfire Service and Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Steering Committee

Representatives of the Tsilhqot'in National Government, Indigenous Services Canada, Emergency Management BC, BC Wildfire Service, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Secretariat Support

**Governance
Committee**

**Finance
Committee**

**Infrastructure
Committee**

**Training
Committee**

**Communication
Committee**

**Ad Hoc
Committees**

Operational Working Group

Representatives of the Tsilhqot'in National Government, member First Nations, Emergency Management BC NEA Region, Cariboo Fire Centre with engagement from other response partners (e.g., Cariboo Regional District, First Nations Health Authority)

2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 18, 2025

Regional Partnerships, Multijurisdictional Emergency Management Organizations, and Integrated Disaster Council of BC

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- Regional partnerships facilitate multijurisdictional emergency management planning by establishing in advance how communities will collaborate and coordinate during a disaster that crosses regional boundaries.
- The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR), on behalf of the Province, has established regional emergency management partnerships.
 - The Integrated Partnership for Regional Emergency Management (IPREM) in Metro Vancouver was established through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in April 2009 with the Metro Vancouver Regional District on behalf of 21 municipalities, one Treaty First Nation, and one electoral area.
 - The Regional Emergency Management Partnership (REMP) in the Capital region was established in March 2016 through a MOU with the Capital Regional District (CRD) on behalf of 13 municipalities and three electoral areas.
- EMCR's partnership with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) is coordinated through the Integrated Disaster Council of BC (IDCBC). IDCBC provides an integrated approach to disaster-related human consequence initiatives and enhances the level of services delivered in B.C.
- Multijurisdictional Emergency Management Organizations (MJEMOs) are a framework enabled by the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act*, with the intent to support cross-jurisdictional emergency management collaboration by allowing member entities to complete legislative requirements such as risk assessments, emergency management plans, and business continuity plans together. MJEMOs may also undertake response and recovery actions as a single body.

Background:

- EMCR manages formal and informal partnerships with different orders of governments that strengthen local, regional, and provincial collaboration in emergency management.
- EMCR is developing regulations, policy and guidance documents related to MJEMOs in collaboration with First Nations and local government representatives pursuant to the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act*.

Confidential

- Pursuant to the British Columbia Emergency Management System (BCEMS), EMCR's partnerships with NGOs and charities is coordinated through the IDCBC. IDCBC is governed by a Terms of Reference. Each member agency retains the responsibility to deliver services according to their own mandates and to raise and/or acquire funds for their own purposes.
- The Central Coast Regional Emergency Management Partnership was established in December 2018 between the Province of B.C., Nuxalk Nation, and the Central Coast Regional District (CCRD) on behalf of the five electoral areas in the Bella Coola Valley. While the MOU remains in place,^{Intergovernmental Communications}
Intergovernmental Communications
- Current regional partnerships, including IPREM and REMP, along with their structures and governance, are being leveraged to support the development of MJEMO framework guidance documents.

Key Facts and Figures:

- The Province's planned financial contribution to IPREM is \$199,791 in 2025/26, which is matched by the Metro Vancouver Regional District on behalf of its member jurisdictions.
- The Province's planned financial contribution to REMP is \$125,000 in 2025/26, which is matched by the Capital Regional District on behalf of its member jurisdictions.
- During operational periods, and when pre-approved, EMCR may cover eligible response and recovery expenses for IDCBC member agencies to assist people affected by disasters within British Columbia.

Contact: Samantha Watkins Partnerships, Agreements, and Reconciliation Initiatives Partnerships, Engagement and Legislation Division	Mobile: 250-360-6119
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 17, 2025

Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council Task Force

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- In 2021, the Lytton Creek Complex wildfires resulted in significant structural impacts to the Lytton First Nation and the Village of Lytton; the community continues to be in a state of recovery and rebuilding.
- In July 2021, the Province and Canada signed commitment letters to Nlaka'pamux (ing-khla-kap-muh) Nation Tribal Council (NNTC) committing to work together in support of Lytton recovery.
- A tripartite Task Force, Leadership Table, and Emergency Management working groups are established to support the implementation of commitment letters and work in partnership on key priorities identified by NNTC.
- Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation are leading a government-to-government relationship premised on the recognition and implementation of Nlaka'pamux Nation (ing-khla-kap-muh) title, rights, laws, and jurisdiction. EMCR is a partner to this work.
- The *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* enables the Province to enter into agreements with Indigenous governing bodies, including Collaborative Emergency Management Agreements, Coordination Agreements, and Declaration Act decision-making agreements.

Background:

- The Nlaka'pamux (ing-khla-kap-muh) homeland is a geographic area that includes the traditional territory of approximately 12 First Nations that work with the Province directly and through multiple aggregate groups including two Tribal Councils.
- The NNTC is a governing body that represents Oregon Jack Creek Band, Lytton First Nation, Boothroyd Indian Band, and Skuppah Indian Band for purposes of the 2021 Lytton Wildfire Recovery commitment letters.
- NNTC and BC are working together to determine the next steps of the Commitment Letter implementation through the Task Force governance structure which includes representatives from the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (IRR) and the Ministry of Health (HLTH).

Confidential

- The ministry is working with the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (IRR) and other natural resource ministries to implement commitment letters in a coordinated manner that reflects commitments within other agreements.
- In 2025, IRR, EMCR and HLTH worked with NNTC to identify food security, housing and infrastructure, and health (specifically elder care) as top priorities for NNTC.

Key Facts and Figures:

- In the July 2021 commitment letters, Canada provided \$2.0 million and the Province provided \$0.1 million to Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council to begin implementation of the actions in the letters.
- In March 2024, the Province provided \$0.4 million to support implementation of the Commitment Letter workplan.

Contact: Devon Ramsay Partnerships, Agreements and Reconciliation Initiatives Partnerships, Engagement and Legislation	Mobile: Government Financial Information
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 17, 2025

Multilateral Negotiations, First Nations Emergency Management Service Agreement

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) is implementing a ten-year, \$30M bilateral service agreement with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to deliver emergency management services on First Nations reserves.^{Advice/Recommendations}
Advice/Recom
- Since the bilateral service agreement was signed, the frequency, scale, and complexity of emergency events and the duration of sustained response and recovery efforts has increased.
- Endorsed through resolutions by BC First Nations Chiefs at spring 2024 Assemblies, the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC), ISC, and EMCR are engaged in negotiations to develop a new multilateral agreement to replace the current bilateral agreement to better reflect and support the unique needs and priorities of First Nations.
- A new multilateral agreement presents an opportunity for all emergency management partners to co-develop the roles and responsibilities of all service providers (e.g., First Nations Emergency Services Society, First Nations Health Authority, EMCR), ensure fair compensation, and create a new co-management model.
- The services and programs in a new multilateral agreement will be informed by engagement with rights holders.
- Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

Background:

- In 2022, Minister Farnworth (then Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General) approved a mandate to advance negotiations to replace the current bilateral agreement with a new multilateral emergency management services agreement with ISC and FNLC.
- In August 2024, Minister Ma (then Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness) issued a letter to FNLC and ISC re-confirming EMCR's support for the negotiations process with the caveat that the scope of the negotiations needs to be defined through a mutually agreed upon term sheet.

Confidential

- A three phased approach to negotiating a multilateral agreement was developed based on resolutions passed by BC Chiefs.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

- The *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* (EDMA) has several provisions that support the exercise of First Nations jurisdiction in emergency management and includes guiding principles that promotes an “all of society” approach and recognizes that First Nations peoples have the authority to make laws in relation to emergency management.
- Milestones are under development for Phases 2 and 3, starting with identifying the scope of services and programs in new agreement followed by developing a rights holder engagement strategy. The overall objective remains the same, sign a multilateral emergency services agreement by 2026.
- EMCR hired a consultant to estimate EMCR’s costs to deliver the services and programs identified in the bilateral services agreement with ISC. The findings of this work demonstrated that it costs EMCR almost four times more to deliver the services and programs in the bilateral services agreement than EMCR receives from ISC. These findings have been shared with ISC and FNLC.

Key Facts and Figures:

- In 2022/23, B.C. provided FNLC with \$0.555 million in grant funding to support FNLC’s outreach to First Nations to inform a new multilateral agreement.
- Phase 1 of the negotiations was completed in March 2025, which resulted in the following key outcomes:
 - allocation of \$2.5 million in ISC funds to support 34 new Emergency Program Coordinators in First Nation communities;
 - co-development of a risk-based funding approach to identify the highest-risk First Nations in B.C. to prioritize funding where it is needed most, and
 - significant improvements and streamlining in EMCR’s emergency response claims process, reducing timelines for reimbursement to First Nations to an average of 35 days.

Contact:

Carol McClintock
Partnerships, Engagement & Legislation
Strategic Partnerships & Negotiations

Mobile Government Financial
Information



Ministry of
Emergency Management
and Climate Readiness

Disaster Recovery Division

2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 21, 2025

Previous Events - Recovery Status

KEY MESSAGES

- The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) continues to collaborate with key partner agencies, including Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), First Nations Emergency Services Society of BC (FNESS), First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), Canadian Red Cross, non-profits, and other provincial ministries. These partnerships focus on identifying and addressing unmet disaster recovery needs in a manner that supports impacted communities effectively.
- Recovery efforts remain active across multiple regions, addressing community-specific challenges such as infrastructure restoration, cultural site protection, personal loss reimbursement, and land-based recovery projects.
- The Community Recovery team has supported 54 communities that had disaster events occurred between 2018 and including 2023. Of those 54 communities, 32 have been completed and closed.
- Advice/Recommendations

BACKGROUND

- EMCR maintains close engagement with impacted communities through a community-endorsed recovery approach, which may include frequent check-in calls and in-person meetings as needed, depending on the community's capacity and experience to lead recovery efforts.
- Please refer to *Attachment 1 – Previous Events Community Status Table* for detailed overview of impacted communities by region.

Central and Southeast Regions

- Recovery efforts continue for 12 communities, including Merritt, Lower Similkameen Indian Band, and Osoyoos Indian Band.
- Seven communities have completed recovery work that is no longer actively supported by the Community Recovery team, though some continue to have active Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) projects.
- Ongoing recovery priorities include land-based restoration, access roads, infrastructure repairs, and cultural site protection.

Confidential

Northeast and Northwest Regions

- Over the past year, 24 communities received support, 18 of which no longer need Community Recovery team support.
- Active recovery discussions are ongoing with Blueberry River First Nation, Cariboo Regional District, Williams Lake First Nation, and Ulkatcho Nation.
- Priority areas include infrastructure restoration, cultural site recovery, food security, and the transition to local recovery efforts.

Vancouver Island Coast and Southwest Regions

- Five communities continue to work with the Community Recovery team, with four involving First Nations and one local government (Township of Langley).
- Seven community files have transitioned to monitoring status following successful recovery efforts.
- Recovery remains focused on land-based projects, community infrastructure, and resilience-building against future events.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

- Up to and including the 2023 Wildfire Season, EMCR has approved approximately \$1.458M in Community Recovery Manager positions throughout the province since 2021.
 - Northeast and Northwest: \$0.156M
 - Central and Southeast: \$0.440M
 - Southwest and Vancouver Island Coast: \$0.902M
- Recovery funding outside of DFA is an event-specific decision based on scale of impact being sufficient to require a Provincial Recovery Plan and Treasury Board Submissions.
- Please refer to *Attachment 2 – Previous Events Facts and Figures* for more detailed financial information

Contact: David Rice, Director Recovery, Policy and Planning Branch Disaster Recovery Division	Mobile: Government Financial Information
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Attachment 1 – Previous Events Community Status Table

Region	Active Communities (Still in Recovery)	Events	Closed Communities (Recovery Files Closed)	Events
Central and Southeast	Merritt	2021 Wildfire	Lower Nicola Indian Band	2018 Freshet, 2021 Atmospheric River
	Lower Similkameen Indian Band	2021 Wildfire	Okanagan Indian Band	2018 Freshet, 2021 Wildfire, 2023 Freshet, 2023 Wildfire
	Osoyoos Indian Band	2021 Wildfire	Shackan Indian Band	2021 Atmospheric River
	Town of Princeton	2021 Wildfire, 2021 Atmospheric River (AR)	Nooaitch Indian Band	2021 Atmospheric River, 2021 Wildfire
	Cache Creek	2023 Flooding	Summerland	2018 Freshet
	Squilax	2023 Wildfire	Thompson-Nicola Regional District	2023 Wildfire (Re- impacted 2024)
	Regional District Central Okanagan	2023 Wildfire	Regional District of Okanagan- Similkameen	2023 Wildfire
	Columbia Shuswap Regional District	2023 Wildfire		
	aq'am	2023 Wildfire		
	Lytton First Nation	2021 Wildfire		
	Village of Lytton	2021 Wildfire		
Region	Active Communities (Still in Recovery)	Events	Closed Communities (Recovery Files Closed)	Events
Northeast and Northwest	Blueberry River First Nation	2023 Wildfire	Cheslatta Carrier First Nation	2023 Wildfire (Land-Based Recovery)
	Cariboo Regional District	2020 Landslide	Doig River First Nation	2023 Wildfire (Land-Based Recovery)
	Williams Lake First Nation	2020 Landslide	Fort Nelson First Nation	2023 Wildfire (Re- impacted 2024)
	Ulkatcho Nation	2023 Wildfire	Fraser Fort George	2023 Wildfire
			Kwadacha First Nation	2023 Wildfire
			Nak'azdli Nation	2023 Wildfire

Confidential

			Northern Rockies Regional Municipality	2023 Wildfire (Re-impacted 2024)
			Peace River Regional District	2023 Wildfire
			Regional District of Bulkley Nechako	2023 Wildfire
			Takla First Nation	2023 Wildfire
			Tumbler Ridge	2023 Wildfire
			Yekooche First Nation	2023 Wildfire
			Nazko First Nation	2022 Flood Recovery
			Gitwangak	2021 Flood Recovery
Region	Active Communities (Still in Recovery)	Events	Closed Communities (Recovery Files Closed)	Events
Vancouver Island Coast and Southwest	Halalt First Nation	2021 AR	Dzawada'enuxw First Nation	2021 Atmospheric River
	Sema:th First Nation	2021 AR	Seabird Island Band	2021 Atmospheric River
	Cowichan Tribes	2021 AR	Chawathil First Nation	2021 Atmospheric River
	Matsqui First Nation	2021 AR	Penelakut First Nation	2021 Atmospheric River
	Township of Langley	2021 AR (Re-impacted 2024)	Tsartlip First Nation	2021 Atmospheric River
	City of Abbotsford	2021 AR	Tsawout First Nation	2021 Atmospheric River
	District of Hope	2021 AR	Squamish-Lillooet Regional District	2021 Atmospheric River, 2023 Wildfire (Re-impacted 2024)
	Fraser Valley Regional District	2021 AR		
	Leq'á:mel First Nation	2021 AR		
	Metro Vancouver Regional District	2021 AR		
	Shxwhá:y Village First Nation	2021 AR		

Attachment 2 – Previous Events Facts and Figures for more detailed financial information

Region - Community	Approved Amount	Expenditure	Event
Southwest and Vancouver Island Coast			
Skwah First Nation	\$ 0.202M	Recovery Manager, Recovery Manager, & Recovery Consultant	2021 AR
Squamish Lillooet Regional District	\$ 0.035M	Recovery Manager	2023 Wildfire
City of Abbotsford	\$ 0.138M	Recovery Manager	2021 AR
Sumas First Nation	\$ 0.130M	Recovery Manager	2021 AR
Chawathil First Nation	\$	Recovery Manager	2021 AR
Seabird Island Band	\$ 0.060M	Recovery Manager	2021 AR
Matsqui First Nation	\$ 0.120M	Recovery Manager	2021 AR
Fraser Valley Regional District	\$ 0.053M & \$ 0.100M	Recovery Consultant & Recovery Manager	2023 Wildfire & 2021 AR
Halalt First Nation	\$ 0.064M	Recovery Manager	2021 AR
Central and Southeast			
Thompson Nicola Regional District (TNRD)	\$ 0.060M	Recovery Manager	2023 Wildfire
Columbia Shuswap Regional District (West of Revelstoke)	\$ 0.150M	DREAF Recovery Consultant	2023 Wildfire
Adams Lake Indian Band	\$ 0.060M	DREAF Deputy Recovery Manager	2023 Wildfire
Columbia Shuswap Regional District (West of Revelstoke)	\$ 0.070M	DREAF Cultural Coordinator	2023 Wildfire
Columbia Shuswap Regional District (West of Revelstoke)	\$ 0.075M	Communication Support Staff - DREAF	2023 Wildfire
Central Okanagan, Regional District (RDCO)	\$ 0.08M	Satellite Imagery-Recovery Planning	2023 Wildfire
Columbia Shuswap Regional District (West of Revelstoke)	\$ 0.017M	Recovery Manager	2023 Wildfire
Northeast and Northwest			
Ulkatcho Nation	\$ 0.040M	Recovery Coordinator	2023 Wildfire
Ulkatcho Nation	\$ 0.051M	Recovery Manager	2023 Wildfire
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako	\$ 0.065M	Recovery Manager	2023 Wildfire

2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 19, 2025

Lytton Recovery

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- The June 2021 Lytton Creek fire caused catastrophic loss of public and private infrastructure across Nlaka'pamux territory including Lytton First Nation (LFN), Village of Lytton (VoL) and the surrounding regional district. Reconstruction efforts have commenced, however numerous residents remain displaced.
- Provincial funding supported the restoration of essential infrastructure and services within the VoL. This includes additional commitments of funding for recovery such as fencing, and the electrification of Main Street. In addition, using previously committed funding from the Province, the Village of Lytton established a grant program to help community members cover eligible archaeological costs.
- Several milestones in the rebuilding process were achieved in 2024:
 - Home and building reconstruction are nearing completion.
 - Community services are operational (i.e.: a primary care clinic and bank).
 - Hosting community events have resumed, including the Lytton River Festival which was held over the 2024 Labour Day weekend.
 - Other commercial rebuilds are under development, including a grocery store, laundromat and a hotel.
- The VoL has moved into a rebuild phase and is requiring less involvement by EMCR Community Recovery staff. FOR is taking a leading role in the oversight of the archeology management requirements in the community.

Background:

- The Village of Lytton, with a population of approximately 275 residents, serves as a hub for an additional 4,500 individuals residing in the surrounding rural area.
- Approximately 90% of the VoL was destroyed in the Lytton Creek Fire including 124 residences, town hall, police station, ambulance station, public library, and other vital infrastructure. Structures in the Thompson Nicola Regional District were also lost. LFN experienced substantial losses, including approximately 45 residences on IR18 and 5 commercial properties, including the Band Office.
- Many Village residents remain evacuated. Some Nlaka'pamux members, including LFN, have returned to interim housing.

Confidential

- The Nlaka’pamux Nation is made up of 16 Indigenous communities spanning the Fraser, Thompson, and Nicola Rivers region. The Nlaka’pamux Nation Tribal Council (NNTC) is a governing entity which currently represents interests of Boothroyd Indian Band, Lytton First Nation, Oregon Jack Creek Band, and Skuppah Indian Band.
- On July 11, 2021, British Columbia and Canada issued letters of commitment to NNTC, detailing expectations concerning wildfire recovery and rail safety. Canada committed to provide \$2M. BC provided \$100K. These commitments included establishing an Implementation Coordination Task Force. The Province remains involved in this Task Force and on related Working Groups.
- Throughout 2024, several key milestones were achieved in the rebuilding process. The VoL began reviewing building permit applications and issued its first permit for a single-family home, and to date construction is well underway. Additional permits are currently progressing through the VoL approval process. Under the leadership of Lytton First Nation (LFN) and the Nlaka’pamux Tribal Council (NNTC), and in collaboration with the Ministry of Forests (Archaeology Branch), frequent meetings of the Kumsheen Heritage Committee (KHC) were held in 2024 to address archaeological considerations. In 2025, the KHC process is no longer a requirement of the archeology permit and this change has resulted in a streamlined building permit process.

Financial Overview

- As of March 14, 2025, the Province has transferred almost \$41 million to the Village of Lytton to support its ongoing operations and recovery. This includes:
 - \$23.4 million to enable debris removal, archeological work and soil remediation for properties in the VoL.
 - \$18.4 million was announced in March 2022.
 - \$5.0 million was later allocated in December 2022.
 - \$9.4 million to support ongoing VoL operations and staffing.
 - \$3.4 million to help re-establish essential infrastructure and services.
 - As of December 31, 2024, approximately \$1.5 million in unused funds were identified by VoL to be re-purposed to establish a grant program to help community members cover eligible archaeological costs.
 - \$2.6 million for emergency response costs.
 - \$2.1 million for future VoL operations.
 - \$0.07 million was provided in Emergency Support Services from June to December 2021.
 - \$0.06 million has been provided in Disaster Financial Assistance as of March 17, 2025.

Contact:

Camellia Bhatti
Manager, Community Recovery
Recovery, Policy and Planning

Mobile: Government
Financial

2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated: March 24, 2025

MERRITT RECOVERY

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- In November 2021, an atmospheric river event impacted the Coldwater River watershed and the City of Merritt, resulting in widespread overland flooding due to various dike failures. Hundreds of homes and businesses were impacted with more than 7,000 residents evacuated and widespread damage to municipal infrastructure.
- In the fall of 2024, the rebuild of Middlesborough bridge was completed. This was a priority project in Merritt's Flood Mitigation Plan. It was funded by EMCR's Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) program and by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI).
- Merritt is seeking provincial support to rebuild two dikes destroyed in the 2021 Atmospheric River Event to current code and standard, including relocation of the dikes further from the Coldwater River.
- Land acquisitions required for dike upgrades are not covered under the DFA program. As a result, Merritt's dike repairs have not proceeded under the DFA program, since multiple private properties must be purchased to proceed with the dike repairs.
- In late March 2025, the Province issued a grant to the City of Merritt, enabling the community to rebuild dikes 129 and 130 at a new location to meet provincial standards and protect the City from a 1:200-year flood event. The project to rebuild and relocate the dikes is estimated to cost \$60 million.
- To date, the province has committed over \$130 million to the City of Merritt towards the community's Flood Mitigation Plan, including the \$60 million to rebuild and relocate the dikes, as well as to supports for infrastructure, bank stabilization, interim housing and immediate financial supports.

Background:

- In November 2021, an Atmospheric River event generated intense rainfall in Southwest B.C resulting in extreme streamflow, extensive overland flooding, physical damage and evacuation of the entire community of the City of Merritt.
- Damages resulted from the Coldwater River overtopping its banks, breaching dikes and flooding developed areas in the city. The notable damages included dike failures, the collapse of the Middlesboro Bridge, the failure of the water system and wastewater treatment plant, and widespread damage to municipal, residential, commercial and institutional structures.
- The flooding changed the course of the Coldwater River and destroyed existing diking structures, leaving Merritt with less flood protection than they had before the event. The

dike failures (referred to as dikes 129 and 130) created a new river channel where hydrotechnical engineers confirmed they cannot be repaired at their existing location to meet the 1:200-year flood standard and need to be relocated to mitigate the risk of future flooding in this area. The new dikes must be taller and wider and set back from the river's edge to mitigate future flooding. This would require land acquisition by Merritt to complete the work.

- Merritt submitted a fully developed Flood Mitigation Plan, that includes a request to repair dikes 129 and 130 through the Province's Provincial DFA program. This plan estimated a cost of \$109 million to recover from the 2021 Atmospheric river damages and included a suite of projects needed to reduce the impacts of future flooding events, including rebuilding damaged dikes to modern standards, building new dikes, riverbank restoration and armoring, ecosystem restoration, land acquisition to support building new diking infrastructure and limited property acquisitions from land between the river and the new dike alignment.
- Merritt was denied Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF) from the Government of Canada for the Coldwater River dikes. Since this decision in the May 2024, the Province has been actively advocating to the federal government to work with BC to support critical recovery needs of impacted BC communities.
- In January 2023, the City of Merritt endorsed this Flood Management Plan with the support of the area's six First Nations (Shackan, Nooaitch, Lower Nicola, Cooks Ferry, Coldwater and Upper Nicola Bands). If relocation of the dikes moves forward, it will have the benefit of reducing the flood risk to the downstream Lower Nicola Indian Band.
- In July 2023, Merritt applied to Disaster Mitigation Adaptation Fund (DMAF) for \$62 million in federal funding for four disaster mitigation projects totaling \$156 million in total costs.
 - DMAF provides 40% federal funding, and the remaining 60% is funded by the proponent.
 - The application was not approved. Given Merritt's inability to pay, their 60% portion, \$94 million would have potentially fallen to the province to support.
 - The \$60 million provided to the City of Merritt at the end of March does not address any portion of the DMAF application that was denied by the federal government.

Financial Overview

- To date, the province has committed \$130 million in funding supports to Merritt, including:
 - Up to \$60 million for relocating and rebuilding Dikes 129 and 130 (as recently announced).

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- \$24.3 million for interim Flood Support Funding from the former MUNI for recovery and housing supports.
- Over \$11 million in DFA funding to support 24 infrastructure projects.
- Up to \$9.6 million for Vought Street Bridge Replacement (Middlesboro Bridge).
- Over \$9.5 million in DFA to support homeowners and business owners.
- Up to \$9.2 million for bank stabilization on Fir Avenue.
- Up to \$8.6 million for flood-hazard mapping, including funding to support B.C.'s Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy.
- Up to \$2 million for the Coldwater River Flood Mitigation – Public Works to Canford Avenue Dike through the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund's Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation funding stream.
- Up to \$2 million for the Voght Street to Garcia Street Flood Mitigation Works through the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund's Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation stream.
- Up to \$1.9 million toward the \$5.8 million Stuqi(x) project through Green Adaptation, Resilience and Disaster Mitigation (ARDM).
- Up to \$0.8 million for foundational work such as hydrotechnical and flood risk assessments, capacity building, and emergency preparedness planning through provincial grants and the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund's Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation stream.

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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: 03/17/2025

Abbotsford/Fraser Valley Recovery - 2021

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- EMCR continues to support communities impacted by the 2021 Atmospheric River Event (ARE) through a community endorsed approach to recovery. Approximately \$35 million in provincial funding was allocated to over 700 affected households in recovery support through the Canadian Red Cross in addition to over 7,000 households that received support with evacuation and response efforts.
- EMCR has provided \$16.85 million in grants for nine flood resiliency and watershed recovery projects in seven Southwest communities, including three First Nations. These funds support disaster recovery works from March 2023 through April 2026.
- As of February 2025, the Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) program paid out \$33 million to over 1,000 homeowners, tenants, small business owners, farm owners, and charitable organizations impacted by 2021 ARE across the province.
- The Province is currently working through a collaborative framework with Semá:th, Matsqui and Leq'á:mel First Nations, the City of Abbotsford and the City of Chilliwack to develop a flood-mitigation plan for the Sumas River watershed.

Background:

- The ARE in November 2021 caused floods and landslides with unprecedented impacts to critical infrastructure such as roads and bridges, extensive losses to the agricultural sector, the evacuation of over 17,000 people, and the tragic loss of five lives. Damage was most acute in the Fraser Valley and the Southern Interior.
- Recovery is community endorsed. As a community develops its recovery plan, EMCR works closely with staff to identify how activities may be funded existing government programs, non-governmental organizations, and other funding channels.
- The Canadian Red Cross (CRC) has expended all the provincial funding that has been provided to date (\$15 million) Intergovernmental Communications . The CRC confirmed that there will be no disruption of services to impacted people.
- Impacted communities have transitioned from short-term recovery actions to longer term recovery and resiliency planning with a focus on mitigation and climate readiness. This includes:

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- Updated flood mapping
- Developing comprehensive flood mitigation plans
- Supporting regional partnerships focused on watershed and flood resiliency strategies
- Developing medium and long-term multi-sectoral recovery plans.

Funding Tables:

Abbotsford and Sumas Prairie

The Province has committed approximately \$225 million to support flood recovery and resiliency in the Sumas Prairie. All DFA Projects for Abbotsford ARE 2021 • Total projects: 31 • Sum of approved costs: \$12.7M • Expenses paid out to communities to date: \$3.4M			Program
\$76M Status: Ongoing	Significant upgrades to the Barrowtown Pump Station.	EMCR	EMCR recovery funding
\$1.8M Status: Completed	Repairs to the Sumas Dike. Paid out 90%: \$1.65M (Approved budget at 100%: \$1.8M)	EMCR	DFA
\$5.7M Status: Under construction	Repairs to Lakemount Bridge. Approved budget at 100%: \$5.77M Claim deadline: 2025-04-17	EMCR	DFA
\$3.2M Status: Ongoing	Design work and construction of a flood wall to protect the Barrowtown Pump Station and electrical systems	EMCR	MUNI year-end funding
\$5.28M Status: Ongoing	Nine flood protection repair projects in Abbotsford, including repairing slope erosion at locations such as Matsqui Prairie-McClennan Creek, Ivy Court, Latimer Road and Ash Street.	EMCR	MUNI year-end funding
\$5.23M Status: 51% complete	Additional 29 approved projects funded through Disaster Financial Assistance, including the sewer main access road, road repairs, and water main construction. Under construction: 14 projects: • Approved budget: \$3.3M Completed and paid out: 15 projects: • Total paid out (at 90%): \$1.75M	EMCR	DFA
\$62M Status: Ongoing	A new well and water-treatment system to ensure reliable, resilient water service for more than 165,000 people in the Sumas Prairie.	MUNI	

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\$13.4M Status: Completed	Funding to Abbotsford homeowners, tenants, small businesses, charitable organizations and farms through Disaster Financial Assistance so that they could recover their losses and undertake necessary repairs following the disaster.	EMCR	Private DFA
\$6.85M Status: Completed	Interim housing for people and other initial costs related to flood recovery.	MUNI	
\$4.13M Status: Ongoing	Sumas River Watershed Flood Mitigation Planning multi-government table and capacity funding for Semá:th First Nation and Leq'a:mel First Nation.	EMCR	EMCR recovery funding
\$0.15M Status: Ongoing	Supporting a High-Water Warning System with cameras and sensors to track real-time data to assist in flood identification and response. \$75,000 disbursed	EMCR	CEPF DRR-CA
\$14.8M Status: Ongoing	Clayburn Creek – removing sediment and works to prevent future bank erosion and loss of land. Projected completion: March 2027	ENV	Flood Debris Management
\$11.9M Status: Ongoing	Sumas River and Canal – removing sediment from the river and canal channels, repairing riverbanks, and erosion protections. Projected Completion: Dec. 2025	ENV	Flood Debris Management
\$3.8M Status: Completed, monitoring period	Vedder Canal – removing sediment to improve river flow and repairing riverbanks damaged by the November 2021 flooding.	ENV	Flood Debris Management

Contact: Naomi Nichol Recovery, Policy and Planning Branch Disaster Recovery Division	Mobile: 778 698-8277
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 21, 2025

Village of Lions Bay/December 2024 Hwy 99 Landslide

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR), along with Metro Vancouver Regional District, supported the Lions Bay Emergency Operations Centre to support response efforts following the landslide.
- Emergency Support Services (ESS) were provided to people impacted by the slide, including group lodging and hotel accommodation for people who were stranded.
- EMCR continues to coordinate efforts across the Ministries of Transportation and Transit (MOTT), Water Lands and Resource Stewardship (WLRS), and Forests (FOR) to support the Village of Lions Bay (VoLB) in their work to assess and address any remaining danger to residents in the area.
- Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) was not declared for this event. DFA is intended to cover losses caused by disasters that are not insurable and have widespread impact on the community. The physical damage caused by the landslide in the Lions Bay area is isolated to two properties and one bridge and does not meet the criteria for declaring an event eligible to receive DFA.

Background:

- On the morning of December 14, 2024, a landslide originating in the Battani Creek drainage system in the VoLB swept across the Sea to Sky Highway. One house was destroyed, resulting in the death of two occupants, and another house sustained minor damage to a deck post. Public infrastructure damage included damage to a bridge and closure of Hwy 99, stranding travelers on both sides of the slide.
- Lions Bay Search and Rescue assisted with response operations, conducting an aerial assessment of the area to assist Heavy Urban Search and Rescue (HUSAR) and evacuating residents who were isolated due to the landslide.
- On December 15, 2024, the VoLB declared a State of Local Emergency (SOLE) with two properties under an Evacuation Order awaiting a geotechnical report to confirm whether it was safe to return to the properties.
- On January 7, 2025, the Village of Lions Bay rescinded the Evacuation Order for the two properties. Seven properties remain on Evacuation Alert to date.

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- EMCR Provincial Recovery met with community and assisted with arranging Disaster Psychosocial Support Team services through the Public Health Service Authority.

● Advice/Recommendations

- EMCR continues to coordinate a cross-ministry and agency table with community officials to assess and address any remaining danger to residents.
- As of March 21, 2025, the SOLE has been extended to April 6, 2025.

Key Facts and Figures:

- EMCR Response supported costs associated with post-landslide debris clean up through approving Expenditure Authorization Forms. As of March 21, 2025, \$852,275 of response costs incurred by VoLB have been approved for reimbursement, encompassing expenses that included helicopter reconnaissance, debris removal, HUSAR deployment, traffic control, security, incremental staffing and EOC contractor staffing, equipment rental, geotechnical assessments, and tree hazard assessment.

Contact: Stephen Piers Recovery, Policy and Planning Disaster Recovery Division Jeff Owens Regional Manager, Southwest Region Response Division	Government Financial Mobile: Information Mobile: 778-886-1938
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 27, 2025

Chilcotin River Landslide

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- The Chilcotin River Landslide event resulted in a complex emergency response and recovery for the Province.
- The landslide represented the first time that ministry hazard assignments were operationalized under the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* (EDMA). This meant that the Ministry of Water, Lands, and Resource Stewardship (WLRS) led the response efforts while EMCR provided traditional support such as resource coordination.
- The Stó:lō Syélt Xéssel Fraser River Debris Trap (SSXFRDT) facility, located on the Fraser River near Hope, was able to capture 50% of the debris (equivalent to 30,000 m²), thought to be enough to overtop a commercial passenger bus and cover six football fields. Without the SSXFRDT, the damaging debris would have been transported to the lower reaches of the Fraser River and Salish Sea where it would have posed a significant risk to public safety and critical infrastructure.
- The Disaster Recovery Framework (DRF) was updated in May 2024 and serves as the strategic government framework for organizing and mobilizing ministries to assist with disaster recovery. The Chilcotin River Landslide represented the first major event where the DRF was implemented to efficiently coordinate recovery across multiple sectors, stakeholders and local governments.
- The Province regularly seeks to understand lessons learned following emergencies or disasters to strengthen preparedness, response, and recovery for future events.
- The ministry is aware of the external after-action reviews completed by Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) and the Cariboo Regional District regarding the Chilcotin River Landslide event. The ministry will consider the findings of these external reviews alongside our own lessons learned as we continue to strengthen the ways the Province prepares for and responds to future emergencies.

Background:

- At 11pm on July 30, 2024, a large landslide in Farwell Canyon along the Chilcotin River completely blocked the river, disrupting fishing sites for the Tsilhqot'in and Secwepemc peoples, obstructing fish passage and impacting vital cultural heritage areas. The landslide was approximately 22 km upstream from the Farwell Canyon Bridge and was estimated to be roughly 1,000 m in length, 600 m in width, and 30 m in depth.

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- When the landslide occurred on July 31, 2024, staff from EMCR, WLRS, BCWS, and other ministries responded quickly to engage First Nations, local governments, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and external specialists in various fields to gather data and respond to the landslide event in a timely and effective manner.
- Impacted communities and First Nations were invited and participated throughout the Chilcotin River landslide response in regular coordination calls, direct discussions with the EMCR, WLRS, and information sessions with provincial landslide and water management experts.
- On August 19, 2024, under the leadership of WLRS, Esk'etenc, Williams Lake First Nation (WLFN), and the Province of British Columbia formalized their commitment to work in partnership on a government-to-government basis by signing a Letter of Understanding (LOU) which included both response and recovery commitments.
- Multiple tables and working groups were stood up following DRF activation, such as the Environmental Sector Working Group, WLFN and T̓ilhqot'in National Government (TNG) Community Recovery Tables, and the WLFN Archaeology Technical Table. The LOU was supported through the Senior Officials Table (with senior level executive from WLRS, FOR, ENV and EMCR) and TNG's Emergency Salmon Task Force (attended by WLRS).
- The geographic area impacted by the landslide event, and subsequent risk of flooding, spanned multiple regions along approximately 440km of the Chilcotin and Fraser River systems, from the Farwell Canyon, near Hanceville, to the Lower Mainland. Due to ongoing land instability, WLRS invoked the *Land Act* to restrict access from September 18, 2024, to January 31, 2025.
- The 2024 Chilcotin River Landslide Breach Preliminary Debris Risk Assessment (November 2024) indicated that the landslide caused significant debris, sediment movement, erosion, and bank stability issues both upstream and downstream. The preliminary risk assessment shows low risks to public safety, river capacity, and infrastructure, with very low environmental risk.
- The Farwell Canyon Rockslide Assessment (BGC Engineering, December 16, 2024) reported high risks of sudden rock falls and slides, making fishing and camping in the area strongly discouraged; the access trail has moderate safety risks; and the downstream terrace is at high risk of wave inundation. Stabilization of the rockslide is unlikely, and while large landslide dams are improbable, further risk assessment may be needed for fish passage.

Financial Overview

- The SSXFRDT operations successfully prevented and mitigated millions of dollars in damages to the cleanup, repair and maintenance of boats, docks, bridges, riverfront infrastructure and wetland habitat by capturing in a 24-hour period a similar amount for debris as the facility typically traps in one year.

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- As of March 1, 2025, the Province has committed \$1.576M of response-related costs:
 - Ministry Expenditure Authorization Forms: \$0.763M
 - PECC and PREOC –: \$0.146M
 - Local Authority Costs (EOC and EAF): \$0.667M
 - Local Government Costs (EOC and EAF): \$0.059M
 - First Nation Costs (EOC and EAF): \$0.608M
 - Response Division approved \$0.090M for a Community Recovery Manager for TNG.

EMCR committed approximately \$660K to support food security, archaeology, community recovery, and signage for Nations.			
Funding Approved	Funding Paid	Purpose of Funding	Program
\$82K	\$70K	TNG was approved funds for communities to obtain fish as food: \$28,600 to Tsideldel, \$41,615 to Tl'etinqox.	Community Recovery
\$90K	\$0	TNG was approved funding to hire a Community Recovery Manager.	Regional Operations
\$400K	\$379K	Williams Lake First Nation was approved funding to support urgent archaeology recovery work.	Community Recovery
\$80K	\$0	Williams Lake First Nation was provided approval to funds to obtain fish for food security.	Community Recovery
\$8K	\$0	Funding for accompanying archaeology assessment for the installation of public safety signage in Farwell Canyon. The signage was paid for by WLRS.	Community Recovery

Contact: Camellia Bhatti Community Recovery Recovery Policy and Planning	Mobile: Government Financial Information
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: 19 March 2025

Atmospheric River Event – October 2024

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- Response Division staff worked with the numerous communities across the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island who were impacted by this event. Funding was approved for community staffing, equipment rentals, security, contractors and a recovery manager.
- Emergency Support Services was provided to approximately 35 people who were either impacted or evacuated. A total of \$0.224M was provided in referrals and e-transfers.
- EMCR continues to provide dedicated funding and support to communities and private residents impacted by this event.
- EMCR has provided more than \$1.000M through Expenditure Authorizations to enable impacted local authorities in communities with recovery activities and coordination.
- Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) has been made available for eleven (11) communities in the southwest region who indicated that they had significant and uninsurable impacts.

Background:

- From October 18-20, 2024, an atmospheric river made landfall, impacting the lower mainland and Vancouver Island regions with the most significant impacts reported by communities on the north shore of Burrard Inlet and Coquitlam.
- Tragically, four fatalities occurred as a result of the storm event, including two on Vancouver Island near Bamfield and two in Coquitlam.
- The District of North Vancouver declared States of Local Emergency (SOLEs) for Cove Creek from October 20 to 24, 2024, and for Panorama Drive from October 26 to November 7, 2024
- EMCR Response and Recovery staff met with representatives from all impacted communities. From November 12 to 21, 2024, EMCR Recovery staff deployed into community and supported North Shore Emergency Management in transitioning from response to early recovery.
- The following 11 communities were approved for Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) in the private and/or public sector.

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Community	Private Sector	Public Sector
Village of Anmore	✓	✓
City of Coquitlam	✓	✓
City of Maple Ridge	✓	
City of North Vancouver	✓	✓
City of Port Coquitlam	✓	✓
City of Port Moody	✓	✓
City of Surrey	✓	✓
District of North Vancouver	✓	✓
District of West Vancouver	✓	✓
Squamish First Nation	✓	✓
Township of Langley	✓	

Key Facts and Figures:

- As of March 14, 2025, \$1.050M has been approved in Expense Authorization by EMCR Response staff to support the affected communities respond and make immediate from the event.
- Approvals included incremental staffing, emergency repairs, equipment rentals, security, contractors, recovery manager, debris removal, and After-Action Review.
- As of March 17, 2025, DFA has received 95 applications from private sector applicants and 8 applications from local governments. Note that local government applications may include numerous infrastructure projects.

Contact: Stephen Piers Provincial Recovery Recovery, Policy, Planning & Appeals Chrissy Oliver Director, Disaster Financial Assistance Recovery Funding Branch	Mobile: Government Financial Information Mobile: Government Financial Information
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 24, 2025

Disaster Financial Assistance (Public and Private Sectors)

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- The Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) program provides assistance in the aftermath of large-scale, unforeseen disasters that affect individuals and communities who have suffered uninsurable losses. The DFA program is administered by staff in the Recovery Funding Branch of the Disaster Recovery Division.
- Recovery Division staff are currently supporting 39 communities, including 14 First Nations, to provide DFA and support for critical infrastructure projects damaged by previous disaster events.
- Within the past year, Recovery Funding Branch staff closed approximately 200 public infrastructure projects representing over \$21.000M in funding to communities.
- Within the past year Recovery Funding Branch staff have approved 50 infrastructure projects that are currently under construction, totalling over \$10.500M. Of these projects, 19 are within First Nations communities, totalling over \$1.700M.
- There are currently nine (9) active DFA Public events dating back to 2018. In total, 88 community projects are pending approval (awaiting the communities' recovery plan and supporting documentation) and 130 are currently approved and under construction.
 - 2 DFA events have been recently closed with all projects completed and paid out (2017 Freshet and 2017 localized flooding event).
- The 2021 Atmospheric River event remains the single largest event in the DFA program's history. The program received 417 public sector projects representing 52 communities, and 2,298 private sector applications. All private sector applications were completed by January 2024 with over \$33.8000M provided to individuals, families, non-profits, farms and small businesses to assist them in their recovery.
- Recovery Funding Branch staff are currently working to improve program delivery for communities through data-driven solutions. In 2024, a new online portal launched, allowing private applicants to submit and view their applications in real time online. In March 2025, the public sector portal was launched which will allow for streamlining and efficiencies in the application process for local governments and First Nations in any events going forward.

Background:

Eligibility for DFA – Public Sector

- There are two categories of application types within the DFA public sector program: (1) First Nations, and (2) Local Governments.
- Stages of handling an application by the Recovery Funding Branch:
 1. Staff receive notice of intent from the community to seek DFA funding for a declared event
 2. Staff receive completed Infrastructure Cost Recovery Plan (ICRP) from the community
 3. Staff adjudicate ICRPs to confirm project eligibility and approve scope of work (in principle)
 4. Staff work with the community through the 18-month project deadline to complete recovery works
 5. Staff adjudicate claims from community and issues payment for eligible work completed based on requirements outlined in the Compensation and Disaster Financial Assistance Regulation (CDFAR).
- Reasons that a public sector applicant may be found ineligible for reimbursement may include but are not limited to:
 - Expenses for which insurance was reasonably and readily available
 - Infrastructure repairs not considered essential to public safety/welfare
 - Normal operating expenses
 - Temporary works
 - Landscaping projects
 - Enhancements from pre-event functionality
 - Mitigation projects
- Eligible damages can be claimed at 90 percent, or, once recovery costs exceed \$7.00 per capita, can be claimed at 95 percent based on the funding formula outlined in the CDFAR.

Eligibility for DFA – Private Sector

- There are four categories of application types for DFA Private: homeowners and tenants, small businesses, farms and charitable organizations. Each category has specific eligibility criteria, such as meeting the definition of a principal residence or minimum income thresholds for small businesses.
- Eligible damages that exceed the \$0.001M deductible, can be claimed at 80 percent to a maximum of \$0.400M.
- Stages of handling an application by the Recovery Funding Branch:

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1. Staff confirm an applicant's basic eligibility,
 2. Staff refer the file to the provincially-funded evaluator who prepares an estimate of damages recommended for payment under the DFA program, and
 3. Staff make a determination on the application.
- Reasons that an applicant may be found to be ineligible for DFA include land erosion; preexisting damage; damage to non-essential items and insurable damages.

Key Facts and Figures:

Table 1: Summary of all DFA Public Projects *(as of March 17, 2025)*

Project Status	# of projects	% of total projects
Closed	700	76.25%
Approval pending	88	9.59%
Approved and under construction	130	14.16%
Total	918	100%

Table 2: DFA Public Events Paid Out and Approved *(as of March 17, 2025)*

Event Name	\$ paid out (millions)	Additional \$ approved (millions)
2018 Freshet*	\$4.900	\$4.200
DFA General 18/19	\$1.700	\$0
DFA General 19/20	\$1.800	\$1.700
DFA General 20/21	\$6.000	\$1.600
2021 Fire Season*	\$0.134	\$0.114
2021 Atmospheric River*	\$20.000	\$17.500
DFA General 21/22	\$0.437	\$0.312
2023 Freshet*	\$0.822	\$0.778
2023 Fire Season*	\$0.353	\$1.300
2024 October Storm*	-	-
Total	\$36.146	\$27.504

*Event is Federally cost-shared through Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangement (DFAA)

Table 3 – Atmospheric River 2021 DFA Projects by Region and Community

Community	Projects Under Construction	Projects Completed	Projects Pending Approval	Total Approved (\$ millions)	Total Paid Out to Community (\$ millions)
Central Region (CTL)					
Lower Nicola Indian Band	2		1	0.200	0
City of Merritt	4	19	1	12.300	11.300
Nooaitch Indian Band			1	0	0
Town of Princeton	3		7	0	0
Shackan Indian Band			3	0	0
CTL Total	9	19	13	\$12.500	\$11.300
Southwest Region (SWE)					
City of Abbotsford	15	16	3	12.400	3.400
Chawathil First Nation		1		0.020	0.020
City of Chilliwack	26	12	12	5.100	0.310
Cultus Lake Park Board		6		0.190	0.190
City of Delta		1	1	0.140	0.140
Fraser Valley Regional District	1	9	2	0.300	0.150
District of Hope		3		0.150	0.150
Katzie First Nation	1			0.070	0
City of Langley		1		0.050	0.050
Township of Langley		3	9	0.040	0.040
Lytton First Nation			3	0	0
Matsqui First Nation		1		0.400	0.400
City of Mission		1		1.300	1.320
Seabird Island Band	2			0.100	0
Semiahmoo First Nation			1	0	0
District of Squamish		1		0.300	0.330
Sumas First Nation		2		0.020	0.020
City of Surrey		2		1.200	1.200
Tzeachten First Nation		1		0.020	0.020
SWE Total	45	60	31	\$21.800	\$7.740
Island Region (VI)					
Cowichan Tribes		1		0.010	0.010
Cowichan Valley Regional District	2		3	0.990	0
Halalt First Nation		1		0.100	0.100
Regional District of Nanaimo		1		0.010	0.010
District of North Cowichan		2		0.120	0.120
District of North Saanich		1	1	1.600	0.500
Shawnigan Improvement District		1		0.020	0.020
District of Sooke		1		0.010	0.010
Sunshine Coast Regional District		6	2	0.110	0.110
VI Total	2	14	6	\$2.970	\$0.880
Grand Total	56	93	50	\$37.270	\$19.920

Summary of DFA Public Statistics by Active Event

- 2018 Freshet
 - Number Communities supported: 18
 - Number of Projects approved and under construction: 15
 - Number of projects completed: 46
 - Total funding approved: \$9.100M
 - Total paid out: \$4.900M
- 2021 Atmospheric River (See Table 1 for additional breakdowns by community)
 - Number Communities supported: 33
 - Number of Projects approved and under construction: 56
 - Number of projects completed: 93
 - Total funding approved: \$37.500M
 - Total paid out: \$20.00M
- 2021 Fire Season
 - Number Communities supported: 9
 - Number of Projects approved and under construction: 2
 - Number of projects completed: 10
 - Total funding approved: \$0.248M
 - Total paid out: \$0.134M
- 2023 Fire Season
 - Number Communities supported: 7
 - Number of Projects approved and under construction: 16
 - Number of projects completed: 14
 - Total funding approved: \$1.600M
 - Total paid out: \$0.353M
- 2023 Freshet
 - Number Communities supported: 3
 - Number of Projects approved and under construction: 14
 - Number of projects completed: 4
 - Total funding approved: \$1.600M
 - Total paid out: \$0.822M
- DFA General Events (Localized Provincial Events)
 - 2018/19
 - Number Communities supported: 12
 - Number of Projects approved and under construction: 5
 - Number of projects completed: 63
 - Total funding approved: \$1.700M
 - Total paid out: \$1.700M
 - 2019/20

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- Number Communities supported: 14
 - Number of Projects approved and under construction: 2
 - Number of projects completed: 64
- Total funding approved: \$3.500M
 - Total paid out: \$1.800M
- 2020/21
 - Number Communities supported: 22
 - Number of Projects approved and under construction: 22
 - Number of projects completed: 54
 - Total funding approved: 7.600M
 - Total paid out: 6.000M
- 2021/22
 - Number Communities supported: 1
 - Number of Projects approved and under construction: 1
 - Number of projects completed: 1
 - Total funding approved: \$0.750M
 - Total paid out: \$0.437M

Table 4: October 2024 Storm DFA Private Application Statistics (*as of March 17, 2025*)

Applications in Progress	94
Applications closed with payment (eligible)	4
Applications closed without payment (ineligible or withdrawn)	14
TOTAL applications received	112

Contact: Ardice Todosichuk Recovery Funding Branch Disaster Recovery Division	Mobile: 250-978-9767
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 17, 2025

National Flood Insurance Program

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- Overland flood insurance for residential properties is widely available throughout B.C., however it remains limited – and may be unavailable – for approximately 10% of properties across Canada that are at highest risk of flooding.
- Although overland flood coverage is becoming more common, premiums for high-risk properties can be prohibitive and coverage can be limited by low caps and high deductibles.
- The 2024 federal Fall Economic Statement affirmed Canada’s commitment to stand up a National Flood Insurance Program that would provide low-cost insurance to all properties in B.C.
- In January 2025, Public Safety Canada engaged with Provinces and Territories through the Senior Officials Responsible for Emergency Management Working Group on Flood Insurance to develop program options that will inform future financial analysis and cost sharing negotiations with Canada.
- The future of the National Flood Insurance Program is pending the outcome of the upcoming federal election and budget.

Background

National Flood Insurance Program Details

- The proposed program consists of a backstop federal reinsurance product to be delivered through a subsidiary of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and a proposed subsidy to keep costs affordable.
- Canada allocated a total of \$47 million in budgets 2023 and 2024 to stand up the program.

- Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

Confidential

- Timeline for Implementation
 - If the program proceeds, the next step for Public Safety Canada is to conduct a detailed financial analysis of the program to inform negotiations with the Provinces and Territories with the goal of launching a federally backed program in Spring 2027.

Implications for Disaster Financial Assistance

- By ensuring flood insurance is adequate and available for all homeowners, the National Flood Insurance program would reduce the need for DFA for residential property damages.
 - EMCR's DFA program covers a portion of homeowner repair costs arising from large scale events such as flooding where insurance is not reasonably and readily available.
 - Under the National Flood Insurance Program, flooding events would be deemed as an insurable natural hazard for homeowners and would no longer qualify for federal financial assistance under the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements (DFAA) program.
 - DFAA provides federal cost-sharing to provinces and territories for response and recovery costs from large-scale disasters including floods. As of April 1, 2025, the restoration of uninsurable damages to homes is cost-shared up to 70%.

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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 17, 2025

Landslide Policy: DFA Policy, Regional History and Vulnerabilities

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- Climate change has contributed to an elevated risk of landslides in B.C. through increased frequency and severity of wildfires, intense rainfalls such as atmospheric river events (ARE), and extreme heat and cold weather systems.
- If a landslide impacts homes or communities, the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) provides support including Emergency Support Services (ESS) when there is an evacuation, reimbursement for geotechnical hazard assessments, and coordination of subject matter experts from other ministries and agencies to support response and recovery efforts (e.g., Ministry of Water, Lands, and Resource Stewardship (WLRs), Ministry of Forests (FOR), Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT), etc.).
- In some cases, landslide risk may result in homes that are unsafe to inhabit, even though the structure itself did not sustain physical damage. The Compensation and Disaster Financial Assistance Regulation (CDFAR) does not allow Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) to be provided to homeowners if the structure did not sustain physical damage.

Background:

DFA Landslide Policy

- Once a DFA event has been declared, the DFA program assists qualifying applicants who have sustained eligible, essential, and uninsurable losses due to the event.
- The DFA program operates under the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* (EDMA) and the ensuing CDFAR. The regulation does not allow DFA to be provided for homes that did not sustain direct physical damage.
- Following the 2021 ARE, DFA claims were submitted by seven homeowners in the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD) and three homeowners in the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD). The applicants are homeowners of principal residences that did not suffer direct physical damage to the structure yet were deemed unsafe to continue occupying. Subsequent geotechnical reports have confirmed that the homes are no longer safe to inhabit and mitigative works are likely to be cost-prohibitive or ineffective.
- At this time, DFA cannot be provided to these 10 properties because the homes did not sustain physical damage (which is a requirement under the regulation).

Advice/Recommendations

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Vancouver Island Coastal (VIC) Region History and Vulnerabilities

City of Campbell River

- Due to several strong AREs, the City of Campbell River has had 3 significant landslides to date between 2022 and 2023. One impacted a hotel, while the other two impacted separate apartment complexes along elevated banks. States of Local Emergency (SOLEs) were declared for initial and adjacent properties, and geotechnical engineer reports were completed.

Highway 4

- In June 2023, a wildfire caused slope instability along the Cameron Lake Bluffs section of Highway 4. The Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT) set up rock-fall mitigation barriers and fencing, and also completed slope stabilization works.
- This stretch of the highway continues to be impacted by temporary closures due to rockslides resulting from heavy rainfall, high winds, and unstable slopes.
- Temporary closures with no alternative detour route continue to impact local Indigenous Governing Bodies (IGBs) and Local Authorities.
- The Regional District of Nanaimo and Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District are working with the EMCR Recovery team, Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation (JEDI), and MOTT to limit disruptions during future closures.

Village of Zeballos

- In 2018, a wildfire burned across the slope above the majority of the village. Significant parts of the village were evacuated for an extended duration due to slope stability concerns.
- Two studies were done on the slope stability post-wildfire, with the results indicating that the threat of landslide or debris torrent had abated sufficiently.
- Tree failures and minor rockfalls continue to be a concern for the residents, particularly over their main tsunami evacuation route.

Comox Valley Regional District

- In 2024, several fissures were noted in the Trent/Bloedel area.
- EMCR funded a geotechnical hazard assessment of the area, but no risk of significant slope failure was found.

Southwest (SWE) Region History and Vulnerabilities

- The SWE region has longstanding, historical landslide risks with the potential for catastrophic impacts in the Pemberton Valley, Squamish Valley, and Chilliwack River Valley (CRV).
- EMCR Regional Office representatives support several steering committees that provide feedback and guidance for consideration in the monitoring and study of risk for landslides in these areas. Representation on these committees includes Local Authorities, First Nations, FOR, EMCR, WLRS, and qualified professionals.

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- Since 2021, the Province has approved funding for preliminary geotechnical studies in the Pemberton Valley, Sumas Mountain, and CRV, for a combined total nearing \$200,000. In addition, the Province has approved funding of large-scale public safety studies for the Pemberton Valley and CRV that collectively totaled approximately \$750,000.

Pemberton and Squamish Valleys

- There are several locations in the Pemberton Valley and Squamish Valley where large-scale landslides pose the risk of catastrophic impact. Additionally, the 2021 ARE resulted in landslides that displaced a number of residences.
- A landslide event on Mount Meager or Mount Currie has the potential to cause catastrophic impacts to the Village of Pemberton and Lil'wat First Nation, either through the damming of Lillooet River resulting in overland flooding or by directly sliding into homes. There has been an increased risk in these locations following the 2021 Heat Dome event due to severe glacier ice melt. Both sites are monitored by Simon Fraser University (SFU), with steering committee oversight.
- A landslide event on Mount Cayley has the potential to cause catastrophic impacts to the Squamish Valley, District of Squamish, and Squamish Nation by damming the Squamish River and causing overland flooding. Mount Cayley is monitored by SFU, with steering committee oversight.
- A landslide event occurred at Reid Road (Jason Creek) during the 2021 ARE, initially impacting eight homes. SOLE and Evacuation Order issued by the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) remain active for one property due to imminent landslide risk. A public safety study coordinated by SLRD and approved by EMCR for up to \$250,000 was completed in late 2023, confirming that the imminent risk to one property remains. Further geotechnical assessment of the area was provincially funded following reports of falling debris and excessively turbid water due to an ARE in January 2024, with results indicating no additional properties are currently at an unacceptable level of risk.
- A landslide risk continues to be present in the Lillooet Lakes Estates area, with SLRD issuing a Do Not Occupy recommendation in 2014. No evacuation order is currently in place. SLRD has been working on mitigation and funding options to support local residents.

Chilliwack River Valley (CRV)

- The CRV is one of the areas most prone to landslide risk in the region during severe rain events. Notable landslides in recent years have been in the Chilliwack Lake Road area and Soowahlie First Nation's emergency egress route, Sweltzer Creek Crescent.

Fraser Canyon

- In the Fraser Canyon, as a result of the 2023 Kookipi Creek wildfire, several parts of the Nahatlatch Forest Service Road and nearby private properties were identified as posing moderate, high, and very high likelihood of landslide hazard. Regional EMCR staff have been working with FOR to ensure adequate signage and communications are in place.

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Metro Vancouver

- The October 2024 ARE significantly impacted several communities in the SWE region, generating debris flow and landslide impacts in the District of North Vancouver, District of West Vancouver, and City of Coquitlam, with the Coquitlam slide resulting in one fatality. Reimbursement of debris removal costs and road infrastructure repair for this event currently stand at \$550,000, with other costs still under consideration.

Village of Lions Bay

- In December 2024, a landslide originating from Battani Creek in the Village of Lions Bay swept across the Sea to Sky Highway. The landslide destroyed a house, resulting in the death of two occupants. Additional damage included a second home with minor damage to a deck post and damage to a public bridge. A SOLE was declared the following day and has been extended until at April 6, 2025.
- Following the December 2024 event, a public safety study in Lions Bay is being scoped, with initial cost estimates ranging from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

Southeast (SEA) Region History and Vulnerabilities

- Elevated risks of debris flow/slides in significant burn scars from 2024 wildfires, particularly around the area of the Argenta Creek and Slocan Lake wildfires.
- EMCR has supported the Village of Slocan with reimbursement for geotechnical reviews surrounding their water intake.

Central (CTL) Region History and Vulnerabilities

- November 2021 ARE debris flows significantly impacted the Highway 8 corridor.
- Several areas are prone to rockfall, Highway 3 (Keremeos/Similkameen River), Fraser Canyon (Lytton to Lillooet), and Nicola River Valley (Highway 8). Rockfall events are typically along highway corridors and are managed by MOTT.
- In 2023, there was a rockfall event impacting Keremeos and the Lower Nicola Indian Band. EMCR supported the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen and the Lower Nicola Indian Band with reimbursement of costs and geotechnical hazard assessments.
- Elevated risks of debris flow/slides in significant burn scars from 2023 and 2024 wildfires, particularly where they overlap with steep creeks.

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Northeast (NEA) Region History and Vulnerabilities

Cariboo Regional District (CRD)

- The Cariboo region remains vulnerable to accelerated land movement in slow-moving landslides, potentially dramatically impacting residents who have lost their primary residence with no recourse through insurance.
- The CRD has an ongoing SOLE that supports two evacuation orders for two uninhabitable private properties on 702 and 718 Maple Drive near the City of Quesnel. EMCR and the CRD are actively engaged in discussions to determine the next steps for resolving the SOLE and maintaining public safety, including the use of tools (e.g., declaration of a Local Recovery Period).

Terra Ridge

- In September 2023, the City of Williams Lake became aware of further impacts caused by the Hodgson-Dog Creek-Terra Ridge Slide Complex, a large, historic slow-moving landslide that continues to impact both the City of Williams Lake and the CRD.
- A SOLE was declared on September 29, 2023, for the Terra Ridge open land strata due to landslide impacts. An evacuation order was issued for four units and the entire Strata was put on evacuation alert.
- The City of Williams Lake cancelled the SOLE on April 10, 2024, and issued “Do Not Occupy” orders for the 4 units instead.
- Ongoing structural and geotechnical assessment reports conducted by the City of Williams Lake will inform their next steps; a draft report has been received by the City of Williams Lake. Once the final report is complete, EMCR and the City of Williams Lake will discuss next steps.
- The Province continues to support the collaborative development of climate-resilient, long-term options for mitigating the impact of the slide complex with representatives from MOTT, EMCR, FOR, HMA, City of Williams Lake, Williams Lake First Nation, and the CRD.
- MOTT is conducting a multi year in-depth study of the Hodgson Slide and coordinates community meetings twice a year, in the spring and fall, for residents, elected officials and the general public to disseminate findings and recommendations on slide management. The last meeting was held in the fall of 2024.

Chilcotin Landslide

- On July 31, 2024, a significant landslide occurred, blocking the Chilcotin River (Tsilhqox/Pesxenmekwe) 28km upstream from the Chilcotin and Fraser River confluence. The dam created by the slide was breached on August 5, 2024. While the landslide resulted in minimal public safety risk, fish migration was temporarily blocked, archaeological sites were impacted, and significant amounts of debris and sediment were carried downstream.

Northwest (NWE) Region History and Vulnerabilities

- Slopes along Highway 51 between Telegraph Creek and Dease Lake are prone to landslides.

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- The Lachmach Forest Service Road is at risk of landslides, and one occurred recently that resulted in recreationalists becoming isolated. It is an area that Regional Operations monitors closely when high precipitation events are forecasted.

City of Terrace

- In April 2023 the City of Terrace completed a \$2.5 million slope stability project to address infrastructure issues associated with a landslide on Kitsumkalum River, supported through *Emergency Program Act* Funding.
- EMCR continues to work with the City on additional off-setting work required by Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). The ministry is expecting to consider additional work under the response framework of EDMA.

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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 17, 2025

Insurance Coverage Across BC

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- Flooding and wildfires are British Columbia's costliest natural disasters, and damages continue to increase as a result of climate change, demographic shifts, and further development in high-risk flood and wildfire areas.
- Disaster risk management is a shared responsibility, and insurance coverage is one risk mitigation measure that should be taken by all.
- Home and business insurance is generally available for most properties in B.C. Individuals should work with insurance brokers to determine the best options available based on their risk exposure and tolerance.
- All standard homeowner and tenant insurance policies cover damage caused by fires, including wildfire, and usually provide coverage for alternative living arrangements that help with the cost of evacuations.
- Approximately 10% of residential properties in B.C. may not be able to find flood insurance as they are in high-risk flooding areas.
- EMCR along with the Ministry of Finance is participating in Public Safety Canada's Provincial and Territorial engagement process on a National Flood Insurance Program which aims to ensure that homeowners in areas at high risk of flooding have access to adequate flood insurance.

Background:

- Coverage and Cost of Home Insurance:
 - Home insurance coverage includes homeowner, condo/strata, and tenant or renters insurance. Home insurance policies offer coverage for named perils, except those excluded, or a combination of both including coverage for building, contents and alternative living arrangements.
 - Standard home insurance policies, inclusive of disaster events such as wildfires, wind and hail, are generally available for all properties in B.C.
 - Overland flood and earthquake risks are not included in standard home insurance policies but are available as add-ons.
 - Landslides are not insurable.
 - Mortgages require homeowners to have standard homeowner insurance. Canada census data show 58% of owner-occupied households in B.C. had mortgages in 2021 and can be assumed to have standard insurance.

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- Factors that affect home insurance premiums include the value of the structure as well as proximity to hazards.
- Regional factors which affect the cost of both standard and optional insurance include whether an area is in a flood plain or has previously experienced catastrophic flooding, or whether an area is prone to forest fire.
- Homeowners that take precautions or invest in mitigation may receive discounts on their premiums.
- We continue to work with partners like the Insurance Bureau of Canada to better assist people having difficulties finding coverage by assessing their situation and providing options.
- Home Insurance Coverage and Wildfire Risk
 - Insurance Bureau of Canada has confirmed that wildfire is included in standard home insurance policies and that living in a rural or remote area will not preclude someone from getting coverage., though premiums for remote properties will increase if they are in areas prone to wildfire, or if there is reduced access to fire fighting infrastructure and equipment.
 - During wildfires, insurance companies may initiate temporary restrictions on the sale of new homeowner policies in areas of imminent threat. Insurers have different restrictions, so contacting several insurance providers can be helpful in finding coverage.
 - Renewals of existing policies continue to take place, regardless of the wildfire threat.
 - Home buyers have several options for addressing insurance requirements during an active wildfire including:
 - adding a conditional "subject to property insurance" clause to an offer;
 - delaying the possession date until the wildfire threat passes and coverage can be placed on the policy; and
 - adding the new home to an existing policy instead of trying to secure a new insurance policy.
 - In 2024, BC Financial Services Authority (BCFSA) introduced a standard clause that people can add to real estate contracts to get an extension on closing dates when there's an active wildfire.
 - The Province is not aware of any private insurance company leaving the B.C. market due to wildfires, though EMCR is working with the Ministry of Finance and BCFSA to understand how the insurance landscape may be changing in view of increasingly large wildland urban interface fires.
- Insurance and Public Assets
 - Insurance is generally available for certain types of public assets owned by Indigenous and local governments, although gaps do exist; for example, linear infrastructure such as roads.
 - Municipalities and regional districts may utilize different insurance solutions depending on their context. Solutions may include private market coverage, individual self insurance, or collective self insurance such as the Municipal

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Insurance Association of BC which is a self-insurance risk pooling program established by the Union of BC Municipalities.

- Insurance Data Limitations
 - There are data limitations on standard and additional insurance coverage availability and uptake in B.C. EMCR is working with the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation, and the BC Financial Services Authority to address this.

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Ministry of
Emergency Management
and Climate Readiness

Response Division

2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 20, 2024

EMERGENCY SUPPORT SERVICES MODERNIZATION

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- The Ministry of Emergency Management & Climate Readiness (EMCR) has worked with key partners including local authorities and Indigenous governing bodies to continue to enhance the Emergency Support Services (ESS) program. This multi-year initiative was undertaken in several phases and was completed in 2024. The program is now structured around a continuous improvement framework and processes.
- Between 2020-2022 the modernization efforts focused on the digitization of the ESS program, including building tools to support the digital registration and processing of evacuee support.
- In response to the 2023 B.C. Ombudsperson recommendations, the advice of the Premier's Expert Task Force on Emergencies, and consultation processes (with the public and Local Authorities and First Nations), modernization recommendations focused on: building surge capacity to better respond to large-scale emergencies, supporting evacuees in a timelier manner, and creating more pathways for evacuees to access the supports they need.
- Previous work to modernize ESS benefited the 2024 wildfire response. The launch of the BC Evacuee Helpline, self-serve option, new shelter allowance, and use of interact e-transfer broadened the pathways and enabled evacuees to choose where to obtain food, clothing, and other support.

Background:

- ESS modernization has included changes to policies, tools, procedures, and responder training which provides for:
 - Interac e-transfer functionality to provide evacuees with greater flexibility in obtaining culturally appropriate emergency supports.
 - The digital submission of invoices which reduces reimbursement times for vendors supplying ESS supports to evacuees.
 - Streamlined training - consolidating four courses into a just-in-time one-day course.
 - Fully digital self-serve evacuee registration via the Evacuee Registration and

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Assistance tool that can be enabled for large-scale evacuation events and allows evacuees to complete a needs assessment, register for supports, and receive support via Interac e-transfer.

- Receiving support through the BC Evacuee Helpline (a Service BC/EMCR partnership to assist evacuees in receiving supports on the phone, via Interac e-transfer).
- A new accommodation allowance replacing the previous billeting amount. Evacuees can now receive \$200 per night for a household of 1-5 people and \$400 per night for a household of 6 or more people.
- Additional in-person support capacity from Service BC which can deploy staff to reception centres to assist evacuees in becoming authenticated through the BC Services Card App and created a profile in the Evacuee Registration and Assistance tool.

Evacuee Registration and Assistance (ERA) Tool

- The ERA tool was piloted as a proof of concept in 2019 and introduced in April 2020 to support physical distancing in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since that time the tool's capabilities have increased to include an Interac e-transfer function to enable direct transfer of funds to eligible evacuees (2022) and fully digital online self-serve which is enabled during larger scale evacuations (2024).
- ERA capabilities empower evacuees by providing more choice in where they shop for clothing, food and incidental supports and reduces reliance on traditional paper-based referrals (sometimes referred to as vouchers). It increases the ability of ESS teams from other communities to provide remote mutual aid support and reduces congestion and line-ups at reception centres.
- ERA allows the program to collect ESS related data used to inform decision making and strategic direction.

Cultural Safety and Humility in Evacuee Care

- EMCR has incorporated cultural safety and humility into the ESS program, including the introduction of policies to better meet the needs of Indigenous communities through First Nations Community Navigators policy and establishment of Cultural Activity Location Supports policy (where evacuees can gather and access cultural care services).
 - First Nation Community Navigators and Cultural Activity Location Supports were used to support communities during wildfire events in 2023 and 2024, primarily in the north and southern interior regions.
- EMCR, in partnership with First Nations Health Authority, offered monthly training sessions for ESS responders in fall 2023 and spring 2024 focused on improving cultural safety and trauma informed care in reception centres.
 - Approximately 500 responders participated in these sessions.

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- In May 2023, changes were made to communication with evacuees based on concerns brought forward by First Nation partners. ESS responders no longer advise evacuees that “alcohol, tobacco and gratuities are not eligible expenses,” as this language was received as culturally unsafe.
- Starting in 2024, members of nations across B.C. were able to register and validate their identity for ERA using their Status Card.

Streamlined Training for New Responders

- In 2021, in response to COVID restrictions, EMCR worked with the Justice Institute of BC to develop and deliver new online training for the ERA tool and to support existing volunteers to become comfortable with the tool.
- This course provides responders with the skills they need to issue evacuee supports using ERA using a trauma informed approach.
- Based on feedback from 2023 wildfire season, we heard that training took too long and time to get responders up and running was too long. A new streamlined version was released in 2024, that significantly reduces the time it takes to train new responders, as well as new volunteers who may present during an emergency event.
- To improve accessibility, the new course is available in three formats: instructor led, in-person; instructor led, online; and, self-paced (no instructor), online.

New Pathways to Access and Receive ESS Support

- In response to the 2023 B.C. Ombudsperson recommendations, the advice of the Premier’s Expert Task Force on Emergencies and consultation process, two additional pathways of support were launched in 2024. These pathways increase the provincial capacity to support large scale events, where fewer evacuees need to visit an in-person reception centre.
- A new partnership in 2024 with the Ministry of Citizen’s Services – Service BC launched the BC Evacuee Helpline where evacuees can phone to receive support to register, complete a needs assessment and be assisted to apply for ESS, as well as receive general evacuation information.
- During the 2024 wildfire season, the BC Evacuee Helpline was available Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30 and scaled to include evenings and weekends when needed during periods of higher activation. The number of calls to register, receive support or assistance with profile or check status of their support during from April 1-November 2024 totaled 1,491.
- A new fully digital online self-serve option allows evacuees to register, complete an automated needs assessment using ERA and receive support. This service was intended to be activated during larger-scale evacuations, when requested by the community but it was also tested in geographically dispersed communities during summer 2024.

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- Interact e-transfer was also enabled as a method for evacuees to receive their support in a timely and efficient manner. Once an evacuee's identity has been validated they are able to receive support via e-transfer regardless of which pathway they use.
- Also in spring 2024, as part of the partnership with Service BC, an ERA pre-registration campaign and mobile outreach was conducted to support individuals in becoming authenticated via the BC Services card app.
 - To bolster the capacity of in-person reception centers, Service BC also deployed in-person supports to activated host communities in 2024, to assist with ERA registration and identity validation using the BC Services card or Status Card.
- The new accommodation allowance was launched in June 2024 to replace the previous billeting rate. This allowance delivers on recommendations to broaden shelter options, increase rates and make it more easily accessible. Evacuees can make their own choices about how best to meet their needs and reduces the administrative burden for evacuees, ESS teams, business and governments.
 - The accommodation allowance rate is \$200 per night (household of 1-5 people) and \$400 per night (household of 6+ people).
- The Emergency Management Booking Portal (EMPB) was a pilot project that was developed in partnership between the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) and the BC Hotel Association (BCHA) and is supported by the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport (TACS).
- The purpose of the EMPB was to help Emergency Support Services (ESS) responders and commercial accommodation operators better coordinate and track commercial accommodation availability for evacuee placement, as well as to streamline administration of booking commercial accommodation.
- The pilot was launched in three host communities, Prince George, Kamloops, and Central Okanagan on June 28, 2024, and officially concluded at the end of the 2024 wildfire season.

Emergency Support Services Program Guide

- ESS program guidance was significantly updated in October 2023 following regional engagement sessions with ESS directors and emergency program coordinators. The Program Guide continues to be a living document and will be updated to reflect current practices and community feedback moving forward.

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Key Facts and Figures:

- 104 Indigenous Governing Bodies and Local Authorities have been onboarded to the ERA tool in 2024 and early 2025. The total number of communities with ESS teams varies and many communities have agreements with neighbouring jurisdictions to support their evacuees when the need arises.

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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 21, 2025

Emergency Support Services (ESS) – 2024 Wildfire Response

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- During the 2024 wildfires, approximately 7480 people were placed on evacuation order. Approximately 21,510 people were placed on evacuation alert.
- In 2024, there were 114 major structures destroyed across the province of which 76 of those properties were residences.
- In May 2024, the evacuation of Fort Nelson was the first and largest event of the wildfire season representing 71% of total evacuees supported.
- Previous work to modernize ESS benefited the 2024 wildfire response. The launch of the BC Evacuee Helpline, self-serve option, new shelter allowance, and use of interact e-transfer broadened the pathways and enabled evacuees to choose where to obtain food, clothing, and other support. Before the introduction of e-transfer capability, evacuees were limited to a voucher-based system from suppliers registered with the ESS program.

Background:

- In 2024, 38 States of Local Emergency and two Band Council Resolutions were issued by:
 - 24 Local Authorities
 - 16 First Nations

Structure Loss

- In 2024, there were 114 major structures destroyed across the province.
 - Of note, a disproportionate number of properties/structures in 2024 had multiple and communal uses therefore, distinct categorization is difficult (e.g., residential vs commercial).
 - 76 of those properties were residences, with likely up to a dozen more properties with residential uses, also destroyed.

Support Pathways

- In response to the 2023 B.C. Ombudsperson recommendations, the advice of the Premier's Expert Task Force on Emergencies and consultation process, two additional pathways of support were launched in 2024. These pathways increase the provincial capacity to support large scale events, where fewer evacuees need to visit an in-person reception centre. The pathways were:

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- A new partnership in 2024 with the Ministry of Citizen's Services – Service BC (SBC), launched the BC Evacuee Helpline where evacuees can phone to receive support to register, complete a needs assessment and be assisted to apply for ESS as well as, receive general evacuation information.
 - During the 2024 wildfire season, the BC Evacuee Helpline was available Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30 and scaled to evenings and weekends when needed during periods of higher activation. The number of calls between April 1 to November 2024 to register, receive support or assistance with profile or check status of support claim totaled 1,491.
- A new fully digital online self-serve option allows evacuees to register, complete an automated needs assessment using the Evacuee Registration and Assistance (ERA) tool and receive support. This service was intended to be activated during larger-scale evacuations when requested by the community but it was also tested in geographically dispersed communities during the summer 2024.
- Also in spring 2024, as part of the partnership with Service BC, an ERA pre-registration campaign and mobile outreach was conducted to support individuals in becoming authenticated via the BC Services card application.

Support Types

- The new accommodation allowance was launched in June 2024 to replace the previous billeting rate. This allowance delivers on recommendations to broaden shelter options, increase rates and make it more easily accessible. This change enables evacuees to make their own choices about how best to meet their needs, and reduces the administrative burden for evacuees, ESS teams, business, and governments.
- The new accommodation allowance rate is \$200 per night (household of 1-5 people) and \$400 per night (household of 6+ people).
- Interact e-transfer was also enabled as a method for evacuees to receive support in a timely and efficient manner. Once an evacuee's identity has been validated, they are able to receive support via e-transfer regardless of which pathway they use.
- In 2024, EMCR worked to ensure group lodging and industrial style camps were available across BC to receive evacuees if needed. This included, but was not limited to partnerships with the following not-for-profit organizations and host communities:

College of New Caledonia (Prince George) – 2024 Wildfires

- Operational Period: July 25, 2024 to August 16, 2024 (this does not match the operational period identified by ESS; this date reflects the facility rental period)
- Maximum Capacity: 123
- Usage: 0
- Estimated Maximum Cost: \$604,726.00
 - College of New Caledonia (Facility Rental): \$27,696.00
 - The Canadian Red Cross Society (Group Lodging Service): \$577,030

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- Actual Cost:
 - College of New Caledonia (Facility Rental): \$0
 - The Canadian Red Cross Society (Group Lodging Service): \$23,769.75

Sunset Prairie Lodge (near Dawson Creek) – 2024 Wildfires

- Operational Period: May 10, 2024 to June 24, 2024
- Maximum Capacity: 200
- Usage: 16 (no evacuees; only provincial staff)
- Estimated Maximum Cost: \$2,160,000.00
 - Black Diamond West Moberly Limited Partnership (Facility/Group Lodging Service): \$2,160,000.00
- Actual Cost:
 - Black Diamond West Moberly Limited Partnership (Facility/Group Lodging Service): \$1,503,920.00

McArthur Island Sports Complex (Kamloops) – 2024 Wildfires

- Operational Period: July 23, 2025 to September 30, 2025 (this date was provided by the ESS Operations Specialist)
- Max. Capacity: 100+
- Usage: 0
- Estimated Maximum Cost: \$376,195
 - The Samaritan's Purse – Canada: \$350,000 (this contract was set up for the duration of the wildfire season to support multiple group lodging facilities; this cost does not represent the estimated amount for this specific group lodging facility, but the maximum amount of the contract)
 - Sunbelt Rentals of Canada, Inc.: \$26,194.90 (this contract was never executed)
- Actual Cost: \$136,770.25
 - The Samaritan's Purse – Canada: \$90,793
 - Sunbelt Rentals of Canada, Inc.: \$45,977

BC Evacuee Hotel Portal

- Hotels using the portal:
 - Central Okanagan 30 hotels
 - Kamloops 45 hotels
 - Prince George 18 Hotels
 - TOTAL: 93 hotels
- Rooms available for ESS booking in portal:
 - Central Okanagan 245 average rooms per night
 - Kamloops 200 average rooms per night
 - Prince George 115 average rooms per night
 - TOTAL: 560 average rooms per night

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Key Facts and Figures:

2024 Wildfire Events

- Wildfires in 2024 resulted in:
 - 38 States of Local Emergency and 2 Band Council Resolutions issued by:
 - 24 Local Authorities
 - 16 First Nations
 - 51 Evacuation Orders affecting:
 - 4190 properties
 - 7480 people
 - 112 Evacuation Alerts affecting
 - 12,590 properties
 - 21,510 people

4 Year Report – ESS Costs for Wildfires

- The number of events in the table below is determined by issuance of a task number. The number of evacuees served by ESS is estimated based on the best available information; however, local authorities and First Nation Governments are not required to report this level of detail to EMCR.
- The table below includes ESS costs per fiscal year under STOB 7918; however, some costs related to hotel bookings and group lodging contracts are not captured.

Fiscal Year	Wildfires by Fiscal Year	Estimated # of people impacted *	Total Cost In Millions
2021/22	518	34,609**	\$18.7
2022/23	449	4,152	\$0.7
2023/24	722	49,430	\$11.7
2024/25***	287	7,480	\$8.3
TOTAL			\$39.4

* Evacuation order estimates do not include populations supported by ESS that were not under evacuation order (e.g., apartment fires).

** Includes November 2021 Atmospheric River (Merritt & Abbotsford) and wildfires (Lytton & Lytton First Nation), reflects increased reliance/competition on hotels due to COVID-19.

*** Amount reported for FY 2024/25 is as of FEB-25 period close.

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4 Year Report - Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (ESS Grants)

- The funding supports eligible applicants to build local capacity to provide ESS through volunteer recruitment, retention, and training, including in-house training, and the purchase of ESS equipment. The grants are administered through Union of BC Municipalities.

Intake	Sum of Approved Funds (in millions)	Number of Projects
Intake 5 – 2021/22	\$1.56	51
Intake 6 – 2022/23	\$2.15	63
Intake 7 – 2023/24	\$4.00	109
Intake 8 – 2024/25	<i>*Final approvals pending for this fiscal</i>	
TOTAL	\$7.71	223

2024 - ESS Wildfire Supports (# of people supported by month)

Month	# of people
May	4,470
Jun	8
Jul	974
Aug	1,347
Total	6,799

2024 - % of Support by Pathway

- Self-serve and the BC Evacuee Helpline were activated for nearly all events in July and August, only a few small events did not have self-service activated. Majority of the activity occurred in August. The major event in Fort Nelson in early 2024 did not include the Self-Serve option nor BC Evacuee Helpline.
- Self-serve was originally intended to support large scale evacuations, but it was tested on evacuations in communities that were geographically dispersed and where evacuees had to travel long distances to reach a reception center.
- As the BC Evacuee Helpline became more well known and evacuees were made more aware of it, it saw increased use in August.
- Overall, use of provincial supports did increase in August due to awareness of the different access pathways.

Pathway	Total %
In Person (reception centers)	38%
BC Evacuee Helpline	24%
Self-Serve	37%

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2024 - ESS Rates

Food		
Restaurants	\$ 53.00	Per person, per day
Groceries	\$ 22.50	Per person, per day
Clothing		
Extreme Winter Weather	\$ 50.00	One time support
Incidentals		
	\$ 50	One time support
Transportation		
Taxi or Bus Pass	N/A	
Gas Card – for extraordinary events that require evacuees to travel over 100 km to nearest Reception Centre		
Lodging		
Shelter Allowance ²	\$200	Per family 1-5
	\$400	Per Family 6+
Hotel Cost - dependent on location & season (based on 2024 rates)	~ \$99-320	Per day

ERA Training

- 104 Indigenous Governing Bodies and Local Authorities have been onboarded to the ERA to date.
- Communities onboarded to ERA in 2024
 - Tâilhqot'in National Government
 - Prince Rupert
 - District of Mackenzie
 - Tsleil-Waututh Nation
 - Maple Ridge
 - Chetwynd
 - Squamish-Lillooet Regional District
 - Kent
 - Metchosin
 - Coquitlam
 - Langley City
 - Cowichan Tribes

Provincial Staff Assistance & Local Mutual Aid (Deployments)

- The EMCR Roving ESS Team is made up of ESS subject matter experts who are employed as 'as and when' government staff. Members are deployed during periods of high activation to support host communities with provincial group lodging, just in time training for volunteers, ERA support and the coordination of ESS.

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- When a local authority provides mutual aid to another, EMCR reimburses the sending local authorities for expenses attributed to the deployment (travel, incidentals, shelter, food, and incremental overtime).
- To bolster the capacity of in-person reception centers, Service BC deployed in-person supports to activated host communities in 2024, to assist with ERA registration and identity validation using the BC Services card or Status Card. SBC In-person supports were provided in:
 - Armstrong
 - Castlegar
 - Dawson Creek
 - Kamloops
 - Kaslo
 - Quesnel
 - Prince George

Type	# of persons deployed	# days deployed (total)
EMCR Staff (FTEs)	9	41
Roving ESS Team Staff	11	95
Local Government Staff (mutual aid)	8	43
Volunteer Responders (mutual aid)	5	34
Remote mutual aid	10 teams	-
SBC	38	-
Total	81	213

Contact: Brittany Decker Executive Director ESS & Public Alerting Response Division Simon Matthews Director, Financial Procurement & Risk Services	Government Mobile: Financial Information Government Mobile: Financial Information
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 25, 2025

Response Preparedness Posture

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- Overall preparedness for emergencies requires an understanding of disaster risk and is a shared responsibility in B.C. among people, all levels of government, public institutions, critical infrastructure providers, not-for-profit agencies, and the private sector.
- EMCR provides preparedness guides for people and businesses as part of a whole-of-society approach to risk reduction and response readiness.
- EMCR maintains year-round hazard and weather monitoring and a robust 24/7/365 response staffing model to ensure constant readiness for emergency response to disasters anywhere in the province, including flooding, wildfire, drought, extreme heat and cold and seismic events.
- EMCR's 24/7/365 response structure includes:
 - PECC (Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre) – facilitates and coordinates the provincial government's overall priorities and objectives in a significant emergency management event.
 - PREOCs (Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centres) – support communities in response actions through several approaches, including cross agency coordination and problem solving, situational awareness/information sharing, leveraging provincial response assets and capabilities, and approval of eligible expenditures for response actions.
- EMCR facilitates regional seasonal preparedness sessions in the spring and the fall of each year for First Nation and Local Authority Emergency Programs, with a focus on ensuring the readiness of all partners for seasonal natural hazards, such as wildfire, flooding, heat and drought.
- EMCR hosts a Provincial Weekly Natural Hazard information call for First Nation and Local Authority Emergency Programs and other ministry staff to provide updates on weather forecasts and other hazards, including presentations from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRS), BC Wildfire Services (BCWS) and other seasonal hazard information (e.g. Avalanche Canada).

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Background:

- Under B.C.'s *Emergency Disaster Management Act*, a local authority is responsible for the direction and control of its emergency response and must establish and maintain an emergency management organization and, once regulations come into force, assess risks within its jurisdiction and prepare a four-phase emergency management plan.
- The *Emergency and Disaster Management Regulation* assigns responsibility for the development of hazard specific risk assessments and four-phase emergency management plans to specific ministries (e.g., assigns responsibility for a wildfire risk assessment and emergency management plan the Ministry of Forests).

Flood Readiness

- Flooding in B.C. is typically driven by freshet snowmelt (during the spring/early summer) and heavy precipitation (possible anytime of year, but most common during fall storms or when occurring at the same time as freshet snowmelt).
- Flooding of coastal areas due to ocean storm surge is also possible in B.C.
- Roles and responsibilities for flood preparedness and response are outlined in the Provincial Flood Emergency Plan.
- The Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship's (WLRS) River Forecast Centre (RFC) produces snowpack and river flow analyses, and issues flood warnings, watches, and advisories to inform emergency managers and the public about current and upcoming flood conditions and risk.
- The Province, First Nations, and Local Authorities use local floodplain mapping in conjunction with RFC information to further refine predictions of flood risk and inform flood readiness activities.
- EMCR pre-positions flood control assets (e.g., sandbags, tiger dams and gabion baskets) in consultation with communities to ensure the assets are ready for rapid deployment to areas with imminent flood threat.
- EMCR is working with communities and other partners to identify and address flooding vulnerabilities created by recent atmospheric river, drought and wildfire events.

Wildfire Readiness

- Mapping and publishing of wildfire risk, as well as readiness for tactical wildfire response (on both crown land and in partnership with First Nation and Local Authority wildfire response plans) is largely undertaken by the BC Wildfire Service (BCWS).
- As the Province's lead agency for coordinating emergency management activities in B.C., EMCR works closely with the BCWS in all aspects of provincial wildfire readiness.

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Extreme Temperature Readiness

- EMCR supports the response to extreme temperature events by First Nations and local authorities, including through the reimbursing eligible costs related to opening and running communities' emergency warming and cooling centres.
- Following the 2021 heat dome event, the Province established the BC Health Effects of Anomalous Temperatures (BC HEAT) Committee, led by the Ministry of Health, and supported by EMCR.
- In 2022, the BC HEAT Committee developed the BC Heat Alert and Response System (BC HARS) that established criteria and response actions for a two-level system of heat alerts (Heat Warnings and Extreme Heat Emergencies).
- The BC HARS outlines key messages for the public and provides recommended actions for public health officials, EMCR, communities and other provincial heat response partners during heat events, including the issuance of emergency intrusive alerts.
- The BC HEAT Committee updates the BC HARS annually, including last year for summer 2024, and is planning to review it again in advance of summer 2025.
- In December 2023, the BC HEAT Committee developed public health and planning recommendations intended to reduce the impacts of exposure to extreme winter weather on people experiencing homelessness in B.C.

Drought

- Roles and responsibilities for drought and water scarcity response are outlined in the BC Drought and Water Scarcity Response Plan (updated in May 2024).
- EMCR can assist First Nations and local authorities with drought response. This may include emergency livestock feed, supporting First Nation and local authorities' drinking water plans – including the transportation of alternate drinking water or the co-ordination of local authority mutual aid, such as traditional foods.
- In summer of 2023, EMCR created and provided First Nations and local governments with a Water Scarcity Response Plan Template that was intended to supplement their local emergency management plans, and a Water Scarcity Emergency Exercise Toolkit.

Seismic Event (Earthquake and Tsunami) Readiness

- EMCR maintains 24/7/365 readiness to launch the Provincial Emergency Notification System (PENS) to notify communities and emergency management partners of tsunami warnings, advisories or watches.

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- PENS includes the use of BC Emergency Alerts to issue intrusive emergency alerts to radio, TV, and cellular devices and notify the public in the event of a tsunami warning.
- EMCR is responsible for maintaining the Provincial Earthquake Immediate Response Strategy, which details the roles, responsibilities and integration of the province and its partners in responding to a catastrophic earthquake.
- In 2024, the federal government launched the Canadian Earthquake Early Warning System (EEW) that provides alerts for potentially harmful earthquakes that are issued via the National Public Alerting System.

Contact: Kevin Dunbar Provincial and Regional Response Operations Response Division	Mobile: Government Financial Information
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 20, 2025

EmergencyInfoBC

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- EmergencyInfoBC (EIBC) is the Provincial source for 24/7/365 public-facing crisis communications and information during active emergency events that impact British Columbia. This information is provided through the EmergencyInfoBC.ca website, including the EmergencyMapBC platform, and amplified on the @EmergencyInfoBC X (formerly Twitter) social media account.
- During active emergency events, EIBC provides verified information from trusted sources directly to people in B.C. This information includes details of the specific emergency hazard being faced, actionable advice to people on how to stay safe and resources that allow the public to better understand the current emergency.
- The EIBC website links to EmergencyMapBC, a mapping platform that gives the public localized information about active emergencies. First Nations and Local Authorities are also able to upload the locations of their Emergency Support Services (ESS) Reception Centres, cooling centres and warming centres to EmergencyMapBC.
- EIBC employs best practices in crisis communications to serve the needs of people experiencing an emergency. These practices dictate that information provided on EmergencyInfoBC channels should be fast, credible, accurate, simple and actionable.
- EIBC is managed by staff from the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) who are ready to respond 24/7 and who partner with other agencies responsible for hazard response and notification in B.C., including the B.C. Wildfire Service, the B.C. River Forecast Centre and Natural Resources Canada.

Background:

- EIBC is prepared to provide crisis communications and information on 52 emergency hazards, including earthquakes, tsunamis, wildfires, flooding, landslides, extreme heat and cold, and other severe weather events.
- EIBC staff can adapt existing procedures in real-time to address new hazards and emergent events with unique needs.
 - This capability was demonstrated in 2024 when information was posted on EmergencyInfoBC that targeted Alberta evacuees from the Jasper wildfire.
- In January 2024, EMCR, in partnership with Government Digital Experience (GDX), launched the first significant improvements to the EIBC website since 2011.

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- The new website adheres to current best practices for crisis communications, including the use of plain language, accessibility standards and design features intended to calm the audience.
- The new website also incorporates a “Share” feature which allows users to share the link to an EmergencyInfoBC page to their social media accounts or messaging applications (to expand EmergencyInfoBC’s audience reach).
- In 2024 the Government of Canada launched an Earthquake Early Warning (EEW) system for the Province of B.C. that automatically sends an emergency alert to wireless devices when it detects a potentially damaging earthquake in their area.
 - EMCR has developed an automated system expected to go live in April 2025 that will create an event page on the EIBC website immediately after an EEW alert is issued, providing critical information about the earthquake and actions people can take to stay safe.
- EMCR is currently exploring the potential to:
 - Add “Subscribe and notify” features to the website that would allow the public and emergency management partners to subscribe to receive email and/or SMS notifications when new information is posted.
 - Increase audience reach by expanding EmergencyInfoBC onto more social media platforms (e.g., Bluesky, Facebook and Instagram).

Key Facts and Figures:

EMERGENCYINFOBC 2024 AUDIENCE REACH		
CHANNEL	EVENT PAGE/POST	VIEWS
WEBSITE	2024 Total (All Event Pages)	1.23 Million
	BC Emergency Alert Issued for Chilcotin Landslide	100,000
	BC Emergency Alert System Test	81,000
	BC Emergency Alert & Evacuation Order for Cariboo Wildfire	45,000
	Travel Information for Jasper Evacuees	26,000
X ACCOUNT	2024 Total (All Posts)	9.35 Million
	Chilcotin Landslide	159,000
	Grand Forks Wildfire	41,000

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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 24, 2025

Public Alerting

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

-
- The Province – through the B.C. Emergency Alert System – has the ability to issue emergency alerts for tsunamis and extreme heat emergencies, as well as for wildfires and floods on behalf of communities. The RCMP can also issue alerts for civil emergencies and Amber Alerts.
- During emergencies, we need to help people be safe and informed by providing urgent and life-saving information as quickly as possible. That’s why B.C. continues to prioritize the delivery of the B.C. Emergency Alert system. In 2024, the following alerts were issued:
 - Wildfire: 7
 - Flood: 5
 - Tsunami: 0
 - Earthquake Early Warning: 1
 - Heat: 0
 - Test: 2 (1 issued by BC and 1 issued by Public Safety Canada)
- In April 2024, in partnership with the federal government through Natural Resources Canada, B.C. launched its Earthquake Early Warning system (EEW). These are automated broadcast intrusive alerts that will direct people in impacted areas to drop, cover, and hold on, and may provide up to tens-of-seconds warning.
 - Since its launch, two broadcast intrusive alerts have been issued in the province of B.C., the first on September 15, 2024, for Haida Gwaii, and the second on February 21, 2025, for areas surrounding Sechelt, the Sunshine Coast and Squamish.

Background:

- During life-threatening emergency incidents, Public Alerts provide information and immediate actions which citizens and visitors can take to increase the likelihood of saving lives.
- The new *Emergency and Disaster Management Act*, requires the provincial government, public sector agencies, municipalities, regional districts, Nisga’a Nation, and treaty First Nations to have a system “to give warnings or notices to the public if an emergency is present.”

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- Under the National Public Alerting System and agreement with Pelmorex signed in 2011, EMCR is the Province's Authorized Government Agency for all broadcast intrusive alerts in the province.
- The Province, through EMCR, sends Public Alerts at the request of a Local Authority, Indigenous Governing Body (IGB), partner agency or the Province, for wildfires, floods, extreme heat emergencies and tsunamis.
- Public Alerts and partner agency alerts are sent using the National Public Alerting System, known as the public-facing brand of Alert Ready.
- Public Alerts are normally sent as a broadcast intrusive alert, immediately interrupting television and radio broadcasts, and activating compatible wireless devices in the alert boundary. A broadcast intrusive public alert is sent for an imminent threat to public life or safety and is sent through radio, television and/or wireless devices.
- The Canadian Radio-TV and Telecommunications Commission mandates that all radio, television, and cellular providers transmit broadcast intrusive alerts.
- For tsunamis, the Province uses the Provincial Emergency Notification System to alert local governments, key partner agencies, and media outlets by phone, email, and fax. Through this system, a broadcast intrusive B.C. Emergency Alert can also be sent for tsunami warnings using Alert Ready.
- The federal government, through Environment and Climate Change Canada, is the authorized issuer of Broadcast Intrusive alerts for extreme weather events such as storm surge and severe thunderstorms.
- The federal government, through Natural Resources Canada, launched its EEW in April 2024 (publicly announced in September 2024). These are automated broadcast intrusive alerts that direct people located in impacted areas to drop, cover, and hold on and may provide seconds to tens-of-seconds warning.
 - The EEW will issue alerts for earthquakes with a magnitude 5 or greater and an intensity level higher than IV — approximately the magnitude where injury or damage is likely to occur. People may receive an alert but might not feel the shaking or only feel a light shake or vice versa, people may feel shaking but may not receive an alert.
- Many IGBs and Local Authorities in the province, and across Canada, have adopted subscription-based, non-broadcast intrusive alert products (e.g., Alertable, Voyent). Many of these systems include applications for mobile devices which receive and re-broadcast Public Alerts. These local level solutions are often used for sending localized warnings and notifications relevant to the local jurisdiction's subscribers.

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- IGBs and Local Authorities may also use sirens, social media and go door-to-door as part of local alerting and notification systems.

Key Facts and Figures:

- Alerts issued in 2024 (January 1-December 31, 2024):
 - 7 B.C. emergency alerts were issued for wildfire.
 - 5 B.C. Emergency Alerts were issued for the Chilcotin Landslide/Flooding event
 - 1 Earthquake Early Warning Alert issued by Natural Resources Canada for Haida Gwaii
 - 1 RCMP issued Amber Alert
 - 2 test alerts: 1 test alert was issued by the Province on November 20, 2024; and Public Safety Canada used the May 8, 2024 test date to conduct a country wide test.

Contact: Brittany Decker Public Alerting Response Division	Mobile Government Financial Information
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 20, 2025

Extreme Heat & Cold Preparedness Initiatives

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- The Province recognizes that the tragic loss of life associated with the 2021 extreme heat event, and the understanding that climate change will drive more frequent extreme temperature events in the future, demand strengthened preparedness activities.
- In 2022, to prepare for future extreme heat events, the Province introduced several key initiatives:
 - The establishment of the BC Health Effects of Anomalous Temperatures (BC HEAT) Committee, led by the Ministry of Health (HLTH), and supported by the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR).
 - The development of the BC Heat Alert Response System (BC HARS) by the BC HEAT Committee that established criteria and response actions for a two-level system of heat alerts (Heat Warnings and Extreme Heat Emergencies), including criteria for issuing a BC Emergency Alert.
 - The publishing of the Prepared BC Extreme Heat Preparedness Guide.
 - The initiation of an Extreme Heat Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning stream through the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) (updated in 2023 to the Extreme Temperature Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning stream, and subsequently merged with the Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation stream).
- In 2023, to prepare for future extreme cold and winter weather events, the BC HEAT Committee developed and published public health recommendations intended to reduce the impacts of extreme winter weather on people experiencing homelessness in B.C.
 - These recommendations serve as a reference for winter weather planning for governments and organizations that support people experiencing homelessness (a population at increased risk of severe outcomes from extreme winter weather).
- EMCR, in collaboration with BC Housing (HMA) and HLTH, works directly with First Nations and Local Authorities to support their response to extreme temperature events, including reimbursing costs related to communities' emergency warming and cooling shelters.
 - As of fall 2023, communities are now able to upload the locations of their emergency warming and cooling shelters to the EMCR EmergencyInfoBC online emergency map platform.
 - ClimateReadyBC, the Province's online platform for disaster and climate risk

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reduction, includes data and resources on extreme heat, extreme cold and winter storm hazards. This can support communities, organizations, and individuals in understanding and reducing current and future risk.

Background:

- The BC Coroners Service identified more than 600 deaths as being heat-related during the 2021 heat dome.
 - On June 7, 2022, following a Death Review Panel, the BC Coroners Service released their report titled Extreme Heat and Human Mortality: A Review of Heat-Related Deaths in B.C. in Summer 2021.
 - The report recommended EMCR be the lead agency coordinating government response to non-health related impacts of extreme heat events; issue intrusive emergency alerts during Extreme Heat Emergencies; and distribute a Prepared BC Extreme Heat Preparedness Guide.

Coordination of Government Response to Extreme Heat Events

- The BC HARS operationalized in summer 2022 and continues to ensure clear identification and coordination of public health actions and messaging intended to reduce heat-related illness and mortality during Heat Warnings and Extreme Heat Emergencies.
- The BC HEAT Committee now meets year-round to ensure that the severity, duration and potential impacts of extreme temperature events are monitored, and that provincial response efforts to these events are appropriately coordinated.

Issuance of an Intrusive Emergency Alert During Extreme Heat Emergencies

- EMCR has developed emergency alerting procedures for an Extreme Heat Emergency and, on the advice of the BC HEAT Committee, will issue an intrusive emergency alert for such an event.

Prepared BC Extreme Heat and Severe Winter Weather Preparedness Guides

- The Extreme Heat Preparedness Guide and Severe Winter Weather and Storm Preparedness Guide were developed in partnership with HLTH, BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC), and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC).
- The guides assist people in understanding, preparing for and responding to extreme heat and winter weather events, and are available in hardcopy or by download from www.PreparedBC.ca in English, French, Punjabi, Traditional Chinese and Simplified Chinese.

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Funding for Extreme Temperature related projects

- Since 2017, \$4.07M has been provided to First Nations and local governments (through programs including the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund) for 62 projects that help communities better prepare for and reduce the impacts from heat/extreme temperature events.
- Additional details on EMCR's Funding Programs can be found in the 2025/26 Disaster Mitigation Adaptation Funding Programs Estimates Note.

Key Facts and Figures:

Year	CEPF Funding Stream	# Projects	Allocation
2022	Extreme Heat Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning	37	\$1.9M
2022	Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Adaptation (extreme temperature related projects only)	3	\$0.2M
2023	Extreme Temperature Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning	10	\$0.4M

Contact: Kevin Dunbar Provincial and Regional Response Operations Branch Response Division	Mobile: Government Financial Information
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 18th, 2025

EMCR's Role in an Emergency

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- EMCR is the lead coordinating agency for all provincial emergency management activities, including mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery, working with local governments and other agencies.
- Relationship to other ministries: when an emergency is occurring, is forecasted or imminent that requires the support of a provincial response, EMCR acts as the lead coordinating agency while lead hazard ministries coordinate policy, operational and/or technical expertise.
- Relationship to Local Authorities and First Nations: EMCR supports authorities within their areas of jurisdiction to ensure coordinated approaches to emergencies and disasters, working directly with emergency management partners.
- EMCR coordinates response efforts through an Incident Command Structure (ICS)-like model that includes the Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre (PECC) and the Provincial Regional Emergency Operation Centres (PREOCs).
- EMCR leads the prepositioning and deployment of flood control assets with local authorities and First Nations.
- EMCR provides financial assistance to local authorities and First Nations for eligible emergency response costs under EMCR's Financial Guidelines.

Background:

- The PECC provides provincial leadership, management, direction and decision-making and is the primary point of contact and coordination for ministries, agencies and organizations in preparing for and responding to an emergency, including situational reporting. Emergency Info BC provides emergency information for the public on the web (emergencyinfobc.ca) and on X (formerly Twitter) (@EmergencyInfoBC).
- PREOCs coordinate, facilitate, and manage information and provincial resources to support emergency management partners responding to an emergency or disaster. Each PREOC is a hub for information sharing and coordination between EMCR and emergency management partners.
- The PECC/PREOCs coordinate the distribution of provincial resources to communities, who stage and distribute resources within their jurisdictions.
- The PECC/PREOCs are operational 24/7/365 to maintain situational awareness and respond to emerging needs. The EMCR Emergency Contact Centre (ECC) is a 24/7/365 support call centre for reporting emergencies and appropriate actioning of response.
- Reporting on critical information flows from the site level to the local Emergency Operating Center (EOC), PREOC, and PECC respectively and vice-versa through Situation Reports that each emergency operations centre regularly develops.
- Provincial or regional natural hazard information calls are facilitated on a regular basis

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year-round to share broad regional information such as incoming weather events that have potential impacts. These calls are open to emergency management partners.

- The PREOC and PECC initiate and facilitate coordination calls to share information and coordinate efforts with emergency management partners.
 - These calls bring together subject matter experts and impacted communities, agencies and supporting partners to share hazard information for events that can be foreseen, and support coordination of activities.
 - Where necessary, Recommendation Calls are facilitated by EMCR for agencies and ministries to provide concise, focused information and answer questions to support FN and LA decision-making for possible evacuation alerts and/or orders.

Contact: Kevin Dunbar Provincial and Regional Response Operations Response	Government Mobile Financial Information
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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 20, 2025

Search and Rescue Program Overview

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- Ground Search and Rescue (GSAR) volunteers in British Columbia are among the best in the world, and we're committed to supporting their invaluable work and dedication to keeping people safe.
- The Province continues to provide predictable and ongoing funding of approximately \$6M annually to support the Ground Search and Rescue volunteers' provision of service across British Columbia – the only agreement of its kind in Canada.
- This annual contribution provided for within EMCR's base budget is in addition to approximately \$8M of funding that the Province provides annually to reimburse GSAR groups' operational costs for search and rescue deployments, training, and equipment.
- The Search and Rescue Advisory Committee, and six standing working groups under the Committee, have been stood up. Getting the Advisory Committee to where it is today over the past several months has involved collaborative work between the BC Search and Rescue Association (BCSARA) and staff at EMCR.
 - A SAR Needs Assessment is in its final stages and will be available for review under the Advisory Committee in the coming weeks. *Advice/Recommendations*
 - The intent of the Advisory Committee is to support requesting agencies (RCMP, BCEHS, etc.) and volunteers to have more input into how GSAR is managed going forward.

Background:

- GSAR is a Provincial Public Safety Lifeline Volunteer program providing support to requesting agencies through the commitment of volunteer resources when requested.
- As per the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* (EDMA), Section 32(2) Requesting Agencies include:
 - a local authority.
 - an Indigenous governing body.
 - a department of the government of Canada.

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- a person who is a party to an agreement under section 8 (minister may enter into agreements).
 - a police or emergency health service.
 - a prescribed person or a person in a prescribed class of persons.
- There are 78 recognized GSAR groups and approximately 3000 GSAR volunteers in B.C. Between April 1st, 2024, and March 18th, 2025, B.C.'s GSAR groups were deployed to support 1,921 incidents. This represents a slight increase in annual SAR incident rates, up from 1,851 incidents in the prior year.
- Since 2022/23, GSAR groups have been funded through an annual budget allocation of approximately \$6M, distributed through the BC Search and Rescue Association (BCSARA). Previously, provincial funding to GSAR groups was provided through ad-hoc grants which did not provide reliable funding for GSAR groups from year to year.
- BCSARA and EMCR have developed a Framework for Search and Rescue in B.C. that outlines BCSARA's deliverables to support enhanced administrative and financial oversight of GSAR in B.C. as a requirement of the funding contribution to GSAR.
- BCSARA disperses the annual provincial funding based on a model that considers several factors, including:
 - The number of trained and active members of the group and for each GSAR capability that an individual GSAR group is recognized for.
 - The equipment and training requirements associated with each GSAR capability (e.g. rope rescue, swift water rescue, etc.).
 - Minimum allocations to strategically direct support to smaller GSAR groups, which are generally located in rural and remote areas of the province.
 - Maximum allocations caps support to larger groups with more members and capabilities. Any additional entitlement above the cap is put back into the fund and distributed among the other GSAR groups.
- In addition to the funding provided to all groups, the province provided approximately \$8M in operational funding last year (FY 2024/25) which includes:
 - \$3.9M for equipment repair/replacement, mileage, and meals (up 40% over prior year).
 - \$3.9M in aircraft costs (primarily helicopter) (up 37% over last year).
- In addition to the base and operational funding the ministry provides, the Provincial Community Gaming Grants program distributes \$140M of commercial gambling revenue to more than 5,000 community organizations. For GSAR groups this included:
 - Last year, 27 GSAR groups received over \$2M
 - And, five GSAR groups received an additional \$0.489M in funding for capital projects.

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Needs and Gap Analysis:

- In July 2024, EMCR initiated the Needs and Gap Analysis project, consisting of three distinct projects/reports to support the future of GSAR services. These three phases involved:
 - What We Heard Report:
 - Engaging with provincial requesting agencies and GSAR groups to understand the current state of GSAR capabilities and services required across the province.
 - Needs Assessment:
 - Undertaking data review and analysis to understand the historical context of GSAR needs capabilities and services provided across the province.
 - Gap Analysis:
 - Reviewing and analyzing the identified needs of GSAR capabilities and services in the province, alongside the available resources and capabilities across the different GSAR groups to identify current and potential projects gaps in the future.
- The final reports for the Needs and Gap Analysis project will be complete by mid-April, 2025.

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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 24, 2025

Road Rescue

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- The Province recognizes and appreciates the valuable life-saving services that fire departments and dedicated Road Rescue societies provide to motorists throughout B.C.
- The Province recognizes the challenges that unincorporated communities within regional districts and smaller municipalities face in delivering road rescue services.
- Advice/Recommendations

Background:

- There are approximately 300,000 motor vehicle accidents in B.C. every year. Approximately 3,000 of those accidents occur outside of formalized response areas. Road Rescue service providers may be requested to provide support to people involved in out-of-jurisdiction motor vehicle accidents, where specialized skills – such as vehicle extrication, rope rescue and other rescue services – and equipment are required.
- The Province supports out-of-jurisdiction Road Rescue service providers with workers' compensation and liability coverage, in addition to financial remuneration for services provided performed.
- Road Rescue reimbursement costs have totalled \$1.34 million this past fiscal year.
- Intergovernmental Communications
-
- Road rescue program priorities include improving the capacities of road rescue service providers and fire departments to respond to rescue incidents by:
 - Supporting the development and implementation of *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* (EDMA) and associated regulations, including Public Safety Provider application and authorization.

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- Provide EMCR-led structure for response reimbursement and explore options for capital and equipment funding.
- Producing clear policies and procedures, along with supporting documentation, focused on road rescue, out-of-jurisdiction fire rescue, and reimbursement for out-of-jurisdiction responses.
- Updating the Road Rescue Safety Program.
- Providing effective communication and support for road rescue service providers.

Key Facts and Figures:

Road Rescue Incidents*	
Fiscal YTD 2024-25	2662
Fiscal Year 2023-24	2496
Fiscal Year 2022-23	2608
Fiscal Year 2021-22	2597
Fiscal Year 2020-21	2244
Fiscal Year 2019-20	2129
Fiscal Year 2018-19	2147

* Figures reflect only those calls immediately identified to the ECC as motor vehicle accidents. Calls coming in using another response category such as body recovery might not be recorded as a motor vehicle accident even if it is motor vehicle accident related.

Road Rescue Service Providers (RRSP) registered with EMCR				
	# of RRSPs	% of total	# of FDs	% of total
Alberta fire department	2	1.2%	160	93.6%
Improvement District fire department	12	7.2%		
Independent (society) fire department	5	2.9%		
Indigenous fire department	2	1.2%		
Municipal fire department	86	50.3%		
Regional District fire services	53	31%		
Road Rescue society	7	4.1%		
Search and Rescue group	4	2.3%		
	171			

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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 19, 2025

Egress Routes

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) provides support for communities for evacuation route planning through the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF). This funding is provided to support emergency planning but does not include the ability to fund construction or maintenance costs.
- EMCR staff are available to meet with Indigenous and local governments to assist with evacuation planning.
- During an emergency, the Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centre (PREOC) monitors communities for potential isolation due to risks such as wildfire and landslides. The PREOC works with communities to ensure additional consideration is given to the safe evacuation of residents or that shelter-in-place provisions are provided.
- During an emergency, EMCR can support evacuation through actions such as requesting the Ministry of Forests (FOR) to grade a forest service road to improve passage for evacuees. Note, this action is limited only to imminent or active emergency situations as defined in *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* (EDMA) and does not support ongoing program funding.

Background:

- Rural residents across B.C. rely on forest service and resource/industry roads as emergency egress routes, some of which are being deactivated as resources and industry needs change. The challenge of egress routes is being experienced across the province.
- Intergovernmental Communications
- Forestry roads are managed by FOR under the *Forest Range and Practice Act* and regulations which outline requirements for activation and deactivation.
- A requirement of the CEPF is that the First Nation/local government provides evacuation route planning information to EMCR when complete.

Advice/Recommendations

Advice/Recommendations

Key Facts and Figures:

- EMCR Regional Response staff have been actively involved in planning egress routes for various Local Authorities and First Nations to enhance evacuation options, in

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coordination with Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT) and FOR. Recent examples include:

- **Ulkatcho First Nation:** Working on a secondary egress route through Forest Service Roads (FSR) up to Vanderhoof from Anahim Lake.
- **Kwadacha:** Developing a secondary egress route due to the community's remoteness and single road access.
- **Wells:** Planning evacuation routes for the community and surrounding area.
- **Northwest (NWE) communities:** Addressing egress route planning due to increased fire risk, including Taku River Tlingit and other communities.
- **Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW):** Exploring multimodal evacuation options for Highway 99.
- **District of Kent and Village of Harrison Hot Springs:** Proposing a secondary evacuation route through Sasquatch Provincial Park.
- **Fraser River Valley Regional District:** Engaging in evacuation route planning for Cultus Lake and Chilliwack River Valley.
- **Strathcona Regional District:** Reviewing options for the main access/egress road out of Zeballos.

Contact: Kevin Dunbar Provincial and Regional Response Operations Response Division	Mobile Government Financial Information
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Ministry of
Emergency Management
and Climate Readiness

Corporate Services Division

2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 12, 2025

Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements (DFAA)

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

Active DFAA events:

- As of December 31, 2024, the Province has 12 active DFAA events with a total estimated cost of \$6.1 billion. The three largest events are as follows:
 - 2021 Atmospheric River Event (ARE) - \$2.788 billion
 - 2021 Spring Flood and Landslides - \$0.704 billion
 - 2020 Spring Flood and Landslides - \$0.552 billion
- The cumulative expenditure to date for these 12 active events is \$3.3 billion. The Province anticipates up to \$5.1 billion (84%) of the \$6.1 billion estimated cost for these events, being reimbursed through the DFAA program.
- As of December 31, 2024, the Province has incurred \$1.4 billion responding to and recovering from the three largest events.
 - 2021 Atmospheric River Event (ARE) - \$1.252 billion
 - 2021 Spring Flood and Landslides - \$0.070 billion
 - 2020 Spring Flood and Landslides - \$0.082 billion

2024 DFAA Requests:

In 2024, BC experienced interface fires and an atmospheric river event that met the DFAA cost-sharing threshold, with total costs estimated exceeding \$174 million. Formal requests for federal assistance under DFAA have been submitted to Public Safety Canada and are currently waiting approval.

Background:

DFAA Program Overview:

- The federal government confirms the eligibility of a disaster event by issuing an Order in Council (OIC). British Columbia has five years from the date of the OIC to submit its final claim and confirm the amount of federal cost-share eligible for reimbursement based on an audit of costs submitted.
- Under DFAA, the federal government partially reimburses provincial costs related to response and recovery activities. This includes both direct provincial costs and supports provided through provincial disaster relief programs such as Disaster Financial Assistance and the Canada-BC Flood Recovery Program for Food Security, supporting the agriculture sector.

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- The Province requests advance and interim payments from the federal government as recovery work progresses. An advance payment of up to 50% of the eligible federal share can be received within the first year of an event and an interim payment request can provide up to 60% of the total federal share. Advance and interim payment requests are assessed by Public Safety Canada against the Province's estimate of the total eligible event costs.

2021 ARE Costs:

- The initial provincial cost estimates in February 2022 for the ARE was over \$4 billion. As of the third quarter of the 2024/25 fiscal year, the provincial cost has been refined to a forecast of \$2.788 billion, of which \$2.475 billion (89%) may be eligible for reimbursement through the DFAA program. The forecast will continue to be refined as the scope of specific recovery projects required to recover critical infrastructure are confirmed.
- The majority of the costs from the 2021 ARE relate to ongoing recovery activities to repair or rebuild critical highway infrastructure, watercourse debris removal and clean-up and funding for the Disaster Financial Assistance program to support the recovery of local governments and First Nations, citizens, small businesses, farms and charitable organizations.
- As of March 31, 2024, the costs from the 2021 ARE for emergency response activities and supporting evacuees are approximately \$459 million.
- The federal government's \$5 billion commitment to B.C. made in December 2021 related to four DFAA-eligible disasters in British Columbia: the 2021 November Rainstorm, the 2021 Wildfire and, the 2020 and 2021 Spring Floods and Landslides.

Key Facts and Figures:

- As of the third quarter of the 2024/25 fiscal year, BC has received \$1.026 billion in advance payments through DFAA for the 2021 atmospheric river recovery efforts and \$612 million for the other 3 events: 2021 Wildfire, 2020 and 2021 Spring Flood and Landslides.

	(In Millions)		
Event	1 st Advance Payment	2 nd Advance Payment	Amount of DFAA Funding Received to date
2021 November Rainstorm	\$469	\$557	\$1,026
2021 Wildfire	\$208		\$208
2021 Spring Flood and Landslides	\$355		\$355
2020 Spring Flood and Landslides	\$49		\$49
Total	\$1,081	\$557	\$1,638

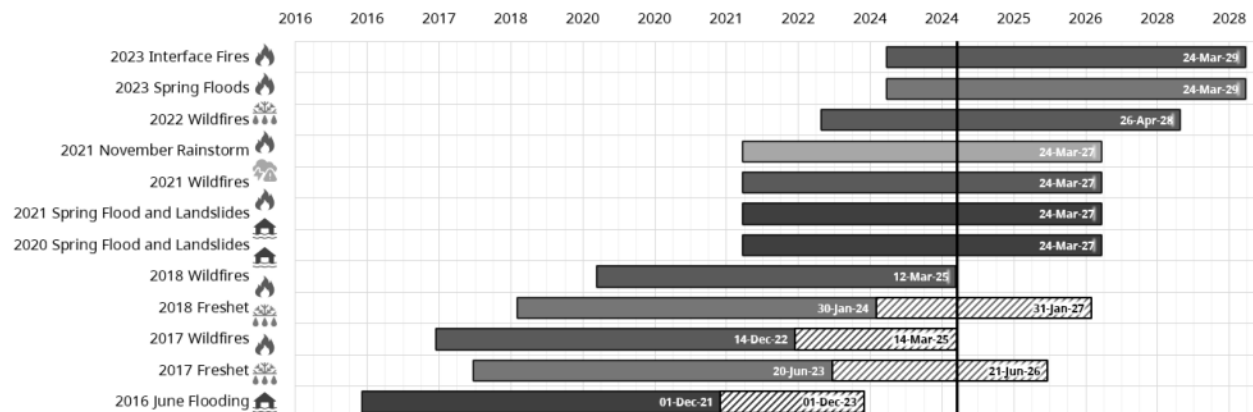
} \$612

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DFAA Forecasted Costs and Federal Funding Received:

DFAA Event Name	(\$ Millions)			
	Total Estimated Cost of Event	Federal Share	Provincial Share	Advance/ Interim Received
2023 Interface Fires	390	311	79	132
2023 Spring Floods	167	111	57	4
2022 Wildfires	58	21	37	12
2021 Atmospheric River Event (Nov Rainstorm)	2,788	2,475	313	1,026
2021 Wildfires	478	396	82	208
2021 Spring Flood and Landslides	704	599	104	355
2020 Spring Flood and Landslides	552	463	89	49
2018 Wildfires	179	130	49	66
2018 Spring Freshet	223	169	54	107
2017 Wildfires	402	332	70	192
2017 Spring Freshet	114	72	42	46
2016 June Floods	137	94	43	42
TOTAL FORECAST EVENTS	6.192	5.174	1.018	2.240

DFAA Events - Active



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2025/26 ESTIMATES NOTE

Last updated Date: March 17, 2025

Ombudsperson Report: Fairness in a Changing Climate

Key Messages/Suggested Response:

- Over the last year, EMCR has made considerable progress towards implementing the Ombudsperson's recommendations to enhance EMCR's disaster assistance programs, with specific focus on Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) and Emergency Support Services (ESS).
- Advice/Recommendations
 - Examples of EMCR's disaster assistance program improvements include:
 - Implementing the BC Evacuee Helpline with Service BC to provide surge support for large-scale ESS responses (Recommendation 4a).
 - Providing evacuees with an accommodation/shelter allowance, ensuring evacuees are able to access appropriate accommodations that meet their needs (Recommendation 6).
 - Introducing two new pathways for evacuees to access ESS supports virtually and by phone via Interact e-transfer (Recommendation 7).
 - Improving awareness of disaster psychosocial and mental well-being supports available to First Nations and local authorities (Recommendation 8).
 - Launching the DFA Application Portal for private sector applications, streamlining and expediting the processing of applications and improving recovery outcomes through timeliness of financial support to rebuild post-disaster (Recommendation 13).
 - Improving DFA communications following a disaster, including information sessions, social media campaigns, flyers and pamphlets, geo-targeted advertising, website content, email campaigns, and direct phone communications (Recommendation 14).
 - EMCR continues to make progress towards the Ombudsperson's recommendations and will provide the next update to the Ombudsperson in December 2025.

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Background:

- On October 3, 2023, the Ombudsperson released a report titled “Fairness in a Changing Climate.” This report was in response to the extreme weather events of 2021, and it asked the question, “were emergency supports delivered fairly and equitably?”
- In doing this work, the Ombudsperson looked specifically into how EMCR provided ESS and DFA.
- EMCR accepted all 20 recommendations in the report.
- The Ombudsperson has requested annual reporting of progress on recommendations to be provided in December of each year.
- See Attachment 1 for the implementation status of each recommendation.

Contact: Steve Ward Corporate Services Division	Government Financial Mobile: Information
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Attachment 1: Summary of recommendations and status as of December 2024.

#	Recommendation	Status
1	The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness work with local authorities and First Nations to evaluate the adequacy of training, financial and technical support provided to local authorities and First Nations to transition to the Evacuee Registration and Assistance tool by December 31, 2024, and provide additional assistance, as necessary to achieve the successful onboarding of every eligible local authority and First Nation to ERA by March 31, 2026.	Complete
2	The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness work with local authorities and First Nations to, by December 31, 2026, develop and implement a process to support the collection of socio-demographic data on Emergency Support Services consistent with the requirements of the <i>Anti-Racism Data Act</i> .	Not Started
3	The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness work with First Nations, First Nations Emergency Services Society, Métis Nation BC, the First Nations Health Authority and other Indigenous partners to integrate cultural safety across the entire ESS system, including developing and implementing a process for receiving meaningful and timely feedback about cultural safety in the delivery of Emergency Support Services by December 31, 2025, and for ensuring that timely program and policy changes are made in response to that feedback	In Progress
4a	The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness work with local authorities and First Nations to strengthen provincial support and resources for the delivery of local Emergency Support Services, including the following steps: a) Develop and implement effective surge support for large- scale Emergency Support Services responses, including consideration of expanded use of “as and when” employees by May 31, 2024.	Complete
4b	b) Develop a framework that supports flexibility and resilience in local delivery of Emergency Support Services, including a review of cost recovery for Emergency Support Services work by local authority and First Nations staff by May 31, 2025.	Complete
4c	c) Develop and implement a strategy for improved communications to evacuees about Emergency Support Services, including a centralized communications website for providing information to evacuees by May 31, 2024.	Complete

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4d	d) Develop a program for more meaningful provincial recognition of the important contributions made by local Emergency Support Services volunteers by May 31, 2024.	Complete
5	By December 31, 2026, the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness take steps necessary to ensure that reception centres are accessible, including working with local governments and First Nations to identify reception centre sites that are already accessible and, as necessary, improving accessibility by developing standards, conducting accessibility audits, and providing funding to address any identified deficiencies and meet any accessibility standards.	Not Started
6	The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness work with local authorities and First Nations to, by May 31, 2024, increase daily billet rates and broaden lodging options for evacuees, including those with larger households, people with complex health needs and people with pets.	Complete
7	The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness work with local authorities and First Nations to, by May 31, 2024, implement alternate ways for evacuees to access ESS if they are unable to attend a reception centre in person.	Complete
8	Consistent with its mandate to coordinate evacuee supports, the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness work with other ministries, health authorities, First Nations and local authorities to, by December 31, 2024, develop and implement a strategy, with appropriate funding, to further integrate disaster psychosocial first aid, professional mental health care and social work into the delivery of Emergency Support Services.	Complete
9	The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness work with local authorities and First Nations to develop and implement a policy that supports multiple options for accessing Emergency Support Services, that do not rely on the use of vouchers, when e-transfer is not available or appropriate. The policy to be in place by May 31, 2024.	In Progress Revised Target Completion: Dec 31, 2025
10	The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness work with local authorities, First Nations and Métis Nation BC to develop and implement by December 31, 2025, a timely, accessible and culturally safe complaints process that can be used by people who are trying to access, or who have accessed, Emergency Support Services.	Complete
11	The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness work with local authorities and First Nations to, by May 31, 2024, implement a policy and other supports that will assist responders in making fair, consistent and efficient	Complete

	determinations of whether insurance is readily and reasonably available in the context of an Emergency Support Services needs assessment. As risks and costs increase with the impacts of climate change, needs assessments should include the affordability of insurance and insurance deductibles in the determination of whether an evacuee's insurance is readily and reasonably available to them.	
12	Effective immediately, the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness ensure that any future contracts initiated by the province for delivery of Emergency Support Services require a comprehensive reporting back to the province and affected First Nations and local authorities, including information about the households that received emergency supports and the amount and nature of the support provided by the third-party contractor.	Complete
13	By September 30, 2024, the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness develop, implement, and communicate effective service standards for timely processing of Disaster Financial Assistance applications and appeals, and ensure it has the staff complement necessary to meet those standards	Applications: Complete Appeals: In Progress Revised Target Completion: Sep 30, 2025
14	The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness review its communications about the Disaster Financial Assistance program with a view to identifying ways in which the program can be better communicated to people who might need it and by May 31, 2024, implement those changes.	Complete
15	Effective immediately, the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness communicate status updates to applicants with pending Disaster Financial Assistance applications and appeals, and by September 30, 2024, implement improved communications with and guidance to applicants throughout the application and decision-making process, including appeals.	Complete
16	Effective immediately, the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness apply a GBA+ and IGBA+ lens in reviewing, revising, and developing Disaster Financial Assistance policies with full implementation of policy changes by September 30, 2025.	Part 1 (reviewing, revising, developing policies): Complete Part 2 (Implementation): In Progress

		Revised Target Completion: May 31, 2026
17	By September 30, 2025, the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness develop and implement a process to improve the collection of socio-demographic data on Disaster Financial Assistance to support equitable service delivery, consistent with the requirements of the <i>Anti-Racism Data Act</i> .	In Progress
18	The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness develop plans and a policy framework to meet the needs of people experiencing long-term displacement, considering the impacts of climate change and how people-centred programs might better support climate change adaptation and future resilience, by: a) consulting broadly with the public by December 31, 2024, on modernization of Emergency Support Services and Disaster Financial Assistance as related components of disaster recovery b) working with local authorities and First Nations, and across government, to develop and implement by September 30, 2025, integrated plans and policies to support people who experience long-term displacement due to disasters and that are consistent with the principles of administrative fairness, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act.	A: Complete B: In Progress
19	By June 30, 2024, the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness develop and implement public communications that reflect the current impacts of insurance on the availability of financial supports for disaster response and recovery, and by June 30, 2025, develop a policy and process to reassess insurance availability in BC as risks increase with the impacts of climate change, and a national flood insurance program is implemented	Part 1 (communication): Complete Part 2 (policy and process): In Progress
20	The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness work with Indigenous governing bodies to advance Indigenous self-determination in emergency management including by prioritizing capacity building for Indigenous-led emergency response and recovery and ensuring consistent, appropriate funding for Indigenous communities and organizations. The ministry report on specific actions taken as part of its Declaration Act Annual Report for the duration of the 2022-2027 Action Plan.	In Progress