POWELL RIVER
Regional District

An Introduction To
Emergency Management

Incident Command Course
&
Exercise

December 07

An Introduction to Emergency Management

Context
Threats
Strategies
Plans
Incident Command and Structure

Context for Emergency Management

- **Chaos**
- **Complexity** – a planned approach to unplanned events
- Emergency versus disasters
  - Emergency
  - Major emergency
  - Disasters and catastrophes

- **Threats – internal and external**
- **Impacts – people, property, possessions, environment, economy.**

Threats

- Natural events

- Technological failures [man-made events]

- Socio – political incidents

- Criminal activity

- Public health concerns

Threat Classification [TRV]

- Threat identification

- Risk analysis

- Vulnerability assessment

  - Impact research
  - Consequence management

Strategies

- Prevention

- Mitigation

- Preparedness

- Response

- Recovery

- Business Continuity   [operational continuity]

Legal Compliance

- Local bylaws
  - Powell River Regional District bylaw number 382, establishing and emergency preparedness service within the electoral areas
  - Powell River Regional District bylaw number 396, to regulate the administration and operation of the PRRD emergency management program
- Pursuant to the Local Government Act and the Emergency Program Act and Regulations

Preparedness

- Plans

- Training

- Exercising
  - Tabletops
  - Functional exercises
  - Scenario development
  - Full-scale exercises

Plan Types

- Program Plans and Standards
- Preparedness plans
- Crisis response plans
- Consequence management plans
- Communications plans
- recovery plans
- Threat specific plans
- Business and operational continuity plans
- Multi-agency integrated plans and agreements

Plan Content

- Aim
- Activation
- Actions taken
- Roles
- Responsibilities
- Resources
  - Annexes
  - Appendices
  - Attachments
  - Addenda
  - Acronyms and terms

Plan Administration

- In writing
- Compliant with legislative requirements
- Current particularly with reference to contacts
- Tested in exercises
- Revised from 'after action' reports
- Well understood by all appropriate staff
- Summary available to response and mutual aid partners

Plan Actions

- Concept of operations
- Concept of communications
- Levels of action
  - Level 2
  - Level 3
  - Alert one
- Organization and structure
  - Incident command
  - Incident command post, local EOC, regional EOC

British Columbia Emergency Response Management System

- 'All hazards' province wide emergency operations system
- Application and guidance to key Ministries and Crown corporations
- Recommended for use by federal agencies and First Nations communities
- Consistent and coordinated response
- Maintenance of responsibility and authority for respective jurisdictional and legal roles

BCERMS Components

- Eight explicit response goals
- Five components
  - Qualifications for functional areas
  - Technology to facilitate deployment
  - Operations and control objectives
  - Training standards and qualifications
  - Publications common forms, reports and terminology

Recognition of Partners

- Local authorities
  - Police
  - Fire
  - Emergency management
  - Emergency social services
  - Boards, councils and executive leadership teams
- Health regions and school boards
- Non government organizations
- Associations and societies
- Corporate organizations and media
- Family members and individuals
- Other levels of government [provincial, federal]

The Importance of Communications

- Methods
- Messages
- Reliability and redundancy
- Titles versus individuals
- Murphy's Law and 24/7contacts
- Commercial versus volunteer
- Voice versus data
- The issue of trust

Conclusions

- Emergency management programs must be sustainable
- Emergency management principles should become an integral part of everyday governance and operations
- Resilience and self-reliance are important principles particularly in rural areas
- Hazard awareness and response readiness our fundamental to success

POWELL RIVER
Regional District

Definition of Terms
&
Acronyms

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ACRONYMS and TERMS

Acronym	Definition
Action plans:	Written or verbal plans that reflect the overall incident goal (control objectives) and incident strategy, objectives for the designated operational period, specific tactical actions and assignments, and supporting information for the designated operational period. They provide designated personnel with knowledge of the objectives to be achieved and the strategy and steps to be used for achievement, hence improving coordination across different levels of government and intrastate jurisdictional borders. Actions plans not only provide direction, but also provide a metric for measuring achievement of objectives and overall system performance.
Activate (emergency management definition):	To begin the process of mobilizing a response team or EOC, or to set in motion an emergency response or recovery plan, process, or procedure for an exercise or for an actual hazard incident.
Activation:	A notification category that provides urgent information about an unusual occurrence or threat of occurrence, and orders or recommends that the notified entity activate its emergency response (usually via its emergency operations plan). An activation may be partial (stipulating the components of the EOP to activate, or some other indication of the level of commitment to be made by the notified entity) or full (stipulating full activation of the notified entity's EOP). It usually includes actionable information directing the notified entity on initial actions for mobilization, deployment, and/or response (See "alert" and "advisory" for contrast between the other notification categories).
Advisory:	A notification category that provides urgent information about an unusual occurrence or threat of an occurrence, but no activation of the notified entity is ordered or expected at that time. An advisory can be used for notification that something has occurred or is anticipated, and provide actionable information for notified personnel even though the response entity is not being activated. For example, a weather advisory that includes recommended actions for individuals. (See "alert" and "activation" for contrast between the other notification categories.)
AEOC - Area Emergency Operations Centre	An Emergency Operations Centre established and operated at the area level in order to coordinate the response and support of all BCCA SEOCs within it's jurisdiction and to liaise with the HAEOC.

Acronym	Definition
Approach, All-Hazards:	A strategy (see "All-hazards) that addresses the commonalities of incident identification, assessment, and response to natural, technological, and intentional hazards. It provides a common emergency operations plan for use in response to and recovery from all emergencies and disasters.
Area Command (Unified Area Command):	An organization established (1) to oversee the management of multiple incidents that are each being handled by an ICS organization or (2) to oversee the management of large or multiple incidents to which several Incident Management Teams have been assigned. Area Command has the responsibility to set overall strategy and priorities, allocate critical resources according to priorities, ensure that incidents are properly managed, and ensure that objectives are met and strategies followed. Area Command becomes Unified Area Command when incidents are multijurisdictional. Area Command may be established at an emergency operations center facility or at some location other than an incident command post.
Assessment:	The evaluation and interpretation of measurements and other information to provide a basis for decision making.
Assignments:	Tasks given to resources to perform within a given4perationaleeriod that are based on operational objectives defined in the Incident Action Plan (lAP).
Assistant:	Title for subordinates of principal Command Staff positions. The title indicates a level of technical capability, qualifications, and responsibility subordinate to the primary positions. Assistants may also be assigned to Unit Leadership.
Assumptions (management definition):	Statements of conditions accepted as true and that have influence over the development of a system. In emergency management, assumptions provide context, requirements and situational realities that must be addressed in system planning and development, and/or system operations. When these assumptions are extended to specific operations, they may require re-validation for the specific incident.
BCAS - British Columbia Ambulance Service	SCAS provides public ambulance service in BC under the authority of the Emergency Health Services Commission of the Provincial Ministry of Health Services. The Commission is mandated to oversee the broad responsibility of overall Emergency Medical Service provision, regulation and direction in BC.
Branch:	The organizational level having functional or geographical responsibility for major aspects of incident operations. A branch is organizationally situated between the section and the division or group in the Operations Section, and between the section and units in the Logistics Section. Branches are identified by the use of Roman numerals or by functional area.

Acronym	Definition
Communications:	A focused process that is a narrow but vital component of Information Management, referring only to the method(s) of conveying information.
Community:	A political entity which has the authority to adopt and enforce bylaws for the area under its jurisdiction. In most cases, the community is an incorporated town, city, township, village, or unincorporated area of a county.
Concept of Operations:	A description of how components of a system operate in a coordinated manner through successive stages of a response and recovery.
Contamination:	The undesirable deposition of a chemical, biological, or radiological material on the surface of structures, areas, objects, or people.
Credentialing:	Credentialing involves providing documentation that can authenticate and verify the training, certification and identity of designated incident command staff and emergency responders. This system helps ensure that personnel representing various jurisdictional levels and functional disciplines possess a minimum common level of training, currency, experience, physical and medical fitness, and capability for the incident management or emergency responder position they are tasked to fill.
Cyber(or Information) Security:	Actions taken for the purpose of reducing information system risk, specifically, reducing the probability that a threat will succeed in exploiting critical Automated Information System infrastructure vulnerabilities using electronic, radio frequency or computer-based means.
Damage Assessment:	An appraisal or determination of the effects of the disaster on human, physical, economic, and natural resources.
Decontamination (Decon):	The reduction or removal of a chemical, biological, or radiological material from the surface of a structure, area, object, or person.
Demobilization:	The ICS/IMS phase that begins the transition of Management, Operations, and Support functions and elements from the incident activities back to recovery normal operations or to their baseline standby state as their operational objectives are attained.
Deputy:	A fully qualified individual who, in the absence of a superior, can be delegated the authority to manage a functional operation or perform a specific task. In some cases, a deputy can act as relief for a superior and, therefore, must be fully qualified in the position. Deputies can be assigned to the EOC Director, General Staff, and Branch Directors.
DERT - Disaster Emergency Response Team	The DERT is a support team that provides technical emergency management advice and support to the EOC Director of the EOC

Acronym	Definition
Emergency Assistance:	Assistance which may be made available under an emergency declaration. In general, Federal support to State and local efforts to save lives, protect property and public health and safety, and lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe. Federal emergency assistance may take the form of coordinating all disaster relief assistance (including voluntary assistance) provided by Federal agencies, private organizations, and State and local governments. Or, the Federal government may provide technical and advisory assistance to affected State and local governments for: the performance of essential community services; issuance of warnings of risks or hazards; public health and safety information, including dissemination of such information; provision of health and safety measures; management, control, and reduction of immediate threats to public health and safety; debris removal; temporary housing; and distribution of medicine, food, and other consumable supplies.
Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC):	A physical location at which coordination and support of a group of Agency EOC's is undertaken.
Emergency Management	Organized analysis, planning, decision making, and assignment of available resources to mitigate (lessen the effect of or prevent) prepare for, respond to, and recover from the effects of all hazards. The goal of emergency management is to save lives, prevent injuries, and protect property and the environment if an emergency occurs.
Emergency Management Committee (EMC):	A committee established by an organization, primarily a municipality, that has the responsibility for Emergency Management Program (EMP) oversight within the organization. As such, the committee would normally have the responsibility to ensure the overall preparation, implementation, evaluation and currency of the EMP.
Emergency Management Phases:	The time and function-based divisions within comprehensive emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.
Emergency Management Program (EMP):	A program that implements the organization's mission, vision, management framework, and strategic goals and objectives related to emergencies and disasters. It uses a comprehensive approach to emergency management as a conceptual framework, combining mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery into a fully integrated set of activities. The "program" applies to all departments and organizational units within the organization that have roles in responding to a potential emergency.

Acronym	Definition
Emergency Preparedness:	Activities and measures designed or undertaken to prepare for or minimize the effects of a hazard upon the civilian population or agency or jurisdiction to deal with the immediate emergency conditions that would be created by the hazard, and to effectuate emergency repairs to or the emergency restoration of, vital utilities and facilities destroyed or damaged by the hazard.
Emergency Program Manager (EPM):	The person who has the day-to-day responsibility for emergency management programs and activities. The role is one of coordinating all aspects of a jurisdiction's mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities. The individual primarily responsible for developing, implementing and maintaining a healthcare organization's emergency management program. The individual who has been specifically charged with the development and coordination of the EMP.
Emergency Services:	The preparation for and the carrying out of functions to prevent, minimize and repair injury and damage resulting from disasters, together with all other activities necessary or incidental to the preparation for and carrying out of the foregoing functions. These functions include, but are not limited to, fire fighting services, police services, ambulance, medical and health services, rescue, engineering, warning services, communications, radiological, chemical and other special weapons defence, evacuation of persons from stricken areas, emergency social services, emergency transportation, emergency resource management, existing or properly assigned fun Ions of plant protections public works, temporary restoration of public utility services, emergency sheltering, and other functions related to civilian protection. These functions also include the administration of approved regional, provincial and federal disaster recovery and assistance programs.
Emergency Support Function (ESF):	A United States grouping of government and certain private-sector capabilities into an organizational structure to provide support, resources, and services. ESF 8 - Health and Medical Services is the principal ESF with which US hospitals and Health Care organizations will coordinate activities.
Entity:	A governmental agency or jurisdiction, private or public company, partnership, nonprofit organization, or other organization that has disaster/emergency management and continuity of operations responsibilities.
EOC - Emergency Operations Centre	A designated facility established by an agency or jurisdiction to coordinate the overall agency or jurisdictional response

Acronym	Definition
Finance/Administration:	The ICS functional area that addresses the financial, administrative, and legal/regulatory issues for the incident management system. It monitors costs related to the incident, and provides accounting, procurement, time recording, cost analyses, and overall guidance.
First Receivers:	Employees at a health care facilities engaged in decontamination and treatment of victims who have been contaminated by a hazardous substance(s) during an emergency incident. The incident occurs at a site other than a hospital. These employees are a subset of first responders. Because the personnel are located remote from the hazardous materials event site and are receiving live victims, their HazMat exposure may be less than that of HazMat first responders at the incident site.
Function:	▪ Function refers to the five major activities in ICS: Command, Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration. The term function is also used when describing the activity involved, e.g., the planning function. A sixth function, Intelligence, may be established, if required, to meet incident management needs. ▪ In the Incident Command System, refers to the five major activities (Command, Operations, Plans/Information, Logistics, and Finance/ Administration). The term function is also used when describing the activity involved (e.g., the planning function). Intelligence is not considered a separate function under ICS.
General Staff	A group of incident management personnel organized according to function and reporting to the EOC/ Director. The General Staff normally consists of the Operations Section Chief, Planning Section Chief, Logistics Section Chief, and Finance/Administration Section Chief.
Goal (emergency management application):	A description of the end state - where the organization wants to be at the end of the activity, plan, program or other entity for which the goal was defined.
Group:	Established to divide the incident management structure into functional areas of operation. Groups are composed of resources assembled to perform a special function not necessarily within a single geographic division. Groups, when activated, are located between branches and resources in the Operations Section. See also "division."
HABCERMS - Health Authority British Columbia Emergency Response Management System	The Health Authority British Columbia Emergency Response Management System is a comprehensive management scheme that ensures a coordinated and organized BCCA response and recovery to any and all emergency incidents. The broad spectrum of components of HABCERMS includes operations and control management, qualifications, technology,

Acronym	Definition
Emergency Incident Command System	Command System is based upon the same Standards and organizational structure as the Incident Command System (ICS) as used in HABCERMS and is operationally compatible with that structure. HEICS is used at the SEOC command level within a facility.
Hospital Emergency Operation Centre (HEOC):	A designated location in the hospital prepared to convene and coordinate response activities, resources, and information during an emergency or disaster.
Hospital Incident Command System (HICS):	The Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) is a management system that consists of a flexible organization structure and time-proven management principles. The system includes defined responsibilities and reporting channels and uses common language to promote internal and external communication and integration with community responders. HICS can be utilized for emergency incidents or for planned events.
Hot-wash:	A systems performance review that is generally less formal and detailed than the After-Action Report (AAR) meeting, and occurs in close proximity to the end of the incident or exercise. Preparation for a hot wash is commonly less extensive than for an AAR meeting. The results of the hot wash may serve as a starting point for a later, more formal AAR meeting. It should never be considered the endpoint to an after-action report process for an incident or exercise, or replace formal AAR meetings.
HSA - Health Service Area	In the BCCA organization the Island is divided into three Health Services Areas, South, Central and North.
ICS - Incident Command System	A standardized emergency management concept specifically designed to allow its user(s) to adopt an integrated organizational structure equal to the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. Within the BCCA EOCs either HABCERMS or HEICS have been designated as the chosen structure of ICS.
Improvement Plan (IP):	The Improvement Plan is the means by which the lessons learned from the exercise are turned into concrete, measurable steps that result in improved response capabilities. It specifically details what actions will betaken to address each recommendation presented in the draft AAR, who or what entity will be responsible for taking the action, and the time line for completion. An initial IP should be developed at the debriefing while all key command staff are together.

Acronym	Definition
Incident Command Post (ICP):	A facility established close to the incident scene (or elsewhere for a diffuse incident or one with multiple scenes), which serves as a base location for managing "field operations" - all activities within the defined scope of the "incident." Located within the ICP are designated representatives of the major response agencies for that incident, filling designated positions in the incident management team. The ICP location is designated by the EOC Director. If the ICP and EOC are co-located in the same building, their personnel and procedures should remain physically separated and functionally distinct.
Incident Command System (ICS):	▪ A standardized on-scene emergency management construct specifically designed to provide for the adoption of an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents. It is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable to small as well as large and complex incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private, to organize field-level incident management operations. ▪ A standardized on-scene emergency management concept specifically designed to allow its users to adopt an integrated organizational structure equal to the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries.
Incident Management System (IMS):	▪ See Incident Command System. This term is preferred over "Incident Command System" (ICS) by many disciplines involved in emergency response. ▪ In disaster/emergency management applications, the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure with responsibility for the management of assigned resources to effectively accomplish stated objectives pertaining to an incident.
Incident Management Team (IMT):	▪ The IC and appropriate Command and General Staff personnel assigned to the incident. ▪ The management unit that directly manages the incident response, and defines the scope of the "incident." The IMT provides guidance to responders by establishing Incident-specific goals, strategy and objectives, and oversees the development of incident tactics and tactical strategy by the incident operations chief.

Acronym	Definition
Liaison (Verb):	A form of communication for establishing and maintaining mutual understanding and cooperation.
Liaison Officer:	A member of the Command Staff responsible for coordinating with representatives from cooperating and assisting agencies.
Life-safety:	In emergency response, this indicates safety issues that are important in preventing injury or death for exposed responders or victims during an incident.
Line of Duty Death:	The death of any responder or health care personnel while on duty and in the performance of their job or assigned role.
Local Government:	A county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, regional district, regional or Municipal government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government; a First Nations or Corporation; a rural community, unincorporated town or village, or other public entity.
Local State of Emergency:	A declared state of emergency under the BC Provincial Emergency Program Act that allows Municipalities and Regional Districts so empowered to seek and obtain special powers from the Province and to exercise these powers in specified geographic areas that they identify in order to manage emergency conditions or anticipated conditions in their jurisdiction.
Logistics:	Providing resources and other services to support incident management. Logistics Section: The [ICS] section responsible for providing facilities, services, and material support for the incident.
Management (general):	Management consists of decision-making activities undertaken by one or more individuals to direct and coordinate the activities of other people in order to achieve results that could not be accomplished by anyone person acting alone. Effective management focuses on group effort, various forms of coordination, and the manner of making decisions. Management is required whenever two or more persons combine their efforts and resources to accomplish a goal that cannot be accomplished by acting alone. Coordination is necessary when the actions of group participants constitute parts of a total task. If one person acts alone to accomplish a task, no coordination may be required; but when that person delegates a part of the task to others, the individual efforts must be coordinated.
Management (ICS – noun):	The ICS function related to directing and coordinating resources while establishing overall response objectives. Typically objectives are defined in a manner so that they are measurable and achievable within a defined period of time.
Management (ICS/IMS – verb):	The act of providing objectives, assigning resources to the objectives and delineating the parameters within which the resources are to achieve the objectives. See "management by objective" and "incident objectives" for NIMS definitions.

Acronym	Definition
Mitigation:	▪ The phase of Comprehensive Emergency Management that encompasses all activities that reduce or eliminate the probability of a hazard occurrence, or eliminate or reduce the impact from the hazard if it should occur. Incomprehensive emergency management, mitigation activities are undertaken during the time period prior to an imminent or actual hazard impact. Once an imminent or actual hazard impact is recognized, subsequent actions are considered response actions and are not called "mitigation" - this avoids the confusion that occurs with the HazMat discipline's use of mitigation, which applies to response actions that reduce the impact of a hazardous materials spill. ▪ Activities taken to eliminate or reduce the probability of the event, or reduce its severity or consequences, either prior to or following a disaster/emergency. ▪ The activities designed to reduce or eliminate risks to persons or property or to lessen the actual or potential effects or consequences of an incident. Mitigation measures may be implemented prior to, during, or after an incident. Mitigation measures are often informed by lessons learned from prior incidents. Mitigation involves ongoing actions to reduce exposure to, probability of, or potential loss from hazards. Measures may include zoning and building codes, floodplain buyouts, and analysis of hazard- related data to determine where it is safe to build or locate temporary facilities. Mitigation can include efforts to educate governments, businesses, and the public on measures they can take to reduce loss and injury.
Multiagency Coordination Systems:	Multiagency coordination systems provide the architecture to support coordination for incident prioritization, critical resource allocation, communications systems integration, and information coordination. The components of multiagency coordination systems include facilities, equipment, emergency operation centers (EOCs), specific multiagency coordination entities, personnel, procedures, and communications.
Multiple Casualty Incident:	A hazard impact with casualties in which the available organizational and medical resources, or their management systems, are severely challenged. A stepped up capacity and capability beyond the normal "first response," usually involving the use of ICS for expanded management, is required to adequately meet the medical needs of the affected population. "Multiple casualty incident" equate to an "emergency," whereas "Mass casualty" equates to a "disaster."

Acronym	Definition
National Incident Management System:	A United States system that provides a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, Provincial, local, and First Nation governments; the private-sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. To provide for interoperability and compatibility among Federal, State, local, and First Nation capabilities, the NIMS includes a core set of concepts, principles, and terminology. HSPD-5 identifies these as the ICS; multiagency coordination systems; training; identification and management of resources (including systems for classifying types of resources); qualification and certification; and the collection, tracking, and reporting of incident information and incident resources.
National Response Plan (NRP):	The National Response Plan establishes a comprehensive all-hazards approach to enhance the ability of the United States to manage domestic incidents. The plan incorporates best practices and procedures from incident management disciplines-homeland security, emergency management, law enforcement, firefighting, public works, public health, responder and recovery worker health and safety, emergency medical services, and the private sector-and integrates them into a unified structure. It forms the basis of how the federal government coordinates with state, local, and tribal governments and the private sector during incidents.
Notification:	Information distributed to relevant personnel that contains important information regarding an actual or potential hazard impact and the response status of the organization. There are generally three categories of notification: alert, advisory, and activation.
Objectives, Incident:	Statements of guidance and direction necessary for selecting appropriate strategy(s) and the tactical direction of resources. Incident objectives are based on realistic expectations of what can be accomplished when all allocated resources have been effectively deployed. Incident objectives must be achievable and measurable, yet flexible enough to allow strategic and tactical alternatives.
Occupational Health:	▪ A professional discipline that focuses on the promotion and maintenance of physical and mental health in the work environment. ▪ The science of designing, implementing and evaluating comprehensive health and safety programs that maintain and enhance employee health, improve safety and increase productivity in the workplace.

Acronym	Definition
Plan:	A plan is a proposed or intended method of getting from one set of circumstances to another. A plan provides guidelines and/or directives on moving from the present situation towards the achievement of one or more objectives or goals. The term "Plans" in emergency management has multiple connotations: ▪ *Component plans:* of the overall emergency management program (EMP). In comprehensive emergency management, these are the Mitigation Plan, Preparedness Plan, Emergency Operations Plan (i.e., Response Plan), and Recovery Plan. ▪ *Incident plans:* plans developed during incident response (often customized from pre-plans) that guide the response actions and achieve "management by objective." ▪ *Planning Section: (see below)* ▪ *Pre-plans:* Guidelines that describe processes and procedures to be followed, plus other response considerations, for specific events and/or for specific geographic locations (stadiums, government facilities, special security events, etc.). These build upon the guidance in the functional annexes, and are included in the incident (i.e., hazard-specific) annexes of the EOP. Most of the guidance and accompanying considerations in the pre-plan can be accomplished within the usual EOP construct. The VHA refers to these detailed pre-plans for complex events as "Standard Operating Procedures"("SOPs"). ▪ *Preparedness plans:* plans that address the preparedness of organizations for emergency response and recovery; these include a training plan, exercise plan, and others. Developing, documenting and revising/refining response and recovery plans and all their components. ▪ *Sub-plans:* Function-specific guidance and tools for use during emergency response and recovery. For example, the mobilization of the decontamination area may be a sub-plan to the Patient Decontamination Plan, which is a function-specific plan that guides hospital personnel in receiving and managing contaminated casualties. ▪ *Supporting Plans:* the incident planning documents that support the Incident Action Plan. These include the Safety Plan, the Medical Plan, Communications Plan and others.
Planning Meeting:	A meeting held as needed prior to and throughout the duration of an incident to select specific strategies and tactics for incident control operations and for service and support planning. For larger incidents, the planning meeting is a major element in the development of the Incident Action Plan.

Acronym	Definition
Prevention:	Actions to avoid an incident or to intervene to stop an incident from occurring. Prevention involves actions to protect lives and property. It may include alterations to the built environment to make it more robust. It also involves applying intelligence and other information to a range of activities that may include such countermeasures as deterrence operations; heightened inspections; improved surveillance and security operations; investigations to determine the full nature and source of the threat; public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and, as appropriate, specific law enforcement operations aimed at deterring, pre-empting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity and apprehending potential perpetrators and bringing them to justice.
Private Sector:	Organizations and entities that are not part of any governmental structure. It includes for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, formal and informal structures, commerce and industry, and private voluntary organizations.
Privileging:	The process where appropriately credentialed personnel (see credentialing) are accepted into an incident to participate as an assigned resource in the response. This process may include both confirmation of a responder's credentials and a determination that an incident need exists that the responder is qualified to address. Privileging is associated with a separate process, badging, which indicates that a person has been privileged to access a specific incident or to access a specific location.
Probability:	The likelihood of a specific outcome, measured by the ratio of specific outcomes to the total number of possible outcomes. Probability is expressed as a number between 0 and 1, with 0 indicating an impossible outcome and 1 indicating an outcome is certain.
Procedure:	A series of specific activities, tasks, steps, decisions, calculations and other processes, that when undertaken in the prescribed sequence produces the described result, product or outcome. "Following" a procedure should produce repeatable results for the same input conditions. In the context of emergency management, procedures are much more tightly defined and specific to a distinct organization than the "process" that the procedure or series of procedures accomplishes.
Process:	A process is a defined activity, related to planning and/or implementation, carried out to achieve the objectives of the program. A process commonly encompasses multiple procedures that are linked or coordinated to accomplish the process objectives (see Procedure).

Acronym	Definition
Recovery:	- The phase of Comprehensive Emergency Management that encompasses activities and programs implemented during and after response that are designed to return the entity to its usual state or to a "new normal." For response organizations, this includes return-to-readiness activities. - Activities and programs designed to return conditions to a level that is acceptable to the entity. - The development, coordination, and execution of service- and site-restoration plans; the reconstitution of government operations and services; individual, private- sector, nongovernmental, and public-assistance programs to provide housing and to promote restoration; long-term care and treatment of affected persons; additional measures for social, political, environmental, and economic restoration; evaluation of the incident to identify lessons learned; post-incident reporting; and development of initiatives to mitigate the effects of future incidents.
Red Cross:	The Red Cross is a humanitarian organization, led by volunteers, that provides relief to victims of disasters and helps people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies. It does this through services including registration and inquiry that are consistent with its Charter and the Principles of the International Red Cross Movement.
Resource Management:	A system for identifying available resources at all jurisdictional levels to enable timely and unimpeded access to resources needed to prepare for, respond to, or recover from an incident. Resource management under the NIMS includes mutual-aid agreements; the use of special Federal, State, local, and tribal teams; and resource mobilization protocols. Resource management involves four primary tasks: - establishing systems for describing, inventorying, requesting, and tracking resources; - activating these systems prior to and during an incident; - dispatching resources prior to and during an incident; and - deactivating or recalling resources during or after incidents.
Resources Unit	Functional unit within the Planning Section responsible for recording the status of resources committed to the incident. This unit also evaluates resources currently committed to the incident, the effects additional responding resources will have on the incident, and anticipated resource needs.
Resources, Available:	Resources assigned to an incident, checked in, and available for a mission assignment, normally located in a Staging Area.

Acronym	Definition
Risk Management:	A management science that employs the findings of the Hazards Vulnerability Analysis process to make strategic and tactical decisions on how risks will be treated - whether deferred, reduced (through mitigation and preparedness activities), transferred, or avoided. Risk management provides the option of accepting certain levels of risk, at least temporarily, that are considered too low for resource allocation. Conversely, it provides the decision option to commit major resources that eliminate or avoid risks that are of such high probability and/or high consequence that they threaten the very existence of an organization. Risk management, which may be considered a subsection of overall emergency management, focuses upon mitigation preparedness activities that prevent and or reduce hazard impacts, and is considered by many to be its own discipline.
Risk:	The expectation of loss from hazards and their impact. Risk is a function of probability (likelihood) of a hazard occurrence and the impact (consequences) of a hazard on the target of the risk assessment. It connotes a relationship between the hazard and the target's vulnerability to the hazard. Risk can be addressed by managing probability (through mitigation) and/or managing impact (through mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery).
Safety Officer:	A member of the Command Staff, sometimes referred to as Risk Management Officer, responsible for monitoring and assessing safety hazards or unsafe situations and for developing measures for ensuring personnel safety.
Safety:	Safety, in the traditional sense, refers to monitoring and reducing the work-place risk of personnel casualties (injuries and deaths) to some acceptable level.
SAO - Senior Administrative Officer	The role of the SAO is to act as, or delegate the duties of the EOC Director. The SAO is available 24/7 on-call.
Section:	The organizational level having responsibility for a major functional area of incident management, e.g., Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/ Administration, and Intelligence (if established). The section is organizationally situated between the Branch and the Incident Command.
Security:	Security in the traditional sense refers to monitoring and reducing the risk of human induced events that adversely affect people or property (intrusion of unauthorized personnel, theft, sabotage, assault, etc.), to some acceptable level.
SEOC - Centre Emergency Operations Centre	A pre-designated location at a Centre to coordinate the Centre response and support in an emergency.
Situation Analysis:	The process of evaluating the severity and consequences of an incident and communicating the results.

Acronym	Definition
Team (emergency management):	A nonspecific term for a group of personnel who work as a unit (with some incorporated leadership structure) to accomplish assigned tasks within incident management. The term may also be used as a shortened meaning for "strike team" (see "strike team").
Terrorism:	▪ Terrorism is defined as activity that involves an act dangerous to human life or potentially destructive of critical infrastructure or key resources and is a violation of the criminal laws of the Canada or of any province or Territory or other subdivision of Canada in which it occurs and is intended to intimidate or coerce the civilian population or influence any level of government in Canada actions including the Federal government or affect the conduct of government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping. ▪ The unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives. **Domestic** terrorism involves groups or individuals who are based and operate entirely within Canada or United States without foreign direction and whose acts are directed at elements of the Canadian or U.S. Governments or populations.
Threat:	▪ An indication of possible violence, harm, or danger. ▪ The possibility of a hazard occurrence; something that has the potential to cause harm.
Tools:	Those instruments and capabilities that allow for the professional performance of tasks, such as information systems, agreements, doctrine, capabilities, and legislative authorities.

Acronym	Definition

Volunteer:	Multiple definitions are used, with the issue of payment for services being the factor that is important to differentiate:
	
	■ A person agreeing to provide service outside the scope of his/her employer and/or employed position, without additional or specific compensation for this voluntary commitment. This differentiates the "volunteer" from personnel who provide service as part of their job position in an assigned resource. An individual offering or providing this service is a "volunteer" even if the volunteer's time is compensated through his/her usual employer and employment rate.
	■ In some contexts, a volunteer is defined as providing service "without payor remuneration." For this EGC purpose a volunteer is any individual accepted to perform services by the lead agency, which has authority to accept volunteer services, when the individual performs services without promise, expectation, or receipt of compensation for services performed.
	    o *Provincial volunteer:* Volunteers with PEP Identification who have been pre-approved or trained by the provincial government to provide assistance when activated and deployed.
	    o *Solicited volunteer.* Volunteers with skills that could address unique or short-supply needs of the disaster response, and are individually requested by the response system (by name or by technical ability) to assist in the effort. They may be affiliated or unaffiliated volunteers.
	    o *Unsolicited volunteer:* Volunteers presenting to help at the disaster scene who were neither recruited nor affiliated with an organization. Also referred to as "non solicited volunteers."

Vulnerability:	The likelihood of an organization being affected by a hazard, and its susceptibility to the impact and consequences (injury, death, and damage) of the hazard.
Warning:	Dissemination of notification message signalling imminent hazard which may include advice on protective measures. See also "alert." For example, a warning is issued by the Environment Canada Weather Service to let people know that a severe weather event is already occurring or is imminent, and usually provides direction on protective actions. A "warning" notification for individuals is equivalent to an "activation" notification for response systems.

POWELL RIVER
Regional District

Definition of Terms
&
Acronyms

Incident Command Course
&
Exercise

December 07

ACRONYMS and TERMS

Acronym	Definition
Action plans:	Written or verbal plans that reflect the overall incident goal (control objectives) and incident strategy, objectives for the designated operational period, specific tactical actions and assignments, and supporting information for the designated operational period. They provide designated personnel with knowledge of the objectives to be achieved and the strategy and steps to be used for achievement, hence improving coordination across different levels of government and intrastate jurisdictional borders. Actions plans not only provide direction, but also provide a metric for measuring achievement of objectives and overall system performance.
Activate (emergency management definition):	To begin the process of mobilizing a response team or EOC, or to set in motion an emergency response or recovery plan, process, or procedure for an exercise or for an actual hazard incident.
Activation:	A notification category that provides urgent information about an unusual occurrence or threat of occurrence, and orders or recommends that the notified entity activate its emergency response (usually via its emergency operations plan). An activation may be partial (stipulating the components of the EOP to activate, or some other indication of the level of commitment to be made by the notified entity) or full (stipulating full activation of the notified entity's EOP). It usually includes actionable information directing the notified entity on initial actions for mobilization, deployment, and/or response (See "alert" and "advisory" for contrast between the other notification categories).
Advisory:	A notification category that provides urgent information about an unusual occurrence or threat of an occurrence, but no activation of the notified entity is ordered or expected at that time. An advisory can be used for notification that something has occurred or is anticipated, and provide actionable information for notified personnel even though the response entity is not being activated. For example, a weather advisory that includes recommended actions for individuals. (See "alert" and "activation" for contrast between the other notification categories.)
AEOC - Area Emergency Operations Centre	An Emergency Operations Centre established and operated at the area level in order to coordinate the response and support of all BCCA SEOCs within it's jurisdiction and to liaise with the HAEOC.

Acronym	Definition
Approach, All-Hazards:	A strategy (see "All-hazards) that addresses the commonalities of incident identification, assessment, and response to natural, technological, and intentional hazards. It provides a common emergency operations plan for use in response to and recovery from all emergencies and disasters.
Area Command (Unified Area Command):	An organization established (1) to oversee the management of multiple incidents that are each being handled by an ICS organization or (2) to oversee the management of large or multiple incidents to which several Incident Management Teams have been assigned. Area Command has the responsibility to set overall strategy and priorities, allocate critical resources according to priorities, ensure that incidents are properly managed, and ensure that objectives are met and strategies followed. Area Command becomes Unified Area Command when incidents are multijurisdictional. Area Command may be established at an emergency operations center facility or at some location other than an incident command post.
Assessment:	The evaluation and interpretation of measurements and other information to provide a basis for decision making.
Assignments:	Tasks given to resources to perform within a given4perationaleeriod that are based on operational objectives defined in the Incident Action Plan (lAP).
Assistant:	Title for subordinates of principal Command Staff positions. The title indicates a level of technical capability, qualifications, and responsibility subordinate to the primary positions. Assistants may also be assigned to Unit Leadership.
Assumptions (management definition):	Statements of conditions accepted as true and that have influence over the development of a system. In emergency management, assumptions provide context, requirements and situational realities that must be addressed in system planning and development, and/or system operations. When these assumptions are extended to specific operations, they may require re-validation for the specific incident.
BCAS - British Columbia Ambulance Service	SCAS provides public ambulance service in BC under the authority of the Emergency Health Services Commission of the Provincial Ministry of Health Services. The Commission is mandated to oversee the broad responsibility of overall Emergency Medical Service provision, regulation and direction in BC.
Branch:	The organizational level having functional or geographical responsibility for major aspects of incident operations. A branch is organizationally situated between the section and the division or group in the Operations Section, and between the section and units in the Logistics Section. Branches are identified by the use of Roman numerals or by functional area.

Acronym	Definition
Communications:	A focused process that is a narrow but vital component of Information Management, referring only to the method(s) of conveying information.
Community:	A political entity which has the authority to adopt and enforce bylaws for the area under its jurisdiction. In most cases, the community is an incorporated town, city, township, village, or unincorporated area of a county.
Concept of Operations:	A description of how components of a system operate in a coordinated manner through successive stages of a response and recovery.
Contamination:	The undesirable deposition of a chemical, biological, or radiological material on the surface of structures, areas, objects, or people.
Credentialing:	Credentialing involves providing documentation that can authenticate and verify the training, certification and identity of designated incident command staff and emergency responders. This system helps ensure that personnel representing various jurisdictional levels and functional disciplines possess a minimum common level of training, currency, experience, physical and medical fitness, and capability for the incident management or emergency responder position they are tasked to fill.
Cyber(or Information) Security:	Actions taken for the purpose of reducing information system risk, specifically, reducing the probability that a threat will succeed in exploiting critical Automated Information System infrastructure vulnerabilities using electronic, radio frequency or computer-based means.
Damage Assessment:	An appraisal or determination of the effects of the disaster on human, physical, economic, and natural resources.
Decontamination (Decon):	The reduction or removal of a chemical, biological, or radiological material from the surface of a structure, area, object, or person.
Demobilization:	The ICS/IMS phase that begins the transition of Management, Operations, and Support functions and elements from the incident activities back to recovery normal operations or to their baseline standby state as their operational objectives are attained.
Deputy:	A fully qualified individual who, in the absence of a superior, can be delegated the authority to manage a functional operation or perform a specific task. In some cases, a deputy can act as relief for a superior and, therefore, must be fully qualified in the position. Deputies can be assigned to the EOC Director, General Staff, and Branch Directors.
DERT - Disaster Emergency Response Team	The DERT is a support team that provides technical emergency management advice and support to the EOC Director of the EOC

Acronym	Definition
Emergency Assistance:	Assistance which may be made available under an emergency declaration. In general, Federal support to State and local efforts to save lives, protect property and public health and safety, and lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe. Federal emergency assistance may take the form of coordinating all disaster relief assistance (including voluntary assistance) provided by Federal agencies, private organizations, and State and local governments. Or, the Federal government may provide technical and advisory assistance to affected State and local governments for: the performance of essential community services; issuance of warnings of risks or hazards; public health and safety information, including dissemination of such information; provision of health and safety measures; management, control, and reduction of immediate threats to public health and safety; debris removal; temporary housing; and distribution of medicine, food, and other consumable supplies.
Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC):	A physical location at which coordination and support of a group of Agency EOC's is undertaken.
Emergency Management	Organized analysis, planning, decision making, and assignment of available resources to mitigate (lessen the effect of or prevent) prepare for, respond to, and recover from the effects of all hazards. The goal of emergency management is to save lives, prevent injuries, and protect property and the environment if an emergency occurs.
Emergency Management Committee (EMC):	A committee established by an organization, primarily a municipality, that has the responsibility for Emergency Management Program (EMP) oversight within the organization. As such, the committee would normally have the responsibility to ensure the overall preparation, implementation, evaluation and currency of the EMP.
Emergency Management Phases:	The time and function-based divisions within comprehensive emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.
Emergency Management Program (EMP):	A program that implements the organization's mission, vision, management framework, and strategic goals and objectives related to emergencies and disasters. It uses a comprehensive approach to emergency management as a conceptual framework, combining mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery into a fully integrated set of activities. The "program" applies to all departments and organizational units within the organization that have roles in responding to a potential emergency.

Acronym	Definition
Emergency Preparedness:	Activities and measures designed or undertaken to prepare for or minimize the effects of a hazard upon the civilian population or agency or jurisdiction to deal with the immediate emergency conditions that would be created by the hazard, and to effectuate emergency repairs to or the emergency restoration of, vital utilities and facilities destroyed or damaged by the hazard.
Emergency Program Manager (EPM):	The person who has the day-to-day responsibility for emergency management programs and activities. The role is one of coordinating all aspects of a jurisdiction's mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities. The individual primarily responsible for developing, implementing and maintaining a healthcare organization's emergency management program. The individual who has been specifically charged with the development and coordination of the EMP.
Emergency Services:	The preparation for and the carrying out of functions to prevent, minimize and repair injury and damage resulting from disasters, together with all other activities necessary or incidental to the preparation for and carrying out of the foregoing functions. These functions include, but are not limited to, fire fighting services, police services, ambulance, medical and health services, rescue, engineering, warning services, communications, radiological, chemical and other special weapons defence, evacuation of persons from stricken areas, emergency social services, emergency transportation, emergency resource management, existing or properly assigned fun Ions of plant protections public works, temporary restoration of public utility services, emergency sheltering, and other functions related to civilian protection. These functions also include the administration of approved regional, provincial and federal disaster recovery and assistance programs.
Emergency Support Function (ESF):	A United States grouping of government and certain private-sector capabilities into an organizational structure to provide support, resources, and services. ESF 8 - Health and Medical Services is the principal ESF with which US hospitals and Health Care organizations will coordinate activities.
Entity:	A governmental agency or jurisdiction, private or public company, partnership, nonprofit organization, or other organization that has disaster/emergency management and continuity of operations responsibilities.
EOC - Emergency Operations Centre	A designated facility established by an agency or jurisdiction to coordinate the overall agency or jurisdictional response

Acronym	Definition
Finance/Administration:	The ICS functional area that addresses the financial, administrative, and legal/regulatory issues for the incident management system. It monitors costs related to the incident, and provides accounting, procurement, time recording, cost analyses, and overall guidance.
First Receivers:	Employees at a health care facilities engaged in decontamination and treatment of victims who have been contaminated by a hazardous substance(s) during an emergency incident. The incident occurs at a site other than a hospital. These employees are a subset of first responders. Because the personnel are located remote from the hazardous materials event site and are receiving live victims, their HazMat exposure may be less than that of HazMat first responders at the incident site.
Function:	▪ Function refers to the five major activities in ICS: Command, Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration. The term function is also used when describing the activity involved, e.g., the planning function. A sixth function, Intelligence, may be established, if required, to meet incident management needs. ▪ In the Incident Command System, refers to the five major activities (Command, Operations, Plans/Information, Logistics, and Finance/ Administration). The term function is also used when describing the activity involved (e.g., the planning function). Intelligence is not considered a separate function under ICS.
General Staff	A group of incident management personnel organized according to function and reporting to the EOC/ Director. The General Staff normally consists of the Operations Section Chief, Planning Section Chief, Logistics Section Chief, and Finance/Administration Section Chief.
Goal (emergency management application):	A description of the end state - where the organization wants to be at the end of the activity, plan, program or other entity for which the goal was defined.
Group:	Established to divide the incident management structure into functional areas of operation. Groups are composed of resources assembled to perform a special function not necessarily within a single geographic division. Groups, when activated, are located between branches and resources in the Operations Section. See also "division."
HABCERMS - Health Authority British Columbia Emergency Response Management System	The Health Authority British Columbia Emergency Response Management System is a comprehensive management scheme that ensures a coordinated and organized BCCA response and recovery to any and all emergency incidents. The broad spectrum of components of HABCERMS includes operations and control management, qualifications, technology,

Acronym	Definition
Emergency Incident Command System	Command System is based upon the same Standards and organizational structure as the Incident Command System (ICS) as used in HABCERMS and is operationally compatible with that structure. HEICS is used at the SEOC command level within a facility.
Hospital Emergency Operation Centre (HEOC):	A designated location in the hospital prepared to convene and coordinate response activities, resources, and information during an emergency or disaster.
Hospital Incident Command System (HICS):	The Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) is a management system that consists of a flexible organization structure and time-proven management principles. The system includes defined responsibilities and reporting channels and uses common language to promote internal and external communication and integration with community responders. HICS can be utilized for emergency incidents or for planned events.
Hot-wash:	A systems performance review that is generally less formal and detailed than the After-Action Report (AAR) meeting, and occurs in close proximity to the end of the incident or exercise. Preparation for a hot wash is commonly less extensive than for an AAR meeting. The results of the hot wash may serve as a starting point for a later, more formal AAR meeting. It should never be considered the endpoint to an after-action report process for an incident or exercise, or replace formal AAR meetings.
HSA - Health Service Area	In the BCCA organization the Island is divided into three Health Services Areas, South, Central and North.
ICS - Incident Command System	A standardized emergency management concept specifically designed to allow its user(s) to adopt an integrated organizational structure equal to the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. Within the BCCA EOCs either HABCERMS or HEICS have been designated as the chosen structure of ICS.
Improvement Plan (IP):	The Improvement Plan is the means by which the lessons learned from the exercise are turned into concrete, measurable steps that result in improved response capabilities. It specifically details what actions will betaken to address each recommendation presented in the draft AAR, who or what entity will be responsible for taking the action, and the time line for completion. An initial IP should be developed at the debriefing while all key command staff are together.

Acronym	Definition
Incident Command Post (ICP):	A facility established close to the incident scene (or elsewhere for a diffuse incident or one with multiple scenes), which serves as a base location for managing "field operations" - all activities within the defined scope of the "incident." Located within the ICP are designated representatives of the major response agencies for that incident, filling designated positions in the incident management team. The ICP location is designated by the EOC Director. If the ICP and EOC are co-located in the same building, their personnel and procedures should remain physically separated and functionally distinct.
Incident Command System (ICS):	▪ A standardized on-scene emergency management construct specifically designed to provide for the adoption of an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents. It is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable to small as well as large and complex incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private, to organize field-level incident management operations. ▪ A standardized on-scene emergency management concept specifically designed to allow its users to adopt an integrated organizational structure equal to the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries.
Incident Management System (IMS):	▪ See Incident Command System. This term is preferred over "Incident Command System" (ICS) by many disciplines involved in emergency response. ▪ In disaster/emergency management applications, the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure with responsibility for the management of assigned resources to effectively accomplish stated objectives pertaining to an incident.
Incident Management Team (IMT):	▪ The IC and appropriate Command and General Staff personnel assigned to the incident. ▪ The management unit that directly manages the incident response, and defines the scope of the "incident." The IMT provides guidance to responders by establishing Incident-specific goals, strategy and objectives, and oversees the development of incident tactics and tactical strategy by the incident operations chief.

Acronym	Definition
Liaison (Verb):	A form of communication for establishing and maintaining mutual understanding and cooperation.
Liaison Officer:	A member of the Command Staff responsible for coordinating with representatives from cooperating and assisting agencies.
Life-safety:	In emergency response, this indicates safety issues that are important in preventing injury or death for exposed responders or victims during an incident.
Line of Duty Death:	The death of any responder or health care personnel while on duty and in the performance of their job or assigned role.
Local Government:	A county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, regional district, regional or Municipal government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government; a First Nations or Corporation; a rural community, unincorporated town or village, or other public entity.
Local State of Emergency:	A declared state of emergency under the BC Provincial Emergency Program Act that allows Municipalities and Regional Districts so empowered to seek and obtain special powers from the Province and to exercise these powers in specified geographic areas that they identify in order to manage emergency conditions or anticipated conditions in their jurisdiction.
Logistics:	Providing resources and other services to support incident management. Logistics Section: The [ICS] section responsible for providing facilities, services, and material support for the incident.
Management (general):	Management consists of decision-making activities undertaken by one or more individuals to direct and coordinate the activities of other people in order to achieve results that could not be accomplished by anyone person acting alone. Effective management focuses on group effort, various forms of coordination, and the manner of making decisions. Management is required whenever two or more persons combine their efforts and resources to accomplish a goal that cannot be accomplished by acting alone. Coordination is necessary when the actions of group participants constitute parts of a total task. If one person acts alone to accomplish a task, no coordination may be required; but when that person delegates a part of the task to others, the individual efforts must be coordinated.
Management (ICS – noun):	The ICS function related to directing and coordinating resources while establishing overall response objectives. Typically objectives are defined in a manner so that they are measurable and achievable within a defined period of time.
Management (ICS/IMS - verb):	The act of providing objectives, assigning resources to the objectives and delineating the parameters within which the resources are to achieve the objectives. See "management by objective" and "incident objectives" for NIMS definitions.

Acronym	Definition
Mitigation:	▪ The phase of Comprehensive Emergency Management that encompasses all activities that reduce or eliminate the probability of a hazard occurrence, or eliminate or reduce the impact from the hazard if it should occur. Incomprehensive emergency management, mitigation activities are undertaken during the time period prior to an imminent or actual hazard impact. Once an imminent or actual hazard impact is recognized, subsequent actions are considered response actions and are not called "mitigation" - this avoids the confusion that occurs with the HazMat discipline's use of mitigation, which applies to response actions that reduce the impact of a hazardous materials spill. ▪ Activities taken to eliminate or reduce the probability of the event, or reduce its severity or consequences, either prior to or following a disaster/emergency. ▪ The activities designed to reduce or eliminate risks to persons or property or to lessen the actual or potential effects or consequences of an incident. Mitigation measures may be implemented prior to, during, or after an incident. Mitigation measures are often informed by lessons learned from prior incidents. Mitigation involves ongoing actions to reduce exposure to, probability of, or potential loss from hazards. Measures may include zoning and building codes, floodplain buyouts, and analysis of hazard- related data to determine where it is safe to build or locate temporary facilities. Mitigation can include efforts to educate governments, businesses, and the public on measures they can take to reduce loss and injury.
Multiagency Coordination Systems:	Multiagency coordination systems provide the architecture to support coordination for incident prioritization, critical resource allocation, communications systems integration, and information coordination. The components of multiagency coordination systems include facilities, equipment, emergency operation centers (EOCs), specific multiagency coordination entities, personnel, procedures, and communications.
Multiple Casualty Incident:	A hazard impact with casualties in which the available organizational and medical resources, or their management systems, are severely challenged. A stepped up capacity and capability beyond the normal "first response," usually involving the use of ICS for expanded management, is required to adequately meet the medical needs of the affected population. "Multiple casualty incident" equate to an "emergency," whereas "Mass casualty" equates to a "disaster."

Acronym	Definition
National Incident Management System:	A United States system that provides a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, Provincial, local, and First Nation governments; the private-sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. To provide for interoperability and compatibility among Federal, State, local, and First Nation capabilities, the NIMS includes a core set of concepts, principles, and terminology. HSPD-5 identifies these as the ICS; multiagency coordination systems; training; identification and management of resources (including systems for classifying types of resources); qualification and certification; and the collection, tracking, and reporting of incident information and incident resources.
National Response Plan (NRP):	The National Response Plan establishes a comprehensive all-hazards approach to enhance the ability of the United States to manage domestic incidents. The plan incorporates best practices and procedures from incident management disciplines-homeland security, emergency management, law enforcement, firefighting, public works, public health, responder and recovery worker health and safety, emergency medical services, and the private sector-and integrates them into a unified structure. It forms the basis of how the federal government coordinates with state, local, and tribal governments and the private sector during incidents.
Notification:	Information distributed to relevant personnel that contains important information regarding an actual or potential hazard impact and the response status of the organization. There are generally three categories of notification: alert, advisory, and activation.
Objectives, Incident:	Statements of guidance and direction necessary for selecting appropriate strategy(s) and the tactical direction of resources. Incident objectives are based on realistic expectations of what can be accomplished when all allocated resources have been effectively deployed. Incident objectives must be achievable and measurable, yet flexible enough to allow strategic and tactical alternatives.
Occupational Health:	▪ A professional discipline that focuses on the promotion and maintenance of physical and mental health in the work environment. ▪ The science of designing, implementing and evaluating comprehensive health and safety programs that maintain and enhance employee health, improve safety and increase productivity in the workplace.

Acronym	Definition
Plan:	A plan is a proposed or intended method of getting from one set of circumstances to another. A plan provides guidelines and/or directives on moving from the present situation towards the achievement of one or more objectives or goals. The term "Plans" in emergency management has multiple connotations: ■ *Component plans:* of the overall emergency management program (EMP). In comprehensive emergency management, these are the Mitigation Plan, Preparedness Plan, Emergency Operations Plan (i.e., Response Plan), and Recovery Plan. ■ *Incident plans:* plans developed during incident response (often customized from pre-plans) that guide the response actions and achieve "management by objective." ■ *Planning Section: (see below)* ■ *Pre-plans:* Guidelines that describe processes and procedures to be followed, plus other response considerations, for specific events and/or for specific geographic locations (stadiums, government facilities, special security events, etc.). These build upon the guidance in the functional annexes, and are included in the incident (i.e., hazard-specific) annexes of the EOP. Most of the guidance and accompanying considerations in the pre-plan can be accomplished within the usual EOP construct. The VHA refers to these detailed pre-plans for complex events as "Standard Operating Procedures"("SOPs"). ■ *Preparedness plans:* plans that address the preparedness of organizations for emergency response and recovery; these include a training plan, exercise plan, and others. Developing, documenting and revising/refining response and recovery plans and all their components. ■ *Sub-plans:* Function-specific guidance and tools for use during emergency response and recovery. For example, the mobilization of the decontamination area may be a sub-plan to the Patient Decontamination Plan, which is a function-specific plan that guides hospital personnel in receiving and managing contaminated casualties. ■ *Supporting Plans:* the incident planning documents that support the Incident Action Plan. These include the Safety Plan, the Medical Plan, Communications Plan and others.
Planning Meeting:	A meeting held as needed prior to and throughout the duration of an incident to select specific strategies and tactics for incident control operations and for service and support planning. For larger incidents, the planning meeting is a major element in the development of the Incident Action Plan.

Acronym	Definition
Prevention:	Actions to avoid an incident or to intervene to stop an incident from occurring. Prevention involves actions to protect lives and property. It may include alterations to the built environment to make it more robust. It also involves applying intelligence and other information to a range of activities that may include such countermeasures as deterrence operations; heightened inspections; improved surveillance and security operations; investigations to determine the full nature and source of the threat; public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and, as appropriate, specific law enforcement operations aimed at deterring, pre-empting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity and apprehending potential perpetrators and bringing them to justice.
Private Sector:	Organizations and entities that are not part of any governmental structure. It includes for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, formal and informal structures, commerce and industry, and private voluntary organizations.
Privileging:	The process where appropriately credentialed personnel (see credentialing) are accepted into an incident to participate as an assigned resource in the response. This process may include both confirmation of a responder's credentials and a determination that an incident need exists that the responder is qualified to address. Privileging is associated with a separate process, badging, which indicates that a person has been privileged to access a specific incident or to access a specific location.
Probability:	The likelihood of a specific outcome, measured by the ratio of specific outcomes to the total number of possible outcomes. Probability is expressed as a number between 0 and 1, with 0 indicating an impossible outcome and 1 indicating an outcome is certain.
Procedure:	A series of specific activities, tasks, steps, decisions, calculations and other processes, that when undertaken in the prescribed sequence produces the described result, product or outcome. "Following" a procedure should produce repeatable results for the same input conditions. In the context of emergency management, procedures are much more tightly defined and specific to a distinct organization than the "process" that the procedure or series of procedures accomplishes.
Process:	A process is a defined activity, related to planning and/or implementation, carried out to achieve the objectives of the program. A process commonly encompasses multiple procedures that are linked or coordinated to accomplish the process objectives (see Procedure).

Acronym	Definition
Recovery:	- The phase of Comprehensive Emergency Management that encompasses activities and programs implemented during and after response that are designed to return the entity to its usual state or to a "new normal." For response organizations, this includes return-to-readiness activities. - Activities and programs designed to return conditions to a level that is acceptable to the entity. - The development, coordination, and execution of service- and site-restoration plans; the reconstitution of government operations and services; individual, private- sector, nongovernmental, and public-assistance programs to provide housing and to promote restoration; long-term care and treatment of affected persons; additional measures for social, political, environmental, and economic restoration; evaluation of the incident to identify lessons learned; post-incident reporting; and development of initiatives to mitigate the effects of future incidents.
Red Cross:	The Red Cross is a humanitarian organization, led by volunteers, that provides relief to victims of disasters and helps people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies. It does this through services including registration and inquiry that are consistent with its Charter and the Principles of the International Red Cross Movement.
Resource Management:	A system for identifying available resources at all jurisdictional levels to enable timely and unimpeded access to resources needed to prepare for, respond to, or recover from an incident. Resource management under the NIMS includes mutual-aid agreements; the use of special Federal, State, local, and tribal teams; and resource mobilization protocols. Resource management involves four primary tasks: - establishing systems for describing, inventorying, requesting, and tracking resources; - activating these systems prior to and during an incident; - dispatching resources prior to and during an incident; and - deactivating or recalling resources during or after incidents.
Resources Unit	Functional unit within the Planning Section responsible for recording the status of resources committed to the incident. This unit also evaluates resources currently committed to the incident, the effects additional responding resources will have on the incident, and anticipated resource needs.
Resources, Available:	Resources assigned to an incident, checked in, and available for a mission assignment, normally located in a Staging Area.

Acronym	Definition
Risk Management:	A management science that employs the findings of the Hazards Vulnerability Analysis process to make strategic and tactical decisions on how risks will be treated - whether deferred, reduced (through mitigation and preparedness activities), transferred, or avoided. Risk management provides the option of accepting certain levels of risk, at least temporarily, that are considered too low for resource allocation. Conversely, it provides the decision option to commit major resources that eliminate or avoid risks that are of such high probability and/or high consequence that they threaten the very existence of an organization. Risk management, which may be considered a subsection of overall emergency management, focuses upon mitigation preparedness activities that prevent and or reduce hazard impacts, and is considered by many to be its own discipline.
Risk:	The expectation of loss from hazards and their impact. Risk is a function of probability (likelihood) of a hazard occurrence and the impact (consequences) of a hazard on the target of the risk assessment. It connotes a relationship between the hazard and the target's vulnerability to the hazard. Risk can be addressed by managing probability (through mitigation) and/or managing impact (through mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery).
Safety Officer:	A member of the Command Staff, sometimes referred to as Risk Management Officer, responsible for monitoring and assessing safety hazards or unsafe situations and for developing measures for ensuring personnel safety.
Safety:	Safety, in the traditional sense, refers to monitoring and reducing the work-place risk of personnel casualties (injuries and deaths) to some acceptable level.
SAO - Senior Administrative Officer	The role of the SAO is to act as, or delegate the duties of the EOC Director. The SAO is available 24/7 on-call.
Section:	The organizational level having responsibility for a major functional area of incident management, e.g., Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/ Administration, and Intelligence (if established). The section is organizationally situated between the Branch and the Incident Command.
Security:	Security in the traditional sense refers to monitoring and reducing the risk of human induced events that adversely affect people or property (intrusion of unauthorized personnel, theft, sabotage, assault, etc.), to some acceptable level.
SEOC - Centre Emergency Operations Centre	A pre-designated location at a Centre to coordinate the Centre response and support in an emergency.
Situation Analysis:	The process of evaluating the severity and consequences of an incident and communicating the results.

Acronym	Definition
Team (emergency management):	A nonspecific term for a group of personnel who work as a unit (with some incorporated leadership structure) to accomplish assigned tasks within incident management. The term may also be used as a shortened meaning for "strike team" (see "strike team").
Terrorism:	▪ Terrorism is defined as activity that involves an act dangerous to human life or potentially destructive of critical infrastructure or key resources and is a violation of the criminal laws of the Canada or of any province or Territory or other subdivision of Canada in which it occurs and is intended to intimidate or coerce the civilian population or influence any level of government in Canada actions including the Federal government or affect the conduct of government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping. ▪ The unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives. **Domestic** terrorism involves groups or individuals who are based and operate entirely within Canada or United States without foreign direction and whose acts are directed at elements of the Canadian or U.S. Governments or populations.
Threat:	▪ An indication of possible violence, harm, or danger. ▪ The possibility of a hazard occurrence; something that has the potential to cause harm.
Tools:	Those instruments and capabilities that allow for the professional performance of tasks, such as information systems, agreements, doctrine, capabilities, and legislative authorities.

Acronym	Definition

Volunteer:	Multiple definitions are used, with the issue of payment for services being the factor that is important to differentiate:
	
	▪ A person agreeing to provide service outside the scope of his/her employer and/or employed position, without additional or specific compensation for this voluntary commitment. This differentiates the "volunteer" from personnel who provide service as part of their job position in an assigned resource. An individual offering or providing this service is a "volunteer" even if the volunteer's time is compensated through his/her usual employer and employment rate.
	▪ In some contexts, a volunteer is defined as providing service "without payor remuneration." For this EGC purpose a volunteer is any individual accepted to perform services by the lead agency, which has authority to accept volunteer services, when the individual performs services without promise, expectation, or receipt of compensation for services performed.
	     ○ *Provincial volunteer:* Volunteers with PEP Identification who have been pre-approved or trained by the provincial government to provide assistance when activated and deployed.
	     ○ *Solicited volunteer.* Volunteers with skills that could address unique or short-supply needs of the disaster response, and are individually requested by the response system (by name or by technical ability) to assist in the effort. They may be affiliated or unaffiliated volunteers.
	     ○ *Unsolicited volunteer:* Volunteers presenting to help at the disaster scene who were neither recruited nor affiliated with an organization. Also referred to as "non solicited volunteers."

Vulnerability:	The likelihood of an organization being affected by a hazard, and its susceptibility to the impact and consequences (injury, death, and damage) of the hazard.
Warning:	Dissemination of notification message signalling imminent hazard which may include advice on protective measures. See also "alert." For example, a warning is issued by the Environment Canada Weather Service to let people know that a severe weather event is already occurring or is imminent, and usually provides direction on protective actions. A "warning" notification for individuals is equivalent to an "activation" notification for response systems.

POWELL RIVER
Regional District

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Exercise Hot Embers Scenario

Context:
- the summer of 2008 has been one of the driest on record
- June and July saw a little over 40 mm and 45 mm of rain fall respectively
- in June there were 12 days over 20°C and in July 24 days over 20°C and one day over 30°C
- in August there was only one significant rain squall and a couple of days of light rain yielding only 47 mm of rain for the month and like July just over 20 days with temperatures over 20°C and one day over 30°C

The latest conditions:
- so far in September there has been no rain and six days with the temperature over 20°C
- it has been quite sultry and there is an expectation of rain as a recent front brought rain to the Queen Charlotte Islands and Prince Rupert
- dry lightning has been seen and was infrequent early in the week but last night lightning was recorded in the area as frequent with lightning strikes occurring in the range of three to 5.9 per minute
- fire hazard is rated at Extreme

Today:
- It is still early September, Saturday the 13th of 2008 in fact
- it is 1.30 in the afternoon
- there has been virtually no wind for the last week but today there is a freshening outflow wind from the north northeast
- present wind speeds are from 7 to 11 kn with gusts up to 20 kn. It is anticipated that wind speed will increase in the Pacific Range valleys including Jervis Inlet, Lois Lake, Haslam lake and Powell Lake up to 35 to 45 kn

The hazardous situation:
- a stubborn fire northwest of Mount Grant on Texada Island has been producing a large plume of smoke visible from Powell River and the coastal parts of the regional district for the last couple of days. Helicopters have been bucketing water in Bami buckets to the face of the fire but have made little progress in some areas of heavy trees and a recent cut over with large quantities of logging debris. So far, natural stream barriers and a recently bulldozed surface on an old logging road have proved to be ineffectual at limiting the daytime spread of this fire.
- The Sunshine Coast Regional District in conjunction with the Forest Service are battling a significant fire just west of Pender Harbor that was inadvertently started when sparks from a concrete cutting saw ignited a grass fire beside a construction site. This grass fire quickly spread to wooden condominiums under construction and at last reports two blocks of almost completed residences have been destroyed and the fire is threatening surrounding private residences.
- There is much excitement in Powell River, Sliammon and Lund as a film crew is operating some where up Wilde Road and Tom Cruise along with his wife and young child have been seen cruising around town on a black Harley-Davidson.
- The film crew have been warned twice that they are to cease operations but are continuing to work since they have a deadline to be back in Los Angeles by the 15th of September. One final scene, which involves crash landing a light aircraft close to the road with the hero and heroine later escaping by boat to Qualicum Beach, is scheduled for two o'clock today. Word has got around in the area and a large number of onlookers from the community have made their way up to the scene. The film company have contracted both the RCMP and Blackwater security to limit access to the film set and surrounding area. However a large number of cars and pickups are lining each site off Highway 101 and are partially blocking access to Wilde Road

POWELL RIVER
Regional District

Definition of Terms
&
Acronyms

Incident Command Course
&
Exercise

December 07

ACRONYMS and TERMS

Acronym	Definition
Action plans:	Written or verbal plans that reflect the overall incident goal (control objectives) and incident strategy, objectives for the designated operational period, specific tactical actions and assignments, and supporting information for the designated operational period. They provide designated personnel with knowledge of the objectives to be achieved and the strategy and steps to be used for achievement, hence improving coordination across different levels of government and intrastate jurisdictional borders. Actions plans not only provide direction, but also provide a metric for measuring achievement of objectives and overall system performance.
Activate (emergency management definition):	To begin the process of mobilizing a response team or EOC, or to set in motion an emergency response or recovery plan, process, or procedure for an exercise or for an actual hazard incident.
Activation:	A notification category that provides urgent information about an unusual occurrence or threat of occurrence, and orders or recommends that the notified entity activate its emergency response (usually via its emergency operations plan). An activation may be partial (stipulating the components of the EOP to activate, or some other indication of the level of commitment to be made by the notified entity) or full (stipulating full activation of the notified entity's EOP). It usually includes actionable information directing the notified entity on initial actions for mobilization, deployment, and/or response (See "alert" and "advisory" for contrast between the other notification categories).
Advisory:	A notification category that provides urgent information about an unusual occurrence or threat of an occurrence, but no activation of the notified entity is ordered or expected at that time. An advisory can be used for notification that something has occurred or is anticipated, and provide actionable information for notified personnel even though the response entity is not being activated. For example, a weather advisory that includes recommended actions for individuals. (See "alert" and "activation" for contrast between the other notification categories.)
AEOC - Area Emergency Operations Centre	An Emergency Operations Centre established and operated at the area level in order to coordinate the response and support of all BCCA SEOCs within it's jurisdiction and to liaise with the HAEOC.

Acronym	Definition
After Action Report (AAR) process:	A focused, post-incident or post-exercise activity to capture objective observations, both positive as well as negative, related to response system performance. Its product is commonly referred to as "lessons learned," but a comprehensive process goes beyond the collection of "lessons learned" to accomplish objective improvements in procedures, assignments, equipment, training, and personnel to attain true organizational learning. This term "AAR process" is used to describe the activity related to developing and conducting the After-Action Review, including meetings and documentation review and developing the after action report.
After Action Report (AAR):	The document that describes the incident response and findings related to system response performance (see AAR process).
Agency	A division of government or _____ with a specific function, or a nongovernmental organization (e.g., private contractor, business, etc.) that offers a particular kind of assistance. In ICS, agencies are defined as jurisdictional (having statutory responsibility for incident mitigation) or assisting and/or cooperating (providing resources and/or assistance).
Agency Representative:	A person assigned by a primary, assisting, or cooperating Federal, provincial, local, or First Nations government, Agency or private entity that has been delegated authority to make decisions affecting that Agency's or organization's participation in incident management activities following appropriate consultation with the leadership of that agency.
Alert:	A notification category between "advisory" and "activation" that provides urgent information and indicates that system action may be necessary. An alert can be used for initial notification that incident activation is likely, and for ongoing notification throughout an incident to convey incident information and directed or recommended actions (see "advisory" and "activation" for contrast between the other notification categories). See also watch and warnings.
All-hazards:	A descriptor that denotes a specific strategy for managing activities in an emergency management program. Throughout the four phases of EM, management structure, processes and procedures are developed so they are applicable to every significant identified hazard. The remaining hazard specific interventions are layered on top of the basic components as indicated and presented through "incident" annexes in the emergency operations plan (EOP). For example, the procedures for notifying appropriate personnel during EOP activation would use the same process across all hazard types, even though the types of personnel notified and mobilized may vary by hazard.

Acronym	Definition
Approach, All-Hazards:	A strategy (see "All-hazards) that addresses the commonalities of incident identification, assessment, and response to natural, technological, and intentional hazards. It provides a common emergency operations plan for use in response to and recovery from all emergencies and disasters.
Area Command (Unified Area Command):	An organization established (1) to oversee the management of multiple incidents that are each being handled by an ICS organization or (2) to oversee the management of large or multiple incidents to which several Incident Management Teams have been assigned. Area Command has the responsibility to set overall strategy and priorities, allocate critical resources according to priorities, ensure that incidents are properly managed, and ensure that objectives are met and strategies followed. Area Command becomes Unified Area Command when incidents are multijurisdictional. Area Command may be established at an emergency operations center facility or at some location other than an incident command post.
Assessment:	The evaluation and interpretation of measurements and other information to provide a basis for decision making.
Assignments:	Tasks given to resources to perform within a given4perationaleeriod that are based on operational objectives defined in the Incident Action Plan (1AP).
Assistant:	Title for subordinates of principal Command Staff positions. The title indicates a level of technical capability, qualifications, and responsibility subordinate to the primary positions. Assistants may also be assigned to Unit Leadership.
Assumptions (management definition):	Statements of conditions accepted as true and that have influence over the development of a system. In emergency management, assumptions provide context, requirements and situational realities that must be addressed in system planning and development, and/or system operations. When these assumptions are extended to specific operations, they may require re-validation for the specific incident.
BCAS - British Columbia Ambulance Service	SCAS provides public ambulance service in BC under the authority of the Emergency Health Services Commission of the Provincial Ministry of Health Services. The Commission is mandated to oversee the broad responsibility of overall Emergency Medical Service provision, regulation and direction in BC.
Branch:	The organizational level having functional or geographical responsibility for major aspects of incident operations. A branch is organizationally situated between the section and the division or group in the Operations Section, and between the section and units in the Logistics Section. Branches are identified by the use of Roman numerals or by functional area.

Acronym	Definition
Business Continuity Program:	An ongoing process supported by senior management and funded to ensure that the necessary steps are taken to identify the impact of potential losses, maintain viable recovery strategies and recovery plans, and ensure continuity of service delivery through personnel training, plan testing and maintenance.
Capability, Surge:	The ability to manage patients requiring unusual or very specialized medical evaluation and care Surge requirements span the range of specialized medical and health services (expertise, information, diagnosis, procedures, equipment, or personnel) that are not normally available at the location where they are needed. Surge capability also includes patient problems that require special intervention to protect medical providers, other patients, and the integrity of the facility.
Capacity, Surge:	The ability to evaluate and care for a markedly increased volume of patients-one that challenges or exceeds normal operating capacity for the facility. The surge requirements may extend beyond direct patient care to include such tasks as extensive laboratory studies or epidemiological investigations.
Case:	A person in the population identified as having a particular disease, health disorder, or condition under investigation.
Casualty:	Any human accessing health or medical services, including mental health services and medical forensics/mortuary care (for fatalities), as a result of a hazard impact.
CEO - Chief Executive Officer	The CEO may assume or designate command and control upon the activation of any part of the SCCA Disaster Plan.
Chain of Command:	A series of command, control, executive, or management positions in hierarchical order of authority.
Chief Executive Officer:	A common title for the senior-most decision maker (other than a board of directors or equivalent) in private and non-governmental organizations.
Chief:	The ICS title for individuals responsible for management of functional sections: Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration.
Command Staff:	In incident management, the Command Staff consists of the Incident Command and the special staff positions of Public Information Officer, Safety Officer, Liaison Officer, and other positions as required, who report directly to the EOC Director. They may have an assistant or assistants, as needed.
Command:	The act of directing, ordering, or controlling by virtue of explicit statutory, regulatory, or delegated authority.
Communications Unit	An organizational unit in the Logistics Section responsible for providing communication services at an incident or an EOC. A Communications Unit may also be a facility (e.g., a trailer or mobile van) used to support an Incident Communications Center.

Acronym	Definition
Communications:	A focused process that is a narrow but vital component of Information Management, referring only to the method(s) of conveying information.
Community:	A political entity which has the authority to adopt and enforce bylaws for the area under its jurisdiction. In most cases, the community is an incorporated town, city, township, village, or unincorporated area of a county.
Concept of Operations:	A description of how components of a system operate in a coordinated manner through successive stages of a response and recovery.
Contamination:	The undesirable deposition of a chemical, biological, or radiological material on the surface of structures, areas, objects, or people.
Credentialing:	Credentialing involves providing documentation that can authenticate and verify the training, certification and identity of designated incident command staff and emergency responders. This system helps ensure that personnel representing various jurisdictional levels and functional disciplines possess a minimum common level of training, currency, experience, physical and medical fitness, and capability for the incident management or emergency responder position they are tasked to fill.
Cyber(or Information) Security:	Actions taken for the purpose of reducing information system risk, specifically, reducing the probability that a threat will succeed in exploiting critical Automated Information System infrastructure vulnerabilities using electronic, radio frequency or computer-based means.
Damage Assessment:	An appraisal or determination of the effects of the disaster on human, physical, economic, and natural resources.
Decontamination (Decon):	The reduction or removal of a chemical, biological, or radiological material from the surface of a structure, area, object, or person.
Demobilization:	The ICS/IMS phase that begins the transition of Management, Operations, and Support functions and elements from the incident activities back to recovery normal operations or to their baseline standby state as their operational objectives are attained.
Deputy:	A fully qualified individual who, in the absence of a superior, can be delegated the authority to manage a functional operation or perform a specific task. In some cases, a deputy can act as relief for a superior and, therefore, must be fully qualified in the position. Deputies can be assigned to the EOC Director, General Staff, and Branch Directors.
DERT - Disaster Emergency Response Team	The DERT is a support team that provides technical emergency management advice and support to the EOC Director of the EOC

Acronym	Definition
Disaster (emergency management application):	A hazard impact causing adverse physical, social, psychological, economic or political effects that challenges the ability to rapidly & effectively respond. Despite a stepped up capacity and capability (call-back procedures, mutual aid, etc.) and change from routine management methods to an incident command/management process, the outcome is lower than expected compared to a smaller scale or lower magnitude impact (See "emergency" for important contrast between the two terms).
Disaster:	*(General)* - Accidental or uncontrollable events, actual or threatened, that are concentrated in time and space, in which a society undergoes severe danger and incurs such losses to its members and physical appurtenances that the social structure is disrupted and the fulfillment of all or some of the essential functions of the society is prevented. *(Facility Specific)* - Any internal or external emergency incident generated by a force, or an event occurring on or off campus, that endangers the well-being and safety of medical center patients, visitors, staff, property or records.
Dispatch:	The ordered movement of a resource or resources to an assigned operational mission or an administrative move from one location to another.
Division:	The partition of an incident into geographical areas of operation. Divisions are established when the number of resources exceeds the manageable span of control of the Operations Chief. A division is located within the ICS organization between the branch and resources in the Operations Section.
Emergency	Declared emergency, any incident(s), human-caused or natural, that requires responsive action to protect life or property. An emergency means any occasion or instance for which assistance is needed to supplement State and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the Province.
Emergency (emergency management application):	A Hazard impact causing adverse physical, social, psychological, economic or political effects that challenges the ability to rapidly &effectively respond. It requires a stepped up capacity and capability (call-back procedures, mutual aid, etc.) to meet the expected outcome, and commonly requires change from routine management methods to an incident command/management process in order to achieve the expected outcome (See "disaster" for important contrast between the two terms).

Acronym	Definition
Emergency Assistance:	Assistance which may be made available under an emergency declaration. In general, Federal support to State and local efforts to save lives, protect property and public health and safety, and lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe. Federal emergency assistance may take the form of coordinating all disaster relief assistance (including voluntary assistance) provided by Federal agencies, private organizations, and State and local governments. Or, the Federal government may provide technical and advisory assistance to affected State and local governments for: the performance of essential community services; issuance of warnings of risks or hazards; public health and safety information, including dissemination of such information; provision of health and safety measures; management, control, and reduction of immediate threats to public health and safety; debris removal; temporary housing; and distribution of medicine, food, and other consumable supplies.
Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC):	A physical location at which coordination and support of a group of Agency EOC's is undertaken.
Emergency Management	Organized analysis, planning, decision making, and assignment of available resources to mitigate (lessen the effect of or prevent) prepare for, respond to, and recover from the effects of all hazards. The goal of emergency management is to save lives, prevent injuries, and protect property and the environment if an emergency occurs.
Emergency Management Committee (EMC):	A committee established by an organization, primarily a municipality, that has the responsibility for Emergency Management Program (EMP) oversight within the organization. As such, the committee would normally have the responsibility to ensure the overall preparation, implementation, evaluation and currency of the EMP.
Emergency Management Phases:	The time and function-based divisions within comprehensive emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.
Emergency Management Program (EMP):	A program that implements the organization's mission, vision, management framework, and strategic goals and objectives related to emergencies and disasters. It uses a comprehensive approach to emergency management as a conceptual framework, combining mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery into a fully integrated set of activities. The "program" applies to all departments and organizational units within the organization that have roles in responding to a potential emergency.

Acronym	Definition
Emergency Operations Center (EOC):	The physical location at which the c of information and resources to support facility incident management activities normally takes place. An EOC may be a temporary facility or may be located in a more central or permanently established facility, depending upon the higher level of organization within a jurisdiction. EOCs may be organized by major functional discipline (e.g., fire, law enforcement, and medical services), by jurisdiction (e.g., Ministry, Hospitals, Health Authorities, regional, county, city, Federal, Provincial, First Nations) or some combination thereof. An emergency operations center (EOC) is a location from which centralized emergency management can be performed during response and recovery. The use of EOCs is a standard practice in emergency management, and is one type of multiagency coordinating entity. Local governments should have designated EOCs. The physical size, staffing, and equipping of a local government EOC will depend on the size and complexity of the local government and the emergency operations it can expect to manage. The level of EOC staffing will also vary with the specific emergency situation. A local government's ECC facility should be capable of serving as the central point for: • Coordination of all the jurisdiction's emergency operations. • Information gathering and dissemination. • Coordination with other local governments and the operational area.
Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)	The "response" plan that each entity maintains for responding to any hazard event. It provides action guidance for management and emergency response personnel during the response phase of Comprehensive Emergency Management. An all-hazards document that specifies actions to be taken in the event of an emergency or disaster event; identifies authorities, relationships, and the actions to be taken by whom, what, when, and where, based on predetermined assumptions, objectives, and existing capabilities. The "steady-state" plan maintained by various jurisdictional levels for responding to a wide variety of potential hazards.

Acronym	Definition
Emergency Preparedness:	Activities and measures designed or undertaken to prepare for or minimize the effects of a hazard upon the civilian population or agency or jurisdiction to deal with the immediate emergency conditions that would be created by the hazard, and to effectuate emergency repairs to or the emergency restoration of, vital utilities and facilities destroyed or damaged by the hazard.
Emergency Program Manager (EPM):	The person who has the day-to-day responsibility for emergency management programs and activities. The role is one of coordinating all aspects of a jurisdiction's mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities. The individual primarily responsible for developing, implementing and maintaining a healthcare organization's emergency management program. The individual who has been specifically charged with the development and coordination of the EMP.
Emergency Services:	The preparation for and the carrying out of functions to prevent, minimize and repair injury and damage resulting from disasters, together with all other activities necessary or incidental to the preparation for and carrying out of the foregoing functions. These functions include, but are not limited to, fire fighting services, police services, ambulance, medical and health services, rescue, engineering, warning services, communications, radiological, chemical and other special weapons defence, evacuation of persons from stricken areas, emergency social services, emergency transportation, emergency resource management, existing or properly assigned fun Ions of plant protections public works, temporary restoration of public utility services, emergency sheltering, and other functions related to civilian protection. These functions also include the administration of approved regional, provincial and federal disaster recovery and assistance programs.
Emergency Support Function (ESF):	A United States grouping of government and certain private-sector capabilities into an organizational structure to provide support, resources, and services. ESF 8 - Health and Medical Services is the principal ESF with which US hospitals and Health Care organizations will coordinate activities.
Entity:	A governmental agency or jurisdiction, private or public company, partnership, nonprofit organization, or other organization that has disaster/emergency management and continuity of operations responsibilities.
EOC - Emergency Operations Centre	A designated facility established by an agency or jurisdiction to coordinate the overall agency or jurisdictional response

Acronym	Definition
EOC Director (/C):	The individual responsible for all incident activities, including the development of strategies and tactics and the ordering and the release of resources. The IC has overall authority and responsibility for conducting incident operations and is responsible for the management of all incident operations at the incident site.
ERP - Emergency Room Physician	In the event that the SAO or the CEO is unable to be contacted, an on-duty ERP is authorized to activate any part of the BCCA Disaster Plan. The role of the ERP is to act as, or delegate the duties of the EOC Director under these circumstances.
ESS - Emergency Social Services	Emergency Social Services are those Municipal services that are provided short term (generally 72 hours) to preserve the emotional and physical well-being of evacuees and response workers in emergency situations.
Essential Functions:	Functions required to be performed by statute, Executive Order, or otherwise deemed essential by the heads of principal organizational elements to meet mission requirements.
Evacuation:	Organized, phased, and supervised withdrawal, dispersal, or removal of persons from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas, and their reception and care in safe areas.
Evaluation (emergency management application):	A systematic assessment process that leads to judgments and decisions about plans, programs or policies. "Informal" evaluation is also recognized as an ongoing and important activity of an emergency management program. It can be "formalized" by objective documentation of the assessment activity and its findings.
Event:	This term has multiple definitions depending upon the context: ■ A planned, non-emergency activity. ICS can be used as the management system for a wide range of events, e.g., parades, concerts, or sporting events. ■ A future activity that will include the activation of an ICS organization ■ An event can be used to differentiate "any unusual activity" from an "incident," where an EOP and its response system are activated and ICS is implemented.
Executive:	The Executive is the administrator, chief executive officer, or designee of the agency or political subdivision *I* that has responsibility for the incident. The title may also be applied to "executives" from the private and nongovernmental sectors (see "chief executive officer"). Executive and "agency administrator" are commonly considered to be synonymous terms.
Exposure (risk & emergency management application):	The condition of being subjected to a source of risk.

Acronym	Definition
Finance/Administration:	The ICS functional area that addresses the financial, administrative, and legal/regulatory issues for the incident management system. It monitors costs related to the incident, and provides accounting, procurement, time recording, cost analyses, and overall guidance.
First Receivers:	Employees at a health care facilities engaged in decontamination and treatment of victims who have been contaminated by a hazardous substance(s) during an emergency incident. The incident occurs at a site other than a hospital. These employees are a subset of first responders. Because the personnel are located remote from the hazardous materials event site and are receiving live victims, their HazMat exposure may be less than that of HazMat first responders at the incident site.
Function:	▪ Function refers to the five major activities in ICS: Command, Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration. The term function is also used when describing the activity involved, e.g., the planning function. A sixth function, Intelligence, may be established, if required, to meet incident management needs. ▪ In the Incident Command System, refers to the five major activities (Command, Operations, Plans/Information, Logistics, and Finance/ Administration). The term function is also used when describing the activity involved (e.g., the planning function). Intelligence is not considered a separate function under ICS.
General Staff	A group of incident management personnel organized according to function and reporting to the EOC/ Director. The General Staff normally consists of the Operations Section Chief, Planning Section Chief, Logistics Section Chief, and Finance/Administration Section Chief.
Goal (emergency management application):	A description of the end state - where the organization wants to be at the end of the activity, plan, program or other entity for which the goal was defined.
Group:	Established to divide the incident management structure into functional areas of operation. Groups are composed of resources assembled to perform a special function not necessarily within a single geographic division. Groups, when activated, are located between branches and resources in the Operations Section. See also "division."
HABCERMS - Health Authority British Columbia Emergency Response Management System	The Health Authority British Columbia Emergency Response Management System is a comprehensive management scheme that ensures a coordinated and organized BCCA response and recovery to any and all emergency incidents. The broad spectrum of components of HABCERMS includes operations and control management, qualifications, technology,

Acronym	Definition
	training and publications and it is operationally compatible with the HEICS structure of ICS. HABCERMS is used at the AEOC and HAEOC command levels as well as BCCA Public Health/Community EOCs.
HAEOC - Vancouver Island Health Authority Emergency Operations Centre	A Health Authority Emergency Operations Centre established and operated by Senior Administration for the purpose of command, control and coordination of the SEOCs, AEOC and BCCAs response to a disaster. The HAEOC or AEOC liaises with Municipal, Provincial and other nongovernment agencies on behalf of individual Centre needs and that of the Authority as a whole.
Hazard Vulnerability Analysis (HVA) / Assessment:	A systematic approach to identifying all hazards that may affect an organization and/or its community, assessing the risk (probability of hazard occurrence and the consequence for the organization) associated with each hazard, and analyzing the findings to create a prioritized comparison of hazard vulnerabilities. The consequence, or "vulnerability," is related to both the impact on organizational function and the likely service demands created by the hazard impact. A hazard vulnerability assessment is the outcome of the HVA process.
Hazard:	- A potential or actual force, physical condition, or agent with the ability to cause human injury, illness and/or death,and significant damage to property, the environment, critical infrastructure, agriculture and business operations, and other types of harm or loss. - Something that is potentially dangerous or harmful, often the root cause of an unwanted outcome.
Hazardous Material (Haz-Mat):	Any material which is explosive, flammable, poisonous, corrosive, reactive, or radioactive (or any combination), and requires special care in handling because of the hazards posed to public health, safety, and/or the environment.
Haz-Mat Team:	Term used to describe a team of highly skilled professionals who specialize in dealing with hazardous material incidents.
Haz-Mat:	The common acronym for "hazardous materials."
Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA):	Public Law 104-191 (August 21, 1996) addresses many aspects of healthcare practice and medical records. This federal act most notably addresses the privacy of personal health information, and directs the development of specific parameters as to how personal health information may be shared.
Healthcare system:	A system that may include one or several healthcare facilities that provides patient evaluation and medical interventions (for illness and injury) and/or preventive medicine/health services (see healthcare facility, see "system").
HEICS - Hospital	The Hospital Emergency Incident

Acronym	Definition
Emergency Incident Command System	Command System is based upon the same Standards and organizational structure as the Incident Command System (ICS) as used in HABCERMS and is operationally compatible with that structure. HEICS is used at the SEOC command level within a facility.
Hospital Emergency Operation Centre (HEOC):	A designated location in the hospital prepared to convene and coordinate response activities, resources, and information during an emergency or disaster.
Hospital Incident Command System (HICS):	The Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) is a management system that consists of a flexible organization structure and time-proven management principles. The system includes defined responsibilities and reporting channels and uses common language to promote internal and external communication and integration with community responders. HICS can be utilized for emergency incidents or for planned events.
Hot-wash:	A systems performance review that is generally less formal and detailed than the After-Action Report (AAR) meeting, and occurs in close proximity to the end of the incident or exercise. Preparation for a hot wash is commonly less extensive than for an AAR meeting. The results of the hot wash may serve as a starting point for a later, more formal AAR meeting. It should never be considered the endpoint to an after-action report process for an incident or exercise, or replace formal AAR meetings.
HSA - Health Service Area	In the BCCA organization the Island is divided into three Health Services Areas, South, Central and North.
ICS - Incident Command System	A standardized emergency management concept specifically designed to allow its user(s) to adopt an integrated organizational structure equal to the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. Within the BCCA EOCs either HABCERMS or HEICS have been designated as the chosen structure of ICS.
Improvement Plan (IP):	The Improvement Plan is the means by which the lessons learned from the exercise are turned into concrete, measurable steps that result in improved response capabilities. It specifically details what actions will betaken to address each recommendation presented in the draft AAR, who or what entity will be responsible for taking the action, and the time line for completion. An initial IP should be developed at the debriefing while all key command staff are together.

Acronym	Definition
Incident (multiple definitions)	- An unexpected occurrence that requires immediate response actions through an ICS organization. *(ICS 300, Unit 4)* - Activity resulting from an actual or impending hazard impact, that requires action by emergency personnel to prevent or minimize loss of life or damage to property and/or natural resources. For organizations other than public safety agencies, this action is generally beyond the normal everyday actions of the organization. The emergency action is managed through the Incident Command System. - An occurrence or event, natural or human-caused that requires an emergency response to protect life or property. Incidents can, for example, include major disasters, emergencies, terrorist attacks, terrorist threats, wildland and urban fires, floods, hazardous materials spills, nuclear accidents, aircraft accidents, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, tropical storms, war-related disasters, public health and medical emergencies, and other occurrences requiring an emergency response. "Under the ICS concept, an incident is an occurrence, either human-caused or by natural phenomena, that requires action by emergency service personnel to prevent or minimize loss of life or damage to property and/or natural resources."
Incident Action Plan (IAP):	- An oral or written plan containing general objectives reflecting the overall strategy for managing an incident. It may include the identification of operational resources and assignments. It may also include attachments that provide direction and important information for management of the incident during one or more operational periods. See also "Action Plans." - The document in ICSIIMS that guides the response for that operational period. It contains the overall incident objectives and strategy, general tactical actions and supporting information to enable successful completion of objectives. The lAP may be oral or written. When written, the lAP may have a number of supportive plans and information as attachments (e.g., traffic plan, safety plan, communications plan, and maps). There is only one "incident action plan" at an incident, all other "action plans" are subsets of the lAP and their titles should be qualified accordingly (for example, the water purification action plan).

Acronym	Definition
Incident Command Post (ICP):	A facility established close to the incident scene (or elsewhere for a diffuse incident or one with multiple scenes), which serves as a base location for managing "field operations" - all activities within the defined scope of the "incident." Located within the ICP are designated representatives of the major response agencies for that incident, filling designated positions in the incident management team. The ICP location is designated by the EOC Director. If the ICP and EOC are co-located in the same building, their personnel and procedures should remain physically separated and functionally distinct.
Incident Command System (ICS):	▪ A standardized on-scene emergency management construct specifically designed to provide for the adoption of an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents. It is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable to small as well as large and complex incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private, to organize field-level incident management operations. ▪ A standardized on-scene emergency management concept specifically designed to allow its users to adopt an integrated organizational structure equal to the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries.
Incident Management System (IMS):	▪ See Incident Command System. This term is preferred over "Incident Command System" (ICS) by many disciplines involved in emergency response. ▪ In disaster/emergency management applications, the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure with responsibility for the management of assigned resources to effectively accomplish stated objectives pertaining to an incident.
Incident Management Team (IMT):	▪ The IC and appropriate Command and General Staff personnel assigned to the incident. ▪ The management unit that directly manages the incident response, and defines the scope of the "incident." The IMT provides guidance to responders by establishing Incident-specific goals, strategy and objectives, and oversees the development of incident tactics and tactical strategy by the incident operations chief.

Acronym	Definition
Incident Objectives:	Statements of guidance and direction necessary for selecting appropriate strategy(s) and the tactical direction of resources. Incident objectives are based on realistic expectations of what can be accomplished have been effectively deployed (sic). Incident objectives must be achievable and measurable, yet flexible enough to allow strategic and tactical alternatives.
Incident Response:	The term used to indicate the management and operational actions conducted to address an impending hazard threat and/or actual hazard impact. It connotes a condition that is larger or more complex than the usual organizational actions, and that is usually accomplished by activating the organization's Emergency Operations Plan. Incident response requires a management system that is commonly different than everyday management and everyday response, even in an everyday "emergency" organization such as fire or police.
Information Management:	The processes of the collection, analysis, formatting and transmission of data and information during an incident.
Joint Information Center (JIC):	A facility established to coordinate all incident-related public information activities. It is the central point of contact for all news media at the scene of the incident. Public information officials from all participating agencies often collocate at the JIC.
Joint Information System (JIS):	Integrates incident information and public affairs into a cohesive organization designed to provide consistent, coordinated, timely information during crisis or incident operations. The mission of the JIS is to provide a structure and system for developing and delivering coordinated interagency messages; developing, recommending, and executing public information plans and strategies on behalf of the IC; advising the IC concerning public affairs issues that could affect a response effort; and controlling rumors and inaccurate information that could undermine public confidence in the emergency response effort.
Jurisdiction: (multiple definitions are used and each is context dependent):	▪ A range or sphere of authority. Public agencies have jurisdiction at an incident related to their legal responsibilities and authority. Jurisdictional authority at an incident can be political or geographical (e.g., city, county, Provincial, First Nation, local, regional or Federal boundary lines) or functional (e.g., law enforcement, public health). ▪ A political subdivision (federal, provincial, regional and/or municipal) with the responsibility for ensuring public safety, health and welfare within its legal authorities and geographic boundaries.
Liaison (Noun):	In ICS, it is a position(s) assigned to establish and maintain direct coordination and information exchange with agencies and organizations outside of the specific incident's ICSIIMS structure.

Acronym	Definition
Liaison (Verb):	A form of communication for establishing and maintaining mutual understanding and cooperation.
Liaison Officer:	A member of the Command Staff responsible for coordinating with representatives from cooperating and assisting agencies.
Life-safety:	In emergency response, this indicates safety issues that are important in preventing injury or death for exposed responders or victims during an incident.
Line of Duty Death:	The death of any responder or health care personnel while on duty and in the performance of their job or assigned role.
Local Government:	A county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, regional district, regional or Municipal government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government; a First Nations or Corporation; a rural community, unincorporated town or village, or other public entity.
Local State of Emergency:	A declared state of emergency under the BC Provincial Emergency Program Act that allows Municipalities and Regional Districts so empowered to seek and obtain special powers from the Province and to exercise these powers in specified geographic areas that they identify in order to manage emergency conditions or anticipated conditions in their jurisdiction.
Logistics:	Providing resources and other services to support incident management. Logistics Section: The [ICS] section responsible for providing facilities, services, and material support for the incident.
Management (general):	Management consists of decision-making activities undertaken by one or more individuals to direct and coordinate the activities of other people in order to achieve results that could not be accomplished by anyone person acting alone. Effective management focuses on group effort, various forms of coordination, and the manner of making decisions. Management is required whenever two or more persons combine their efforts and resources to accomplish a goal that cannot be accomplished by acting alone. Coordination is necessary when the actions of group participants constitute parts of a total task. If one person acts alone to accomplish a task, no coordination may be required; but when that person delegates a part of the task to others, the individual efforts must be coordinated.
Management (ICS – noun):	The ICS function related to directing and coordinating resources while establishing overall response objectives. Typically objectives are defined in a manner so that they are measurable and achievable within a defined period of time.
Management (ICS/IMS – verb):	The act of providing objectives, assigning resources to the objectives and delineating the parameters within which the resources are to achieve the objectives. See "management by objective" and "incident objectives" for NIMS definitions.

Acronym	Definition

Management by Objective:	▪ "A management approach that involves a four-step process for achieving the incident goal. The approach includes the following:
	    o establishing overarching objectives; developing and issuing assignments, plans, procedures, and protocols; establishing specific, measurable objectives for various incident management functional activities and directing efforts to fulfill them in support of defined strategic objectives; and documenting results to measure performance and facilitate corrective action."
	
	▪ The proactive management strategy in ICS that directs and coordinates resources across the incident command system/incident management system by:
	
	  1. Setting overall (control) objectives for the incident and objectives for each specific operational period.
	  2. Assigning resources to achieve those objectives and to provide support.
	  3. Providing plans, procedures and protocols to establish parameters within which assigned resources operate.
	  4. Monitor progress towards achieving the incident objectives, reassess and revise the objectives, and revise assignments as indicated.

Mass casualty incident (MCI):	A casualty-creating hazard incident in which the available organizational and medical resources (both "first" and "second response"), or their management systems, are severely challenged or become insufficient to adequately meet the medical needs of the affected population. Insufficient management, response, or support capability or capacity can result in increased morbidity and mortality among the impacted population. "Mass casualty" equates to a "disaster," whereas "multiple casualty incident" equates to an "emergency."
Mission:	In emergency management, an organization's primary goal and expected control objectives.

Acronym	Definition
Mitigation:	▪ The phase of Comprehensive Emergency Management that encompasses all activities that reduce or eliminate the probability of a hazard occurrence, or eliminate or reduce the impact from the hazard if it should occur. Incomprehensive emergency management, mitigation activities are undertaken during the time period prior to an imminent or actual hazard impact. Once an imminent or actual hazard impact is recognized, subsequent actions are considered response actions and are not called "mitigation" - this avoids the confusion that occurs with the HazMat discipline's use of mitigation, which applies to response actions that reduce the impact of a hazardous materials spill. ▪ Activities taken to eliminate or reduce the probability of the event, or reduce its severity or consequences, either prior to or following a disaster/emergency. ▪ The activities designed to reduce or eliminate risks to persons or property or to lessen the actual or potential effects or consequences of an incident. Mitigation measures may be implemented prior to, during, or after an incident. Mitigation measures are often informed by lessons learned from prior incidents. Mitigation involves ongoing actions to reduce exposure to, probability of, or potential loss from hazards. Measures may include zoning and building codes, floodplain buyouts, and analysis of hazard- related data to determine where it is safe to build or locate temporary facilities. Mitigation can include efforts to educate governments, businesses, and the public on measures they can take to reduce loss and injury.
Multiagency Coordination Systems:	Multiagency coordination systems provide the architecture to support coordination for incident prioritization, critical resource allocation, communications systems integration, and information coordination. The components of multiagency coordination systems include facilities, equipment, emergency operation centers (EOCs), specific multiagency coordination entities, personnel, procedures, and communications.
Multiple Casualty Incident:	A hazard impact with casualties in which the available organizational and medical resources, or their management systems, are severely challenged. A stepped up capacity and capability beyond the normal "first response," usually involving the use of ICS for expanded management, is required to adequately meet the medical needs of the affected population. "Multiple casualty incident" equate to an "emergency," whereas "Mass casualty" equates to a "disaster."

Acronym	Definition
Mutual Aid:	Voluntary aid and assistance by the provision of services and facilities including but not limited to: fire, police, medical and health, communications, transportation, and utilities. Mutual aid is intended to provide adequate resources, X facilities, Rnd other support to jurisdictions whenever their own resources prove to be inadequate to cope with a given situation. Some authorities differentiate "mutual aid" from "cooperative assistance," where the assisting resources are compensated for their response costs. Other authorities designate this as "compensated mutual aid."
Mutual-Aid Agreement:	▪ Written agreement between agencies and/or jurisdictions that they will assist one another on request, by furnishing personnel, equipment, and/or expertise in a specified manner. ▪ A pre-arranged agreement developed between two or more entities or Agencies to render assistance to the parties of the agreement.
National Disaster Medical System (NOMS):	▪ A cooperative, asset-sharing partnership between the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Department of Defense. NOMS provides resources for meeting the continuity of care and mental health services requirements of the Emergency Support Function 8 in the United States Federal Response Plan. ▪ A United States federally coordinated initiative to augment the United States emergency medical response capability by providing medical assets to be used during major disasters or emergencies. NOMS has three major components: Disaster Medical Assistance Teams and Clearing-Staging Units to provide triage, patient stabilization, and austere medical services at a disaster site; an evacuation capability for movement of patients from a disaster area to locations where definitive medical care can be provided; and a voluntary hospital network to provide definitive medical care. NOMS is administered by the Department of Health and Human Services/U.S. Public Health Service, in cooperation with the Department of Defence, the Department of Veterans Affairs, FEMA, State and local governments, and the private sector.

Acronym	Definition
National Incident Management System:	A United States system that provides a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, Provincial, local, and First Nation governments; the private-sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. To provide for interoperability and compatibility among Federal, State, local, and First Nation capabilities, the NIMS includes a core set of concepts, principles, and terminology. HSPD-5 identifies these as the ICS; multiagency coordination systems; training; identification and management of resources (including systems for classifying types of resources); qualification and certification; and the collection, tracking, and reporting of incident information and incident resources.
National Response Plan (NRP):	The National Response Plan establishes a comprehensive all-hazards approach to enhance the ability of the United States to manage domestic incidents. The plan incorporates best practices and procedures from incident management disciplines-homeland security, emergency management, law enforcement, firefighting, public works, public health, responder and recovery worker health and safety, emergency medical services, and the private sector-and integrates them into a unified structure. It forms the basis of how the federal government coordinates with state, local, and tribal governments and the private sector during incidents.
Notification:	Information distributed to relevant personnel that contains important information regarding an actual or potential hazard impact and the response status of the organization. There are generally three categories of notification: alert, advisory, and activation.
Objectives, Incident:	Statements of guidance and direction necessary for selecting appropriate strategy(s) and the tactical direction of resources. Incident objectives are based on realistic expectations of what can be accomplished when all allocated resources have been effectively deployed. Incident objectives must be achievable and measurable, yet flexible enough to allow strategic and tactical alternatives.
Occupational Health:	▪ A professional discipline that focuses on the promotion and maintenance of physical and mental health in the work environment. ▪ The science of designing, implementing and evaluating comprehensive health and safety programs that maintain and enhance employee health, improve safety and increase productivity in the workplace.

Acronym	Definition
Operational period:	▪ A designated time interval during incident operations ~here organizational strategies and tactics are guided by response objectives (operational period objectives) that are specific for that time period. ▪ A designated time period in which tactical objectives are to be accomplished and re-evaluated. ▪ The time scheduled for executing a given set of operation actions, as specified in the Incident Action Plan. Operational periods can be of various lengths, although usually not over 24 hours.
Operations Section:	The section responsible for all tactical incident operations. In ICS, it normally includes subordinate branches, divisions, and/or groups.
Operations:	The ICS functions that develop and directly implement tactics to achieve the objectives established by Management.
"Out the Door" Evacuation:	The immediate removal of all occupants from a facility because of imminent or already present danger.
Patient Prioritization Assessment:	The process of assessing hospital inpatients for early discharge, transfer, or other disposition to free the bed for disaster or more critical patients.
Personal Protective Equipment:	Examples include protective suits, gloves, foot covering, respiratory protection (including N 95 masks), hoods, safety glasses, goggles, and face shields.
Personnel Accountability:	The ability to account for the location and welfare of incident personnel. It is accomplished when supervisors ensure that ICS principles and processes are functional and that personnel are working within established incident management guidelines.
PIO - Public Information Officer	The role of the Public Information Officer is to provide approved media releases and organize formal media briefings for senior staff, to ensure management of media and to help support the dissemination of accurate and timely information.

Acronym	Definition
Plan:	A plan is a proposed or intended method of getting from one set of circumstances to another. A plan provides guidelines and/or directives on moving from the present situation towards the achievement of one or more objectives or goals. The term "Plans" in emergency management has multiple connotations: ■ *Component plans:* of the overall emergency management program (EMP). In comprehensive emergency management, these are the Mitigation Plan, Preparedness Plan, Emergency Operations Plan (i.e., Response Plan), and Recovery Plan. ■ *Incident plans:* plans developed during incident response (often customized from pre-plans) that guide the response actions and achieve "management by objective." ■ *Planning Section: (see below)* ■ *Pre-plans:* Guidelines that describe processes and procedures to be followed, plus other response considerations, for specific events and/or for specific geographic locations (stadiums, government facilities, special security events, etc.). These build upon the guidance in the functional annexes, and are included in the incident (i.e., hazard-specific) annexes of the EOP. Most of the guidance and accompanying considerations in the pre-plan can be accomplished within the usual EOP construct. The VHA refers to these detailed pre-plans for complex events as "Standard Operating Procedures"("SOPs"). ■ *Preparedness plans:* plans that address the preparedness of organizations for emergency response and recovery; these include a training plan, exercise plan, and others. Developing, documenting and revising/refining response and recovery plans and all their components. ■ *Sub-plans:* Function-specific guidance and tools for use during emergency response and recovery. For example, the mobilization of the decontamination area may be a sub-plan to the Patient Decontamination Plan, which is a function-specific plan that guides hospital personnel in receiving and managing contaminated casualties. ■ *Supporting Plans:* the incident planning documents that support the Incident Action Plan. These include the Safety Plan, the Medical Plan, Communications Plan and others.
Planning Meeting:	A meeting held as needed prior to and throughout the duration of an incident to select specific strategies and tactics for incident control operations and for service and support planning. For larger incidents, the planning meeting is a major element in the development of the Incident Action Plan.

Acronym	Definition
Planning Section:	Responsible for the collection, evaluation, and dissemination of operational information related to the incident, and for the preparation and documentation of the Incident Action Plan. This section also maintains information on the current and forecasted situation and on the status of resources assigned to the incident.
Planning, Incident Response:	Activities that support the incident management process, including developing the incident action plan and support plans and accomplishing incident information processing. This is in contrast to preparedness planning, which is designed to ready a system for response.
Point of Distribution:	A designated area to distribute medications and vaccinations and provide risk communication and public education information during a public health emergency (can also be used as a site for food and water distribution in non-medical-related disasters).
Position Description:	Position description is a written summary of the critical features of an emergency response or recovery job, including the nature of the work performed and the specific duties and responsibilities. It is intended to help assigned personnel understand their specific role and to clarify relationships between positions. The position description is augmented by position qualifications or competencies.
PREOC - Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centre	An Emergency Operations Centre established and operated at the regional level by provincial agencies to coordinate provincial emergency response efforts. The SCCA are responsible for assigning a senior staff person to a PREOC.
Preparedness:	■ The phase of Comprehensive Emergency Management that encompasses actions designed to build organizational ." resiliency and/or organizational capacity and capabilities for response to and recovery from disasters and emergencies. ■ Activities, programs, and systems developed and implemented prior to a disaster/emergency that are used to support and enhance mitigation of, response to, and recovery from disasters/emergencies. ■ The range of deliberate, critical tasks and activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the operational capability to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents. Preparedness is a continuous process. Preparedness involves efforts at all levels of government and between government and private-sector and nongovernmental organizations to identify threats, determine vulnerabilities, and identify required resources Preparedness is operationally focused on establishing guidelines, protocols, and standards for planning, training and exercises, personnel qualification and certification, equipment certification, and publication management.

Acronym	Definition
Prevention:	Actions to avoid an incident or to intervene to stop an incident from occurring. Prevention involves actions to protect lives and property. It may include alterations to the built environment to make it more robust. It also involves applying intelligence and other information to a range of activities that may include such countermeasures as deterrence operations; heightened inspections; improved surveillance and security operations; investigations to determine the full nature and source of the threat; public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and, as appropriate, specific law enforcement operations aimed at deterring, pre-empting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity and apprehending potential perpetrators and bringing them to justice.
Private Sector:	Organizations and entities that are not part of any governmental structure. It includes for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, formal and informal structures, commerce and industry, and private voluntary organizations.
Privileging:	The process where appropriately credentialed personnel (see credentialing) are accepted into an incident to participate as an assigned resource in the response. This process may include both confirmation of a responder's credentials and a determination that an incident need exists that the responder is qualified to address. Privileging is associated with a separate process, badging, which indicates that a person has been privileged to access a specific incident or to access a specific location.
Probability:	The likelihood of a specific outcome, measured by the ratio of specific outcomes to the total number of possible outcomes. Probability is expressed as a number between 0 and 1, with 0 indicating an impossible outcome and 1 indicating an outcome is certain.
Procedure:	A series of specific activities, tasks, steps, decisions, calculations and other processes, that when undertaken in the prescribed sequence produces the described result, product or outcome. "Following" a procedure should produce repeatable results for the same input conditions. In the context of emergency management, procedures are much more tightly defined and specific to a distinct organization than the "process" that the procedure or series of procedures accomplishes.
Process:	A process is a defined activity, related to planning and/or implementation, carried out to achieve the objectives of the program. A process commonly encompasses multiple procedures that are linked or coordinated to accomplish the process objectives (see Procedure).

Acronym	Definition
Processes:	Systems of operations that incorporate standardized procedures, methodologies, and functions necessary to provide resources effectively and efficiently. These include resource typing, resource ordering and tracking, and coordination.
Program (emergency management application):	An organized collection of projects, activities and/or individual plans in an established framework that directs them toward a common goal. The term "program" implies that regular, ongoing activities are occurring. This contrasts with the term "plan," which may be a set of guidelines that are inactive until "activated."
Public health emergency:	An occurrence or imminent threat of an illness or health condition that 1) is believed to be caused by any of the following: - Bioterrorism - Appearance of a novel or previously controlled or eradicated infectious agent or biological toxin - Natural disaster - Chemical attack or accidental release - Nuclear attack or accident; **and** 2) poses a high probability of any of the following harms occurring in a large number of the affected population: - Death - Serious or long-term disability - Widespread exposure to infectious or toxic agents posing significant risk of substantial future harm
Public Health:	The art and science that addresses the protection & improvement of community health by organized community effort, including preventive medicine and sanitary & social science.
Public Information Officer:	A member of the Command Staff responsible for interfacing with the public and media or with other agencies with incident-related information requirements.
R&I - Registration and Inquiry	As soon as the Canadian Red Cross Society (CRCS) is informed of the locations of survivors at SCCA facilities, and following the request of the SeCA, CRCS will make arrangements to register the survivors at all BCCA Centres. Copies of those registrations will be sent to the CRCS Central Registry. Inquiries will be received and answered both at the registration Centres and by phone in the Central Registry.

Acronym	Definition
Recovery:	▪ The phase of Comprehensive Emergency Management that encompasses activities and programs implemented during and after response that are designed to return the entity to its usual state or to a "new normal." For response organizations, this includes return-to-readiness activities. ▪ Activities and programs designed to return conditions to a level that is acceptable to the entity. ▪ The development, coordination, and execution of service- and site-restoration plans; the reconstitution of government operations and services; individual, private- sector, nongovernmental, and public-assistance programs to provide housing and to promote restoration; long-term care and treatment of affected persons; additional measures for social, political, environmental, and economic restoration; evaluation of the incident to identify lessons learned; post-incident reporting; and development of initiatives to mitigate the effects of future incidents.
Red Cross:	The Red Cross is a humanitarian organization, led by volunteers, that provides relief to victims of disasters and helps people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies. It does this through services including registration and inquiry that are consistent with its Charter and the Principles of the International Red Cross Movement.
Resource Management:	A system for identifying available resources at all jurisdictional levels to enable timely and unimpeded access to resources needed to prepare for, respond to, or recover from an incident. Resource management under the NIMS includes mutual-aid agreements; the use of special Federal, State, local, and tribal teams; and resource mobilization protocols. Resource management involves four primary tasks: ▪ establishing systems for describing, inventorying, requesting, and tracking resources; ▪ activating these systems prior to and during an incident; ▪ dispatching resources prior to and during an incident; and ▪ deactivating or recalling resources during or after incidents.
Resources Unit	Functional unit within the Planning Section responsible for recording the status of resources committed to the incident. This unit also evaluates resources currently committed to the incident, the effects additional responding resources will have on the incident, and anticipated resource needs.
Resources, Available:	Resources assigned to an incident, checked in, and available for a mission assignment, normally located in a Staging Area.

Acronym	Definition
Resources:	Personnel and major items of equipment, supplies, and facilities available or potentially available for assignment to incident operations and for which status is maintained. Resources are described by kind and type and may be used in operational support or supervisory capacities at an incident or at an EGC.
Response:	■ The phase of Comprehensive Emergency Management that addresses the immediate and short-term effects of the disaster or emergency. It includes activities immediately before (for an impending threat), during, and after a hazard impact to address the immediate and short-term effects of the disaster or emergency. ■ In disaster/emergency management applications, activities designed to address the immediate and short-term effects of the disaster/emergency. ■ Activities that address the short-term, direct effects of an incident. Response includes immediate actions to save lives, protect property, and meet basic human needs. Response also includes the execution of emergency operations plans and of mitigation activities designed to limit the loss of life, personal injury, property damage, and other unfavorable outcomes. As indicated by the situation, response activities include applying intelligence and other information to lessen the effects or consequences of an incident; increased security operations; continuing investigations into nature and source of the threat; ongoing public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and specific law enforcement operations aimed at preempting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity, and apprehending actual perpetrators and bringing them to justice.
Risk Communication:	The process of providing concise, comprehensible, credible information, as needed to make effective decisions regarding risks. In emergency management/incident response, risk communication is generally considered to be providing a service to those outside of the incident command system, with the goal of influencing behavior.

Acronym	Definition
Risk Management:	A management science that employs the findings of the Hazards Vulnerability Analysis process to make strategic and tactical decisions on how risks will be treated - whether deferred, reduced (through mitigation and preparedness activities), transferred, or avoided. Risk management provides the option of accepting certain levels of risk, at least temporarily, that are considered too low for resource allocation. Conversely, it provides the decision option to commit major resources that eliminate or avoid risks that are of such high probability and/or high consequence that they threaten the very existence of an organization. Risk management, which may be considered a subsection of overall emergency management, focuses upon mitigation preparedness activities that prevent and or reduce hazard impacts, and is considered by many to be its own discipline.
Risk:	The expectation of loss from hazards and their impact. Risk is a function of probability (likelihood) of a hazard occurrence and the impact (consequences) of a hazard on the target of the risk assessment. It connotes a relationship between the hazard and the target's vulnerability to the hazard. Risk can be addressed by managing probability (through mitigation) and/or managing impact (through mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery).
Safety Officer:	A member of the Command Staff, sometimes referred to as Risk Management Officer, responsible for monitoring and assessing safety hazards or unsafe situations and for developing measures for ensuring personnel safety.
Safety:	Safety, in the traditional sense, refers to monitoring and reducing the work-place risk of personnel casualties (injuries and deaths) to some acceptable level.
SAO - Senior Administrative Officer	The role of the SAO is to act as, or delegate the duties of the EOC Director. The SAO is available 24/7 on-call.
Section:	The organizational level having responsibility for a major functional area of incident management, e.g., Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/ Administration, and Intelligence (if established). The section is organizationally situated between the Branch and the Incident Command.
Security:	Security in the traditional sense refers to monitoring and reducing the risk of human induced events that adversely affect people or property (intrusion of unauthorized personnel, theft, sabotage, assault, etc.), to some acceptable level.
SEOC - Centre Emergency Operations Centre	A pre-designated location at a Centre to coordinate the Centre response and support in an emergency.
Situation Analysis:	The process of evaluating the severity and consequences of an incident and communicating the results.

Acronym	Definition
Situation assessment:	An assessment produced during emergency response and recovery that combines incident geography/topography, weather, hazard, hazard impact, and resource data to provide a balanced knowledge base for decision-making. Adequate situation assessment and dissemination of a comprehensive situation assessment (through situation reports and other means) creates the "common operating picture."
Situation report (SITREP):	A document that is developed and distributed during response as a means for disseminating a current situation assessment.
Span of Control:	The number of individuals a supervisor is responsible for, usually expressed as the ratio of supervisors to individuals. An appropriate span of control is between 1:3 and 1:7.
Staging Area:	Location established where resources can be placed while awaiting a tactical assignment. The Operations Section manages Staging Areas [where assets assigned to operations are staged].
Strategic:	Strategic elements of incident management are characterized by continuous long-term, high-level planning by organizations headed by elected or other senior officials. These elements involve the adoption of long-range goals and objectives, the setting of priorities; the establishment of budgets and other fiscal decisions, policy development, and the application of measures of performance or effectiveness.
Strategy:	▪ The general direction selected to accomplish incident objectives set by the IC or EOC Director. ▪ The approach to how a goal and objectives are to be achieved.
Surge capability:	See "Capability, Surge."
Surge capacity:	See "Capacity, Surge."
Surge, Medical:	Describes the ability to provide adequate medical evaluation and care in events that severely challenge or exceed the normal medical infrastructure of an affected community (through numbers and/or types of patients). See "Capacity, Surge" and "Capability, Surge."
System Recovery:	The return of a system to a normal condition.
System:	A clearly defined functional structure, with defined processes, that coordinates disparate parts to accomplish a common goal.
Tactics:	Tactics in incident management are specific actions, sequence of actions, procedures, tasks, assignments and schedules used to fulfill strategy and achieve objectives.
Task Force:	Any combination of resources assembled to support a specific mission or operational need. All resource elements within a Task Force must have common communications and a designated leader.
Task:	A clearly defined and measurable activity accomplished by organizations or some subset thereof (sections, functions, teams, individuals and others). It is the lowest behavioral level in a job or unit that is performed for its own sake.

Acronym	Definition
Team (emergency management):	A nonspecific term for a group of personnel who work as a unit (with some incorporated leadership structure) to accomplish assigned tasks within incident management. The term may also be used as a shortened meaning for "strike team" (see "strike team").
Terrorism:	▪ Terrorism is defined as activity that involves an act dangerous to human life or potentially destructive of critical infrastructure or key resources and is a violation of the criminal laws of the Canada or of any province or Territory or other subdivision of Canada in which it occurs and is intended to intimidate or coerce the civilian population or influence any level of government in Canada actions including the Federal government or affect the conduct of government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping. ▪ The unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives. **Domestic** terrorism involves groups or individuals who are based and operate entirely within Canada or United States without foreign direction and whose acts are directed at elements of the Canadian or U.S. Governments or populations.
Threat:	▪ An indication of possible violence, harm, or danger. ▪ The possibility of a hazard occurrence; something that has the potential to cause harm.
Tools:	Those instruments and capabilities that allow for the professional performance of tasks, such as information systems, agreements, doctrine, capabilities, and legislative authorities.

Acronym	Definition

Unified Command:	• An application of ICS used when there is more than one agency with incident jurisdiction or when incidents cross political jurisdictions. Agencies work together through the designated members of the UC, often the senior person from agencies and/or disciplines participating in the UC, to establish a common set of objectives and strategies and a single lAP.
	• This management structure brings together the Incident Managers of all major organizations involved in the incident, to coordinate an effective response while allowing each manager to carry out his/her own jurisdictional or discipline responsibilities. UC links the organizations responding to the incident at the leadership level, and it provides a forum for these entities to make consensus decisions. Under UC, the various jurisdictions and/or agencies and non-government responders may blend together throughout the organization to create an integrated response team. UC may be used whenever multiple jurisdictions or response agencies are involved in a response effort. UC may be established to overcome divisions from:
	   o Geographic boundaries;
	   o Government levels;
	   o Functional and/or statutory responsibilities; or
	   o Some combination of the above.

Unit:	The organizational element having functional responsibility for a specific incident planning, logistics, or finance/administration activity.

Acronym	Definition

Volunteer:	Multiple definitions are used, with the issue of payment for services being the factor that is important to differentiate:
	
	■ A person agreeing to provide service outside the scope of his/her employer and/or employed position, without additional or specific compensation for this voluntary commitment. This differentiates the "volunteer" from personnel who provide service as part of their job position in an assigned resource. An individual offering or providing this service is a "volunteer" even if the volunteer's time is compensated through his/her usual employer and employment rate.
	■ In some contexts, a volunteer is defined as providing service "without payor remuneration." For this EGC purpose a volunteer is any individual accepted to perform services by the lead agency, which has authority to accept volunteer services, when the individual performs services without promise, expectation, or receipt of compensation for services performed.
	    o *Provincial volunteer:* Volunteers with PEP Identification who have been pre-approved or trained by the provincial government to provide assistance when activated and deployed.
	    o *Solicited volunteer.* Volunteers with skills that could address unique or short-supply needs of the disaster response, and are individually requested by the response system (by name or by technical ability) to assist in the effort. They may be affiliated or unaffiliated volunteers.
	    o *Unsolicited volunteer:* Volunteers presenting to help at the disaster scene who were neither recruited nor affiliated with an organization. Also referred to as "non solicited volunteers."

Vulnerability:	The likelihood of an organization being affected by a hazard, and its susceptibility to the impact and consequences (injury, death, and damage) of the hazard.
Warning:	Dissemination of notification message signalling imminent hazard which may include advice on protective measures. See also "alert." For example, a warning is issued by the Environment Canada Weather Service to let people know that a severe weather event is already occurring or is imminent, and usually provides direction on protective actions. A "warning" notification for individuals is equivalent to an "activation" notification for response systems.

POWELL RIVER
Regional District

An Introduction To
Emergency Management

Incident Command Course
&
Exercise

December 07

An Introduction to Emergency Management

Context
Threats
Strategies
Plans
Incident Command and Structure

Context for Emergency Management

- **Chaos**

- **Complexity** — a planned approach to unplanned events

- Emergency versus disasters
  - Emergency
  - Major emergency
  - Disasters and catastrophes

- **Threats – internal and external**

- **Impacts – people, property, possessions, environment, economy.**

Threats

- Natural events

- Technological failures [man-made events]

- Socio – political incidents

- Criminal activity

- Public health concerns

Threat Classification [TRV]

- Threat identification

- Risk analysis

- Vulnerability assessment

  - Impact research
  - Consequence management

Strategies

- Prevention

- Mitigation

- Preparedness

- Response

- Recovery

- Business Continuity [operational continuity]

Legal Compliance

- Local bylaws
  - Powell River Regional District bylaw number 382, establishing and emergency preparedness service within the electoral areas
  - Powell River Regional District bylaw number 396, to regulate the administration and operation of the PRRD emergency management program
- Pursuant to the Local Government Act and the Emergency Program Act and Regulations

Preparedness

- Plans

- Training

- Exercising
  - Tabletops
  - Functional exercises
  - Scenario development
  - Full-scale exercises

Plan Types

- Program Plans and Standards
- Preparedness plans
- Crisis response plans
- Consequence management plans
- Communications plans
- recovery plans
- Threat specific plans
- Business and operational continuity plans
- Multi-agency integrated plans and agreements

Plan Content

- Aim
- Activation
- Actions taken
- Roles
- Responsibilities
- Resources
- Annexes
- Appendices
- Attachments
- Addenda
- Acronyms and terms

Plan Administration

- In writing
- Compliant with legislative requirements
- Current particularly with reference to contacts
- Tested in exercises
- Revised from 'after action' reports
- Well understood by all appropriate staff
- Summary available to response and mutual aid partners

Plan Actions

- Concept of operations
- Concept of communications
- Levels of action
  - Level 2
  - Level 3
  - Alert one
- Organization and structure
  - Incident command
  - Incident command post, local EOC, regional EOC

British Columbia Emergency Response Management System

- 'All hazards' province wide emergency operations system
- Application and guidance to key Ministries and Crown corporations
- Recommended for use by federal agencies and First Nations communities
- Consistent and coordinated response
- Maintenance of responsibility and authority for respective jurisdictional and legal roles

BCERMS Components

- Eight explicit response goals
- Five components
  - Qualifications for functional areas
  - Technology to facilitate deployment
  - Operations and control objectives
  - Training standards and qualifications
  - Publications common forms, reports and terminology

Recognition of Partners

- Local authorities
  - Police
  - Fire
  - Emergency management
  - Emergency social services
  - Boards, councils and executive leadership teams
- Health regions and school boards
- Non government organizations
- Associations and societies
- Corporate organizations and media
- Family members and individuals
- Other levels of government [provincial, federal]

The Importance of Communications

- Methods
- Messages
- Reliability and redundancy
- Titles versus individuals
- Murphy's Law and 24/7 contacts
- Commercial versus volunteer
- Voice versus data
- The issue of trust

Conclusions

- Emergency management programs must be sustainable
- Emergency management principles should become an integral part of everyday governance and operations
- Resilience and self-reliance are important principles particularly in rural areas
- Hazard awareness and response readiness our fundamental to success

POWELL RIVER
Regional District

A Brief Introduction To
Incident Command

Incident Command Course
&
Exercise

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION

TO

INCIDENT COMMAND

PARTS 1 & 2

ROBIN GARDNER

POWELL RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATIVE TIPS

➢ SAFETY

➢ SECURITY

➢ SCHEDULE

➢ SANITATION

➢ SILENCE - DEFINITELY NOT, PLEASE ASK Q'S - AS WE GO ALONG

A LITTLE ABOUT YOU AND ME

➢ Introduce yourself

➢ Tell us a wee bit about your course expectations
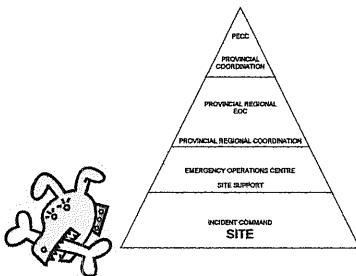
➢ A little about me

COURSE OBJECTIVES

> **PROVIDE A CONTEXT FOR THIS INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM [ICS] MODULE (parts 1 & 2)**

> **ACQUAINT YOU WITH ICS ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

> **FAMILIARIZE YOU WITH ICS TERMINOLOGY**

> **ASSIST YOU TO IDENTIFY THE TWELVE PRINCIPLES OF THE INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM**

HISTORY & INTENT

> DEVELOPED IN CALIFORNIA FOR WILD LAND FIRE FIGHTING IN 1970'S **NOW USED FOR 'ALL HAZARDS'**

> STANDARDIZE TERMS USED BY RESPONDERS

> PROVIDE A SYSTEM THAT COULD EXPAND AND CONTRACT DEPENDING ON NEED

> PROVIDE FOR INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS, ACTION PLANS AND DESIGNATED FACILITIES

RESPONSE STRUCTURE
BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY RESPONSE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

ICS PURPOSE

➤ PROVIDES FOR :

COMMAND,
CONTROL,
COORDINATION ,
COMMUNICATION &
COLLABORATION

AT THE SITE LEVEL

GROUP ACTIVITY

➤ SCENARIO
- A serious head on traffic accident has occurred between Lang Bay and Brew Bay on Highway 101
- It appears that an SUV with children going to school, a truck pulling an excavator from a rock drilling company, two cars and a pickup with a large Tidy tank have collided.
- RCMP, fire and BCAS are on scene. 101 is blocked
- What concerns might there be and what other Agencies or organizations might be required or need to be informed?

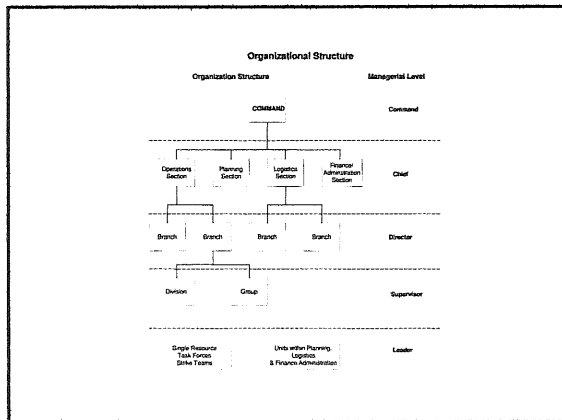# ICS RESPONSE GOALS

➤ **PROVIDE FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH OF RESPONDERS**
➤ **SAVE LIVES**
➤ **REDUCE SUFFERING**
➤ **PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH**
➤ **PROTECT INFRASTRUCTURE**
➤ **PROTECT PROPERTY**
➤ **PROTECT ENVIRONMENT**
➤ **REDUCE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL LOSSES**

ICS MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS

➢ THERE ARE FIVE PRIMARY
  MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS:
  COMMAND
  OPERATIONS
  PLANNING
  LOGISTICS
  FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Organizational Structure

Organization Structure	Managerial Level
COMMAND	Command
Operations Section / Planning Section / Logistics Section / Financial Administration Section	Chief
Branch / Branch / Branch / Branch	Director
Division / Group	Supervisor
Single Resource, Task Forces, Strike Teams / Units within Planning, Logistics & Finance Administration	Leader

---

12 PRINCIPLES OF ICS

1. **Five primary management functions** (COMMAND, OPERATIONS, PLANNING, LOGISTICS, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION)

2. **Management by Objectives (MBO)**

3. **Incident Action Plans [IAP'S]**

4. **Common terminology** (CONSISTENT TITLES & NO TEN CODES)

5. **Comprehensive resource management** (SINGLE, TASK FORCES & STRIKE TEAMS)

6. **Personnel accountability** (CHECK IN, UNITY OF COMMAND, LISTS & LOGS)

PRINCIPLES 7 TO 12

7. Manageable span of control (THE RULE OF 5)

8. Modular organization (SCALABLE, USE OF SINGLE RESOURCES, DIVISIONS, FUNCTIONAL GROUPS & BRANCHES BOTH GEOGRAPHIC AND FUNCTIONAL)

9. Unity & chain of command (ONE SUPERVISOR, CLEAR LINES OF AUTHORITY)

10. Establishment and transfer of command (FIRST ON SCENE & BEYOND)

11. Single or unified command structure (MANY AGENCIES ONE PLAN)

12. Integrated communications (COMMON PLAN, FREQUENCIES, & LANGUAGE)

ICS REVIEW PART 1

➤ NOW USED FOR 'ALL HAZARDS' RESPONSE (NATURAL AND MAN MADE)

➤ CAN EXPAND AND CONTRACT

➤ INTEGRATES COMMUNICATIONS, ACTION PLANS AND DESIGNATED FACILITIES

➤ INTEGRAL PART OF BCERMS

➤ PROVIDES FOR COMMAND, CONTROL, COORDINATION, COLLABERATION AND COMMUNICATION AT THE SITE

REVIEW PART 1 CONTINUED

➤ ICS HAS EIGHT RESPONSE GOALS
1 PROVIDE FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY OF RESPONDERS
2 SAVE LIVES

ICS HAS FIVE PRIMARY MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS

COMMAND, OPERATIONS, PLANNING, LOGISTICS, & FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

REVIEW PART 1 CONTINUED

ICS HAS 12 PRINCIPLES

1. 5 FUNCTIONS
2. MANAGEMENT BY OBJECTIVES
3. INCIDENT ACTION PLANS, [IAP'S]
4. COMMON TERMINOLOGY
5. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
6. PERSONNEL ACCOUNTABILITY
7. SPAN OF CONTROL
8. MODULAR ORGANIZATION
9. UNITY AND CHAIN OF COMMAND
10. ESTABLISHMENT AND TRANSFER OF COMMAND
11. SINGLE OR UNIFIED COMMAND STRUCTURE
12. INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS

QUESTIONS

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION
TO
INCIDENT COMMAND

PART 2

INCIDENT COMMAND

➢ INCIDENT COMMANDER (I/C)

SETS OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES & ACTION PLAN

ENSURES SAFETY, LIAISON & RESOURCES - BOTH PEOPLE & EQUIPMENT ARE APPROPRIATE

➢ I/C IS SUPPORTED BY:

COMMAND STAFF OFFICERS for:
INFORMATION
RISK MANAGEMENT
LIAISON

ICS INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

➢ UTILIZES MANAGEMENT BY OBJECTIVES

FOUR STEPS

1. UNDERSTANDING AGENCY POLICY AND DIRECTION

2. ESTABLISHING INCIDENT OBJECTIVES

3. SELECTING A STRATEGY

4. ENACTING TACTICAL DIRECTION

INCIDENT ACTION PLANS

➢ RESPONSE IS BASED ON AN ACTION PLAN
[MAY BE WRITTEN OR ORAL]

1. HAS A STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

2. DESCRIBES THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

3. SETS ASSIGNMENTS TO ACCOMPLISH OBJECTIVES

4. HAS SUPPORTING PLANS & MATERIALS OR MAPS

➢ RESPONSE PLANS ARE SET IN A TIME FRAME REFERRED TO AS AN
OPERATIONAL PERIOD

scenario

➤ A small fishing boat has collided with a large sail boat
➤ The fishing boat is already sinking

➤ Identify your actions
➤ Discuss and identify your incident action plan
➤ what agencies & resources are likely to appear on scene?

GROUP ACTIVITY

➤ Using the Scenario in Part 1 with the accident involving the various vehicles
    &
➤ The various agencies that you identified beyond the Police, Fire and Ambulance in the first exercise
➤ And hearing that there is a significant spill found in the ditch system
    IDENTIFY THE INCIDENT ACTION PLAN OBJECTIVES FOR THIS INCIDENT

ICS COMMON TERMINOLOGY

➤ RESPONSE PERSONNEL SHOULD USE COMMON TERMS FOR PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT
➤ RADIO TRANSMISSIONS IN PLAIN ENGLISH
➤ TITLES SHOULD BE CONSISTENT

POSITION	TITLE	SUPPORT TITLE
COMMAND	INCIDENT COMMANDER	DEPUTY
COMMAND STAFF	OFFICER	ASSISTANT
SECTION	CHIEF	DEPUTY
BRANCH	DIRECTOR	DEPUTY
DIVISION	SUPERVISOR	NONE
UNIT	LEADER	NONE

COMPREHENSIVE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

➤ RESOURCES ASSIGNED TO AN INCIDENT ARE MANAGED IN A NUMBER OF WAYS:

SINGLE RESOURCES (PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT)

TASK FORCES (ANY COMBINATION OF SINGLE RESOURCES)

STRIKE TEAMS (SEVERAL RESOURCES OF THE SAME KIND , COMMON COMMUNICATION AND LEADER)

➤ RESOURCES MAY HAVE THREE STATUS CONDITIONS : ASSIGNED, AVAILABLE
OR OUT OF SERVICE

PERSONNEL ACCOUNTABILITY

➤ A NUMBER OF ICS PROCEDURES ENSURE PERSONNEL ACCOUNTABILITY

CHECK IN

UNITY AND CHAIN OF COMMAND

RESOURCE STATUS UNIT RECORDS

DIVISION/GROUP ASSIGNMENT LISTS

UNIT LOGS

MANAGEABLE SPAN OF CONTROL

➤ THE NUMBER OF RESOURCES OR ORGANIZATIONAL ELEMENTS THAT ONE SUPERVISOR CAN MANAGE EFFECTIVELY

RATIO OF 1 TO 5 OPTIMUM

RANGE OF: 1 TO 3 UP TO 1 TO 7

IF REPORTING THE NUMBER OF ELEMENTS FALL OUTSIDE THE RANGE CONSOLIDATION MAY BE NEEDED

ICS MODULAR ORGANIZATION

- ICS IS CAPABLE OF HANDLING SMALL OR LARGE INCIDENTS
- THE MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS DEVELOP FROM THE TOP DOWN
  - BUT:
- THE GENERAL STAFF SECTION (OPERATIONS) DEVELOPS FROM THE BOTTOM UP. IT EXPANDS BASED ON LIFE SAFETY, INCIDENT STABILITY AND THE REQUIREMENT FOR PROPERTY PROTECTION

  THERE ARE:

  SINGLE RESOURCES, DIVISIONS,
  FUNCTIONAL GROUPS, COMBINED
  DIVISIONS AND GROUPS AND MAYBE BRANCHES

GROUP ACTIVITY

- Using the list of Agencies and the Incident Action Plan from the previous exercises
  &
- again working in a group select a recorder and presenter and

Prepare an organizational chart for the Incident Command Post

---

UNITY & CHAIN OF COMMAND

- UNITY OF COMMAND

  EACH PERSON REPORTS TO ONLY ONE SUPERVISOR

- CHAIN OF COMMAND

  ORDERLY LINE OF AUTHORITY

  LOWER LEVELS SUBORDINATE AND CONNECTED TO HIGHER LEVELS

ESTABLISHMENT & TRANSFER OF COMMAND

> COMMAND IS ESTABLISHED BY THE FIRST ON SCENE

> It may be transferred because:

A more qualified person assumes command

An agency has legal responsibility

Nature of incident has changed

Makes management sense

Shift change occurs

SINGLE OR UNIFIED COMMAND

> **THERE IS ALWAYS AN INCIDENT COMMANDER**

> UNIFIED COMMAND ALLOWS ALL AGENCIES WITH FUNCTIONAL OR GEOGRAPHIC RESPONSIBILITY TO ESTABLISH **COMMON OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIES**

> RESPONSE IS GUIDED BY ONE INCIDENT ACTION PLAN [IAP]
> THERE IS ONLY ONE OPERATIONS SECTION CHIEF
> ONE INCIDENT COMMAND POST [ICP]
> ONE OF THE UNIFIED COMMANDERS WILL ACT AS SPOKESPERSON FOR ALL

GROUP ACTIVITY

> THE INCIDENT WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH NOW HAS AN ADDED DIMENSION:

THE FUEL LEAK CANNOT BE STOPPED
IT IS NOW FLOWING OUT OF THE DITCH DIRECTLY INTO A FISH BEARING STREAM

DEVELOP AN ORGANIZATIONAL CHART AND REPORT TO THE GROUP ON WHO AND WHY YOU HAVE CHOSEN NEW PLAYERS AND THEIR TASKS OR ICS POSITIONS

INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS

➢ COMMON COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

➢ STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

➢ CLEAR TEXT

➢ COMMON FREQUENCIES & NETWORKS
APPROPRIATE TO THE INCIDENT COMMAND, TACTICAL, SUPPORT
AIR TO GROUND, AIR TO AIR

➢ COMMON TERMINOLOGY

REVIEW part 2

➢ Common Terminology

   Common terms, plain English, consistent titles

➢ Comprehensive resource management

   single resources, task forces, strike teams, & service condition

➢ Personnel accountability

   check in, unity of command, status records, lists, & logs

➢ Incident command

   agency direction, incident objectives, strategy, tactical
   direction

REVIEW PART 2 CONTINUED

➢ Incident action plans

   statement of objectives, structure, assignments, supporting
   materials

➢ Span of control
   ratio of 1 to 5

➢ Modular organization

   single resources, divisions, functional groups, possibly
   branches

➢ Unity and chain of command

   one supervisor, lines of authority, reporting upwards

REVIEW PART 2 CONTINUED

➤ Establishment and transfer of command
>   first on scene, agency legal responsibilities, makes sense, shift
>   changes
➤ Single or unified command
>   always an incident commander, common objectives, incident
>   action plan importance, one Operations Chief, one post, one
>   voice
➤ Integrated communications
>   communications plan, standard operating procedures, clear
>   text, common frequencies, common terminology

➤QUESTIONS

NEXT STEPS

➤ CLASSROOM EXAM
➤ CERTIFICATES AND CREDIT
➤ PSN AND OTHER COURSE OPPORTUNITIES

➤ Justice Institute of BC
          200 level courses
          300 level courses
          400 level courses

REFERENCES & LINKS

➢ INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM I-100 JUSTICE INSTITUTE OF BC

➢ www.jibc.bc.ca

➢ www.fema.gov/nims/

POWELL RIVER
Regional District

Concept of Response Operations

Incident Command Course
&
Exercise

December 07

Concept of Response Operations

General:

The role of the Powell River Regional District is not to provide direct response to major emergencies or disasters in the region. Due to its limited number of employees the Regional District is dependent upon local volunteers, mutual aid partners and provincial and federal agencies to provide the immediate response to incidents.

To fulfill its supporting obligations under the Emergency Program Act and the Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation the Regional **District** *provides a framework for procurement and coordination of additional resources required by response agencies . It can also organized or coordinate the provision of service by others in order to reduce the impact on people, property or infrastructure in the region following a major emergency or disaster*

Event or potential event with prior warning:

If prior notice, or a provincial Alert or a Warning that a major emergency or disaster is likely to occur, that could impact the Regional District, or some part of it, the Administrator or alternate, or in the case of Sliammon First Nation lands, the Chief, and the Regional District Emergency Coordinator will activate the PRRD Emergency Plan and ensure that the appropriate staff and appointees are informed and that the population in areas likely to be impacted are notified.

The Regional District staff will notify the Board Chair or alternate and Board members. The Chair and Administrator will confer on the need to institute an EOC, issue further information to the public, gather staff together, establish communications with appointees and other agencies and if necessary mobilize designated mutual aid partners. Subsidiary Incident Command Post or EOC's may be opened in the electoral area or areas impacted in order to provide effective and efficient local coordination of an incident or expanding event.

The opening of subsidiary EOC's will be a joint decision of the Powell River Regional District Emergency Coordinator and the respective assistant emergency coordinators. If subsidiary EOC's are opened a critical requirement will be to establish effective communications between the incident site or sites the local off scene EOC and the Regional District EOC.

Based on the type of threat and its likely impact on people or property in the region the Administrator will advise the Board Chair on the need to Declare a State of Local Emergency in order to have access to the extraordinary powers provided for in the Emergency Program Act. If a Declaration is deemed necessary the actions required to give it effect will be undertaken.

An emergency operations center [EOC] will be established and the Administrator or alternate will take on the role of Director and designate staff to

incident command positions, set objectives and priorities, and establish an operational period.

Potential or actual damage will be identified and actions taken to reduce or mitigate it wherever possible. Appropriate sources will be contacted or monitored to determine the latest threat status in order to prepare an EOC Action Plan.

This action plan will be executed utilizing the resources, assistance and partner agencies available and appropriate to the type of threat or threats. The Regional District will identify and assess any critical utilities or services provided in the region and identify to the responsible lead agency its assessment of the priorities for restoration of any interrupted service.

The Regional District will prepare consolidated situation reports [sit-reps] and assessment of the status of an event, at appropriate intervals, for distribution to its participating partner agencies. The Regional District may provide information to the media in order to ensure that the public has access to accurate, reliable facts.

Once the danger of the threat has passed the EOC will be closed. If a Declaration was instituted and is no longer necessary it will be terminated as required and if alerts or warnings were issued they will be rescinded. All documentation will be collected and retained for review, analysis and, if required, procedure or plan modifications.

Event with no prior warning: once information is received by regional staff that a major emergency or disaster has occurred in the regional district every effort will be made to confirm the details, establish they levels of damage and impact and determined who has responded to the events or incident

Any assistance or coordination required from the Regional District will be established. If required the PRRD emergency plan will be activated. From that point the actions above will similarly apply.

Declarations of States of Local Emergency:
The Emergency Program Act provides for the regional district to be able to declare a State of Local Emergency should it need to have access to the special powers contained in Section 10 of the Act and reiterated in Section 5.4 of Bylaw 396. States of local emergency must be authorized by the Chair of the Regional District Board or the Board as a whole, on the basis of reasonable advice by staff. A Declaration must be confirmed by the Minister responsible Public Safety and for the Provincial Emergency Program. [Presently the Solicitor General] **The procedure and forms to establish a state of local emergency are found in Appendix 1 of the PRRD Emergency Plan.**

Evacuation of areas under threat:

One of the most onerous tasks in emergency response is to manage the consequences of an evacuation of people at risk in the region. There are number

of pieces of legislation in addition to the Emergency Program Act which authorized various types of evacuations. These include the federal Criminal Code of Canada, the provincial Wildfire Act, Fire Services Act, Health Act, Mines Act, Waste Management Act, and the Petroleum and Natural Gas Act. The Office of the Fire Commissioner can issue an evacuation order to the public under Section 25 of the Fire Services Act where there is a threat of explosion as a prelude to a declaration of a State of Local Emergency by the Regional District.

The Ministry of Forests has the authority to conduct tactical evacuations to remove people from an area quickly. With the exception of the Emergency Program Act evacuation powers under these pieces of provincial legislation are not available to the Regional District although they may ultimately be responsible for assisting those evacuated.
If, in the opinion of staff of the Regional District or appointed emergency coordinators, or on the basis of advice from competent authorities, it is apparent that the Regional District should issue an evacuation order in an affected community it will do so by declaring a State of Local Emergency as described in above.

The Regional District will provide explicit guidance on the exact areas covered by the evacuation, the most efficient way in ensuring that those in the affected area are aware of the situation and will observe three stages in identifying the need for evacuation:

- **Evacuation Alert:** if sufficient time is available the warning will be issued about an imminent threat to life and property. People are asked to be ready to leave on short notice. People may choose to leave voluntarily before or during the period of alert
- **Evacuation Order:** when the population of an area in the regional district is determined to be at imminent risk an evacuation order can be issued and people must leave the area immediately.
- **Evacuation rescinded:** the regional district can rescind an evacuation alert or order when it is determined that is safe for residents to return to their homes. However, an evacuation order may be reinstated if the threat returns.

Evacuation plans:
The mainland portion of the region from Saltery Bay to Lund is served by Provincial Highway 101. There is limited evacuation capacity by land and this portion of the region is only connected to the south and west by ferry service. Texada, Savary, Hernando and Harwood are all islands which require Marine evacuation most likely to the mainland. Lasqueti Island is served by foot traffic ferry from Vancouver Island. *Evacuation plans, where required, will be the subject of future activity of the Powell River Regional District Emergency Coordinator.*