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# Alberta Emergency Management Agency

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# AEMA Overview

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- AEMA provides or manages the following:
  - Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre (PECC);
  - Local Authority (Municipal, First Nations, and Metis Settlements) emergency management support;
  - GoA Business Continuity Program leadership;
  - Emergency management grants, training standards and delivery within the GoA and throughout Alberta;
  - Wildland Urban Interface program and teams
  - Public alerting (Alberta Emergency Alert), 911 grant levy, and provincial 911 standards leadership and administration;
  - Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System;
  - Personal preparedness public education and programming.
  - DRP and MWAP leadership, delivery and administration; and
  - Provincial Recovery Coordination Centre (PRCC);

# Legislation and Authority

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- Legal Authority Framework
  - *Emergency Management Act*
    - Local Authorities Emergency Management Regulation
      - Alberta Emergency Plan
    - Disaster Recovery Regulation
      - Alberta Disaster Assistance Guidelines
      - Municipal Wildfire Assistance Program Guidelines
    - Government Emergency Management Regulation
      - Outlines AEMA and Ministry roles and responsibilities in Emergency Management and Business Continuity
  - *Emergency 911 Act*
    - Emergency 911 Grants Regulation and Emergency 911 Levy Regulation
      - Creates and outlines cellphone Levy and 911 Standards

# Alberta's Emergency Management System

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- De-centralized system with Local Authorities (Municipalities, Metis Settlements and First Nations) responsible for EM within their communities.
  - Priorities to protect life, property, economy and environment.
  - Local Authorities source of truth for jurisdiction including business/industry.
  - Identify and work with community and region businesses including mutual aid agreements or fee for service contracts with business/industry.
- Supported by:
  - AEMA Regional and First Nations Field Officers.
  - Alberta Emergency Alert team.
  - Preparedness information and supports.
  - Regional Mutual Aid agreements.
  - Wildland Urban Interface program and teams
  - All Hazard Incident Management Teams.

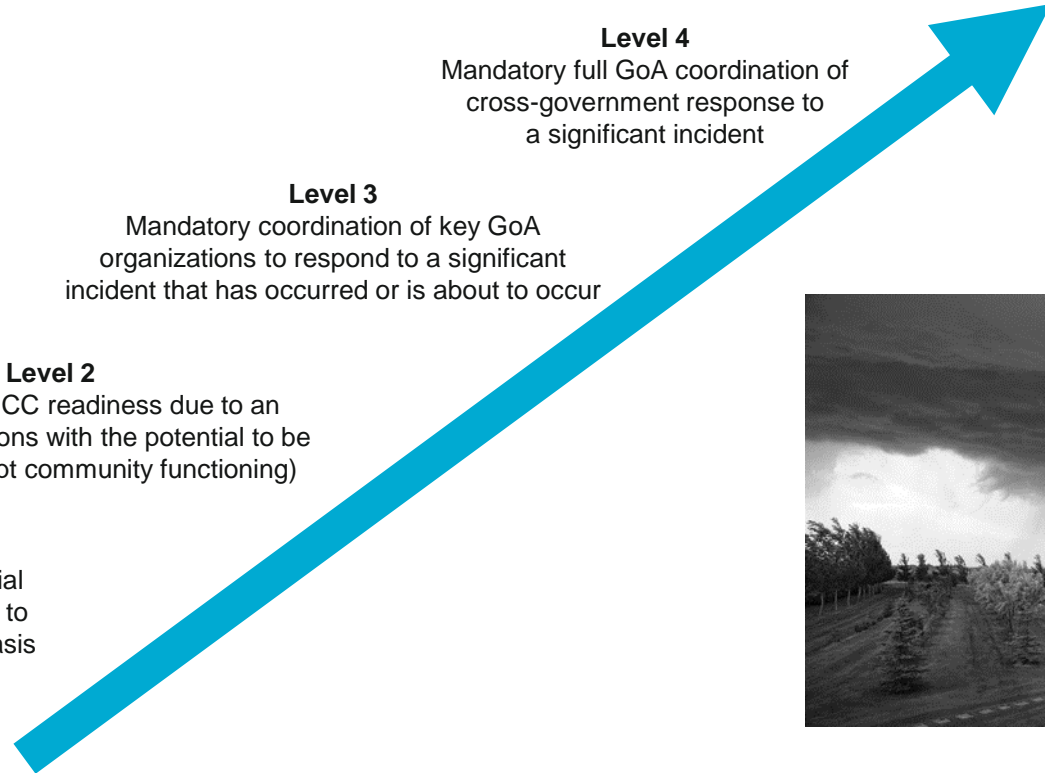
# Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre (PECC)

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- A space where key stakeholders can come together to coordinate efforts, resources, and information.
  - Provides “one window” into operational coordination of a response.
  - All GoA ministries plus Government of Canada representatives, Insurance Bureau of Canada and industry as required.
- Creates and issues situation reports which provide common situational awareness across government.
  - PECC monitors the situation in Alberta 24/7, 365 days a year.
  - Issues daily Situation Report emailed at 7:30 a.m. on routine activities and emergency events throughout the province.
  - During emergencies: Common Operating Picture Report (COPR) provides verified information at 4:00 p.m. daily, and Executive Alerts are issued at 9:00 a.m. daily and as events warrant.

# PECC Operational Levels

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# Emergency Programs and Initiatives

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- **Alberta Emergency Plan**
  - Publicly available as a template and outlines the emergency management system for Alberta.
  - Updated plan approved by Minister and publicly released in June 2022.
  - Takes an “all hazards” approach.
  - Identifies specific ministry responsibilities and tasks.
  - Outlines the Provincial Recovery Framework.
- **Government of Alberta Business Continuity Program**
  - Ensures continued functioning of government and services to Albertans.
  - Sets standards for all GoA departments.

# Intergovernmental Coordination

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- National federal/provincial/territorial (FPT) Ministers Responsible for EM forum.
  - Cross Canada leadership for emergency management topics and issues.
    - Public Alerting, Flood Insurance Relocation Program, and other EM Topics
  - Supported by FPT Senior Officials Responsible for Emergency Management.
  - PT Canadian Council of Emergency Management Organizations.
- Request for Assistance from Government of Canada
  - Canadian Armed Forces support
- Support to other provinces
  - Jasper evacuation through British Columbia.
  - British Columbia floods and wildfires.



# Emergency Preparedness Initiatives

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- **Emergency Management Training**
  - Incident Command System (ICS) adopted by Alberta.
  - AEMA provides online and in-person course delivery.
  - AEMA sets Emergency Management Training Standards for Alberta.
- **Provincial Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment Framework**
  - Generates a collective understanding of the province's cumulative hazard risks.
  - Supporting cross-departmental and inter-jurisdictional risk communication, treatment, and monitoring.
  - Assists in identifying individual and collective actions to reduce the cost and impact of disasters.
- **Emergency Preparedness Week**
  - Annual public awareness event in the first week of May.

# Emergency Preparedness Initiatives (Continued)

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- Alberta Emergency Alert
  - Provincial alerting system – first and best of its kind in Canada.
  - Provides time sensitive critical alert information to those at risk.
  - Over 500 trained users across the province.
  - Bi-annual test alerts in May and November
- 911 emergency call centres and services
  - Monthly levy on each cellphone funds a grant program that supports provision and enhancement of 911 services.
  - Levy increased to 95 cents from 44 cents as of September 1, 2021.
  - Development and implementation of revised 911 standards:
    - Version 2 approved by Minister MA in January 2021.
    - Version 3 approved by Minister PSES in December 2022.
    - Version 4 under development.

# Emergency Preparedness Initiatives (Continued)

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- **Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System**
  - Province-wide radio communication system for first responders (fire, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, municipal police, and ambulance) along with other authorized system users with emergency response roles.
  - System has 336 transmission sites plus two Sites on Wheels, and over 45,000 authorized users.
- **Emergency Social Services**
  - Provides evacuation supports, temporary shelter, food, clothing, registration and inquiry services, and access to financial supports.
  - Emergency evacuation payments administered by Seniors and Community Social Services (currently \$1,250 per adult and \$600 per eligible dependent).

# Emergency Preparedness Initiatives (Continued)

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- **Individual Preparedness Program – “Alberta Ready”**
  - Preparedness starts at the individual level.
  - Information translated into multiple languages
- **Provincial Flood Stockpile**
  - Located in Foothills County to support municipalities most at risk of floods.
  - Stockpile resources can be forward staged depending upon hazard situation.
- **Emergency Management Preparedness Program**
  - Provides grant funding to enhance local authority emergency management capacity in Alberta.
- **National Disaster Mitigation Program**
  - Federal cost-shared funding program for large scale provincial/municipal mitigation projects.

# Emergency Preparedness Initiatives (Continued)

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- Provincial emergency management exercises:
  - Annual training event to prepare for hazard season.
  - EMX24 occurred on April 4, 2024 with focus on informing/training GoA senior leadership in a one day event.
  - EMX25 under development.
  - Wildfire season starts March 1 annually.
  - Annual hazard brief provided to both Minister and the Deputy Ministers' Council.
    - Environment and Climate Change Canada – long term weather trends
    - River Forecast Centre from Environment and Protected Areas – ice conditions and river basin levels
    - Wildfire Management Branch from Forestry and Parks – projected wildfire risk
    - PECC – provincial readiness and coordination

# Emergency Preparedness Initiatives (Continued)

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- **Field Officer Program**
  - Eleven regional field officers in six regions.
  - Three wildland urban interface technical advisors.
  - Two collective training field officers.
  - Four First Nations field officers.
- **All-Hazard Incident Management Teams**
  - Grants and training to support six regional teams.
  - Provide additional depth and expertise to local authorities.
- **Support to Canada Task Force 2**
  - Provides deployable Incident support, command capability, and heavy urban search and rescue specialists.
  - Collaborative initiative led by City of Calgary with funding from Alberta and Canada.
- **Wildland Urban Interface Teams**
  - Collaboratively managed with Forestry and Parks to deliver structural protection for critical infrastructure.

# Disaster Financial Assistance

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- Recovery Branch delivers two disaster financial assistance programs for large scale widespread events:
  - Disaster Recovery Program (DRP); and
  - Municipal Wildfire Assistance Program (MWAP).
- Programs are established under the Disaster Recovery Regulation, conditional grant programs covering uninsurable losses, and not an insurance program or “full value” replacement program.
- Small, localized DRPs may be approved by the Managing Director using a standing annual budget of \$80,000.
  - These provide financial assistance where an extraordinary event has affected a small group of people or a single community.

# Questions?

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# Resources

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- [Emergency Management Act](#)
  - [Disaster Recovery Regulation](#)
  - [Government Emergency Management Regulation](#)
  - [Local Emergency Management Regulation](#)
- [Alberta Emergency Plan](#)
  - [Provincial Recovery Framework \(Annex F\)](#)
- Alberta Disaster Assistance Guidelines
- [Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements](#)
- Alberta Wildfire:  
<https://www.alberta.ca/wildfire-status>
- River Forecast Centre:  
<https://rivers.alberta.ca>

# Other important strategic documents

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- [Emergency Management Framework for Canada](#)
- [Emergency Management Strategy for Canada](#)
- [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030](#)
- [A Review of Alberta's Environmental and Emergency Response Capacity](#)
- [Flooding in Alberta in 2005](#)
- [Lesser Slave Lake Regional Urban Interface Wildfire – Lessons Learned](#)
- [Review and Analysis of the Government of Alberta's Response to and Recovery from 2013 Floods](#)
- [Lessons Learned and Recommendations from the 2016 Horse River Wildfire](#)