

Welcome to the AEMA Regional Outreach



Intent and Purpose

- **Share Information**
- **Strengthen Networks**
- **Get Feedback / Identify Issues**
- **Say Thank you!**



Major Threats

- Summer storms
- Petro-Chemical release
- Public Health emergency
- River flooding
- Tornadoes
- Wild Fires
- Interface fires
- Cyber Attacks
- Terrorism
- Earthquakes

Minor Threats

- Public order
- Flash flooding



Alberta's Emergency Management System

Lead Agency: Depending on the nature of the hazard, this organization *leads* in the emergency management of a specific hazard.

Supporting Agency: Depending on the nature of the hazard, this organization *assists* in the emergency management of a specific hazard.

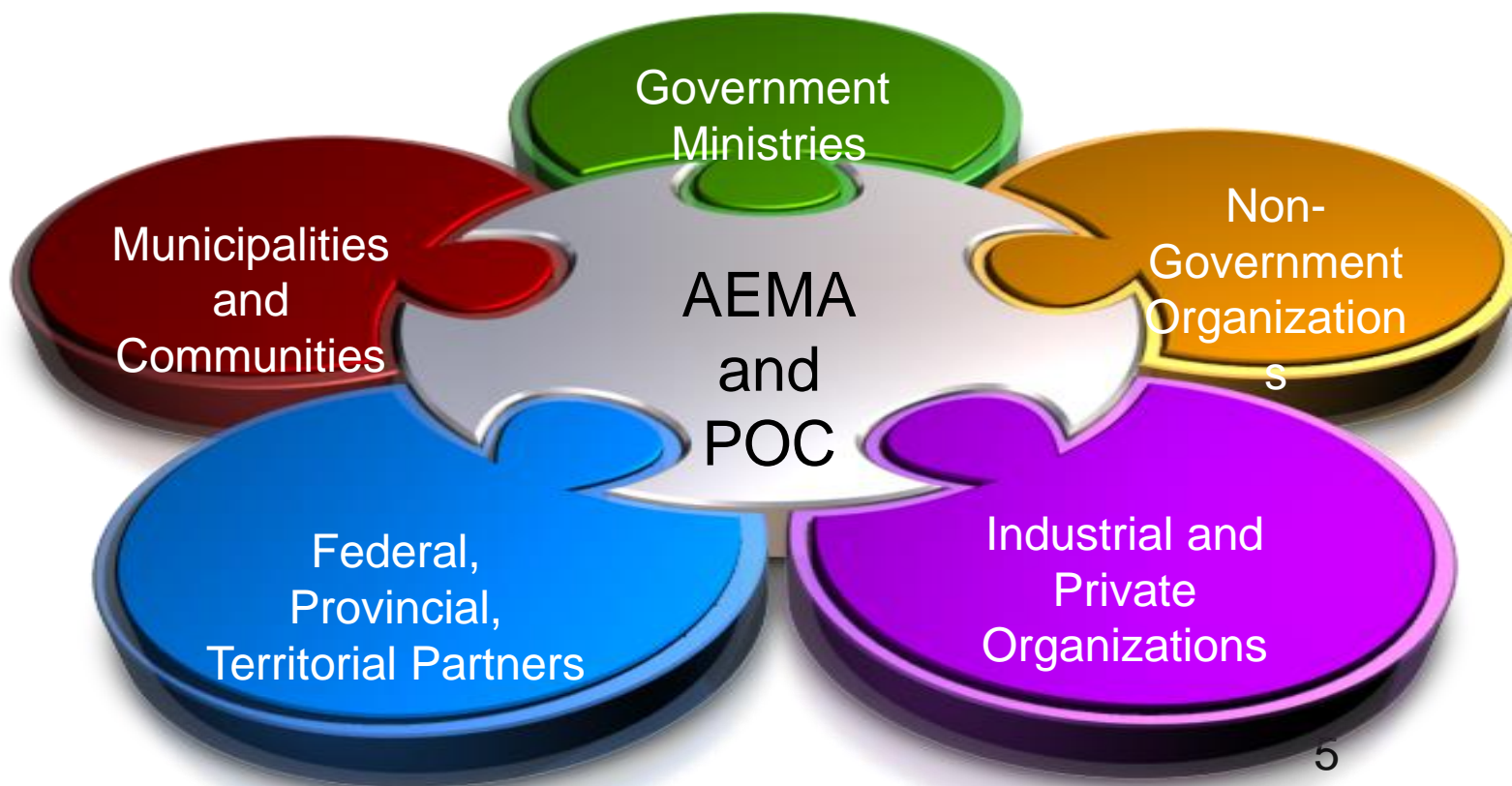
- Provide general or specialized assistance to the lead agency.

Coordinating Agency: Assist in the coordination of requests from the lead agency to deal with the direct effects of the hazard, while dealing with the indirect consequences of the specific hazard.

- AEMA – Provincial
- Public Safety Canada - Federal

Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA)

EMA: AEMA provides strategic policy direction, co-ordination, and leadership for emergency management and disaster response to the Government of Alberta (GOA) and its emergency management partners.



Provincial Operations Centre (POC)

The POC is where GOA ministries and other key stakeholders come together to co-ordinate a “whole of government” response to emergencies and disasters.

- Allows GOA to work in partnership with communities, industry and non-governmental organizations.
- Staffed 24/7 to monitor for emerging or potential emergencies.
- Four escalating levels of activation(next slide).

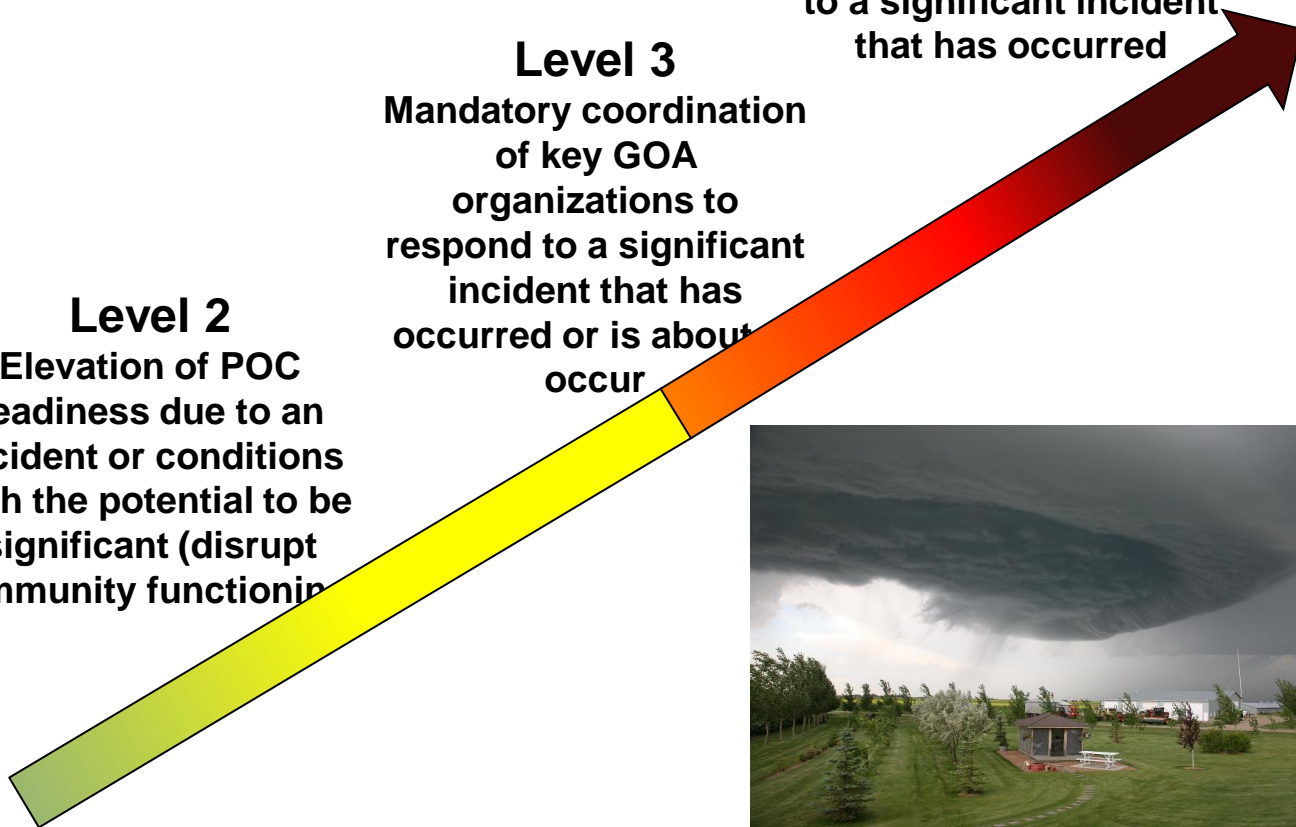
POC Operational Levels

Level 1
Information on routine and potential incidents assessed and circulated to public safety partners on a daily basis

Level 2
Elevation of POC readiness due to an incident or conditions with the potential to be significant (disrupt community functioning)

Level 3
Mandatory coordination of key GOA organizations to respond to a significant incident that has occurred or is about to occur

Level 4
Mandatory full GOA coordination of cross-government response to a significant incident that has occurred



Emergency or Disaster Response

Facility - AEMA provides the Provincial Operations Coordination Centre (POC) to coordinate cross-government response and support to communities and First Nations

- The POC is staffed 24/7 to monitor for emerging or potential emergency situations.
- POC has four levels of activation, and resourcing can be escalated as required.

Management System – Incident command System (ICS) is a standardized approach to the command, control, and coordination of emergency response based on key concepts of unity of command, common terminology, management by objective, flexible and modular organization, and span of control.

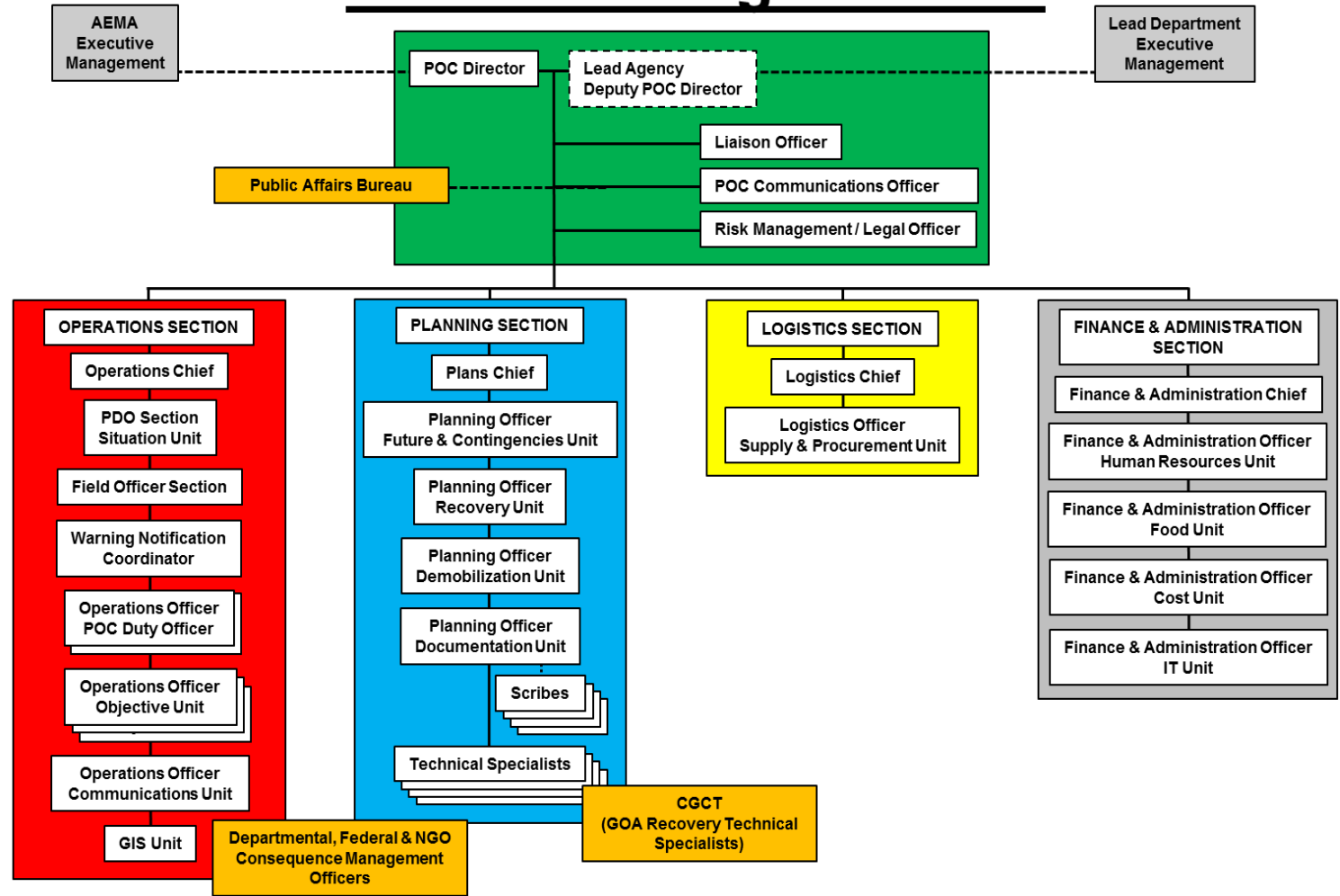
Common Operating Picture - The POC produces situation reports to provide a common situational awareness across government based on verified information.

- Lead ministry is responsible for developing key messaging and informing the public
- Routine - The POC / AEMA monitor the situation, and sends out a Daily Situation Report (Sitrep).
- During Emergencies – Common Operating Picture Report (COPR) produced for event.

POC Staffing / Organization

As at 20 May 2015

GOA POC Organization



Response Flowchart

Phase 4 Transition and Resolution

Phase 1
Warning and Notification:
Premier alerted by AEA or by Lead Minister

Phase 2
Initial Briefing / Guidance:
Premier and EC / EMC briefed by Lead Minister and MD AEMA

Phase 3
Ongoing Co-ordination and Reporting:
Premier receives regular updates (COPR) in accordance with operational rhythm

1. POC co-ordinates resolution / transition activities
2. Lead Department approves public communications and key messages, and assumes or transfers responsibility for ongoing activities

1. POC co-ordinates response efforts and provides updates as necessary
2. Lead Department approves public communications and key messages
3. Issues Managers contact POC direct for specific operational questions
4. MLA's are provided KM's and can request further information through Lead Ministry COS
5. Daily Media briefs as necessary.

1. POC receives information on Significant emergency event
2. If necessary, POC prepares and issues and Executive Alert

1. Minister(s) are informed by MD AEMA or DM MA
2. Initial Lead Ministry is advised and provides advice / update as necessary

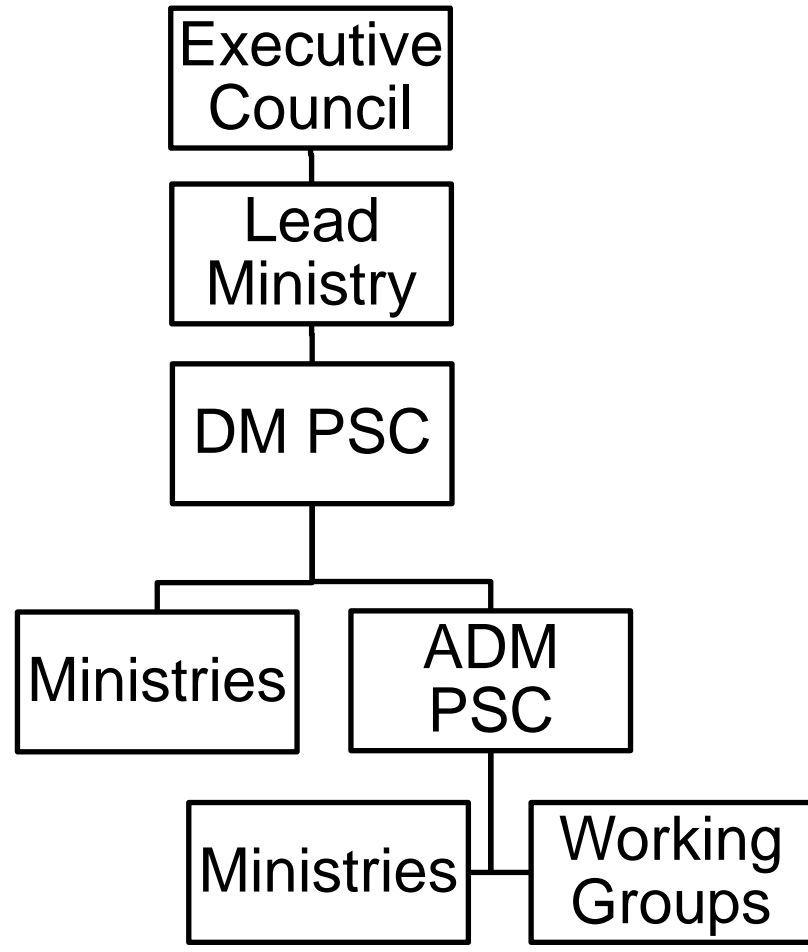
1. Situation brief provided to Ministers / DMs and appropriate members of Executive Council
2. Lead Ministry is confirmed or designated, and operational rhythm / reports Established



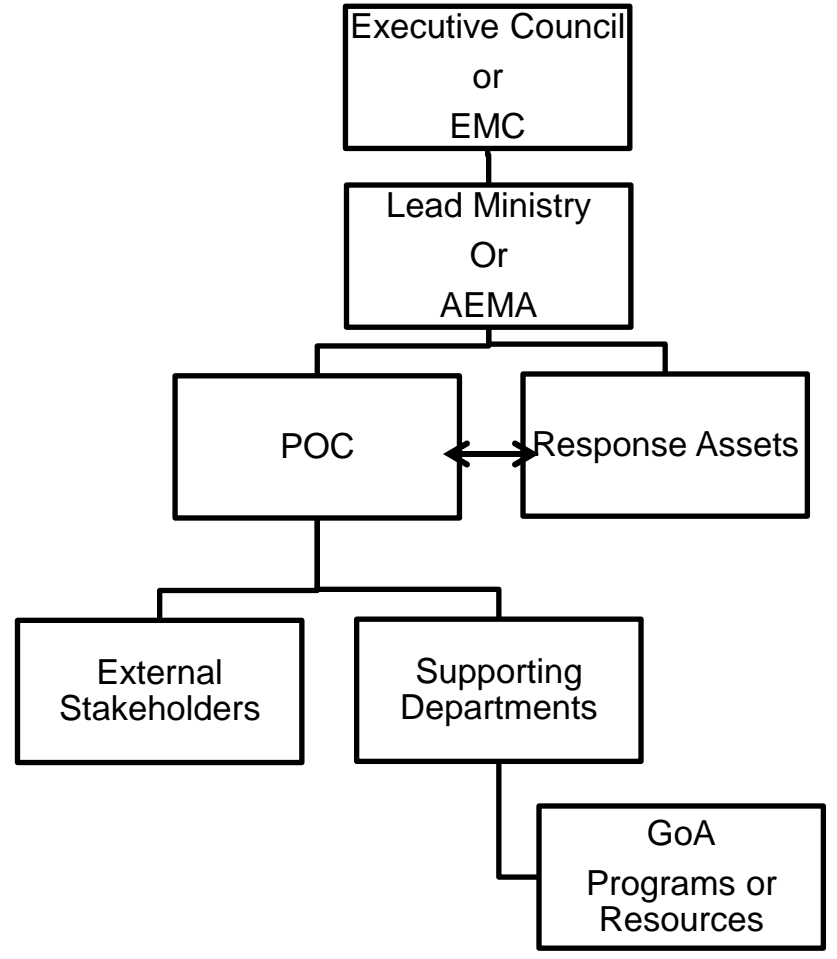


Emergency Management Governance

Routine Operations



Emergency Event (Level 3/4)



Public Safety Governance

Routine

Political
Cabinet

Strategic
DM / ADM PSC

Operational
Working Groups

Tactical
Programs / Projects

Emergency Event

Political
EMC / Ministerial Task Force

Strategic
DM / ADM PSC

Operational
POC / Lead Agency

Tactical
Lead Agency / Response
Assets

Incident Management Teams (IMTs)

- Number of deployments of both “ad hoc” and established teams have proven the worth of the concept
- Use FEMA / US doctrine to inform our development, but adopt to our circumstances / capacity
- AEMA desired end-state:
 - **2 x Type 2 (Major Widespread Event) teams in Alberta**
 - North and South
 - Capable of self-deployment and self-sustainment
 - **Multiple x Type 3 teams**
 - Regionally based
 - **All teams are “plug and play” so we can scale up / reinforce as necessary (maybe even to 1 x Type 1)**
 - Common doctrine (ICS)
 - Common qualification level

AEMA Emergency Management Advisory Committee (EMAC)

- **Group of 10-12 EM “experts” from across public and private sector that could help advise GoA and EM professionals on requirements, etc.**
- **Still in conceptual stage**
- **For discussion**
- **Would help us in some of the cross-sector work being done, like Critical Infrastructure (CI) etc.**

Regional Partnerships

- **Highly Encouraged!!!!**
- **Let us know how we can help to facilitate**

CEMP Update and Status of Municipal EM Plans

- **Completion / status of Municipal EM Plans now being tracked by AEMA Field Officers to ensure compliance with *Emergency Management Act*.**
- **CEMP will produce a fully compliant plan – *but you don't have to use CEMP if you have something as good / better!!!***

Training and Exercises

- **Collective Training**
 - **EMX 17**
 - **EMX 18**
- **Online Training Courses**
 - **ICS 200 On-line**
 - **Emergency Social Services Course – also planning for on-line**
 - **Potential requirement to charge minimal fee for access to training management system**
- **ICS Canada and ICS Alberta standards and training teams**
- **Emergency Management Training Grants**

Other Issues

- **Discussions with Canadian Red Cross on their future role / capacity within Alberta / Canada**
- **UN Resilient Communities Initiative (Sendai Accord)**
 - **Meetings in Montreal and Cancun**
- **Networking / Professional Development Opportunities**
 - **Conference Board of Canada “Resilience 2017” conference, to be held in Edmonton, April 25-26,**
 - **Disaster Forum – Banff May 8-11 2017**
 - **AEMA Summit – November 2017 (TBC).**
- **Mutual Aid Alberta**
- **ESSNA**
- **KPMG Post Incident Assessment of 2016 RMWB Wildfire Response and Recovery**

Importance of Networking

- **Build your networks in advance of an event so that you can move at the speed of trust.**
- **Establish collaborative, sustainable relationships outside of an incident.**
- **Networks matter. Build them before an event so they can survive the chaos.**
- **Understand the environment then you cannot lead it or guide it and you can quickly become irrelevant.**

Crisis Communications.

- **Key to retaining public confidence.**
- **Unity of messaging is VITAL. To establish this you need to have collaborative comms teams.**
- **Understand the communications strategy and who is the lead agency/organization for what areas.**
- **Be innovative. [town halls, virtual operational support teams (Virtual Support Teams)].**

Early Lessons Learned (continued)

- **Robust and Synched Emergency Social Services (ESS) Plans**
 - **ESS is a key component of response and stabilization. The community ESS planner must be trained and this coordination must be done within and through the ECC, not external to and separate.**
 - **Plan worst case scenario before an event – if you have to evacuate your entire community where will you send residents? Do you have agreements with neighbouring communities for reception centre support?**

Industry Role

- **Understand Industry's capacity, how they can contribute to the fight!**
- **Engage with the community EM officials.**
- **Integrate and synchronize plans at community and Provincial level.**
- **Industry may not have common objectives and will not always work together or agree on an approach!**
- **Employees – Industry should promote EM training and a family EM plan.**

Early Lessons Learned

- **Mutual aid / Regional Agreements** - Communities need to have partnering/regional arrangements in place to provide depth in their response.
- **ICS Training** – ICS training for the lead positions under the ICS model is required, ie. Ops Chief, Plans Chief, Logistics, Fin/Admin. These are key positions that will drive the community response and someone from the community should have this training.
- **Incident Management Teams (IMTs)** – The response reinforced the Province’s IMT concept to support communities. The province is seeking to establish two IMT Type two Teams , One North and One South. Communities should also look to develop their own type 3 or type 4 teams individually or as regions.
- **Tempo** – The importance of establishing a sustainable operational tempo at the start of an incident cannot be over-stated. Ensure that all key positions have built in redundancies (one or more trained and trusted back-ups)

Early Lessons Learned (continued)

- **Field Officers – Deployment of AEMA Field Officers and the MESA to support the communities response served the province and communities well supporting development of situational awareness and being available to communities to provide support and advice. Bringing a liaison to the POC from the affected community would be ideal.**
- **POC-Community EOC/ECC Roles and Responsibilities - Clear role definitions for the relationships between the POC, PESS-ECC and the EOC/ECC are necessary to define the lines and protocols for communications between these groups.**
- **Early Recovery Planning** – Recovery planning should be started as early as possible.
- **Resource Tracking** – Track resources from the outset of an incident. This is a safety requirement (knowing where all equipment and personnel are in the incident area), but also supports effective management of incident resources.
- **Finance Section** – Stand-up a Finance Section and implement EOC/ECC financial tracking processes and procedures from the outset. The ability to track and account for all expenditures facilitates advances and cost-recovery after an incident through insurance or a DRP.

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Expect the unexpected.



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Discussion



THANK YOU

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