

Response Pathways

EMERGENCY AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS SUPPORT PATHWAYS

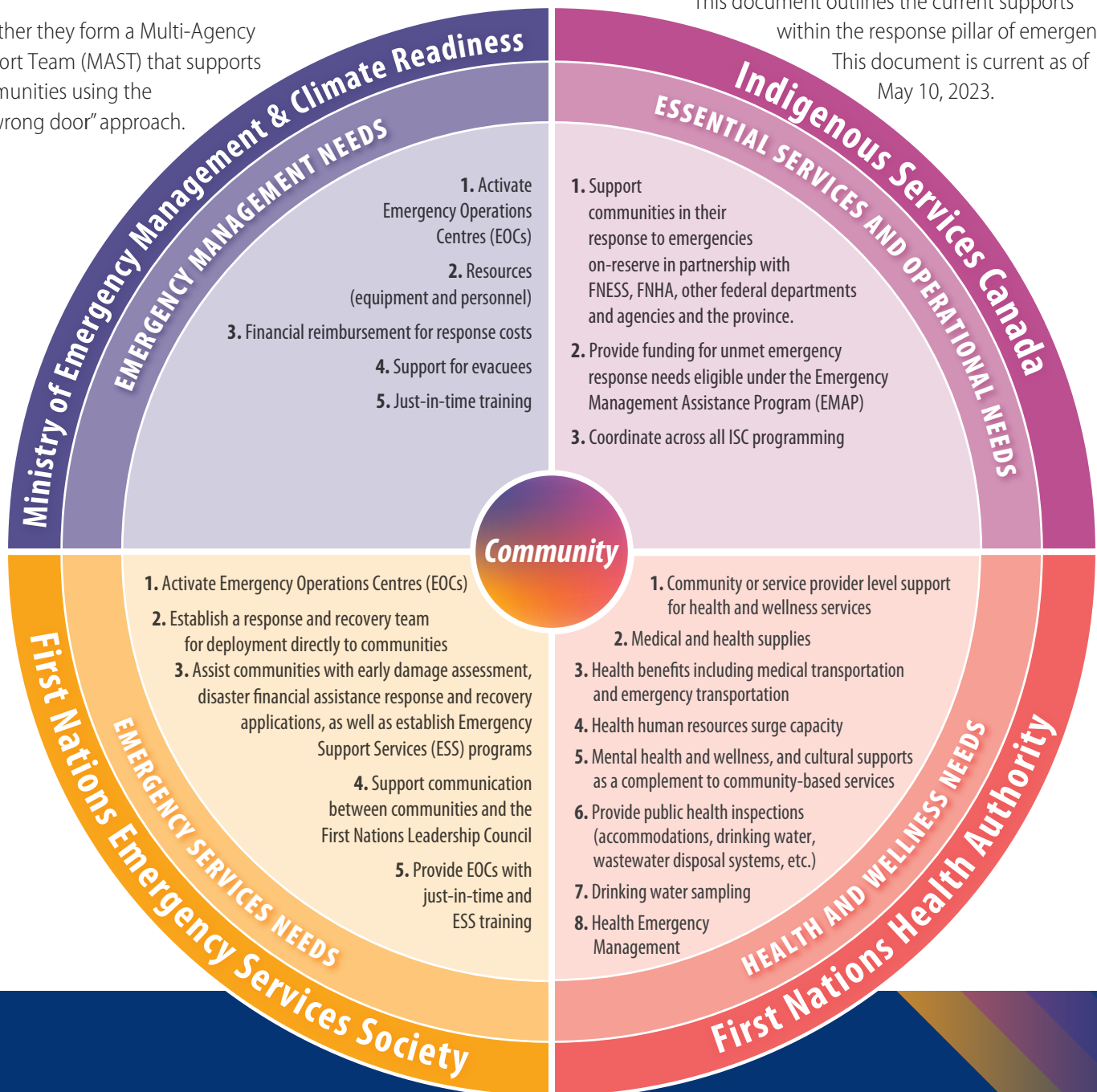
The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, Indigenous Services Canada, the First Nations Health Authority and First Nations Emergency Services Society work collaboratively to support First Nations communities in preparation, mitigation, response and recovery during all hazard events.

Together they form a Multi-Agency Support Team (MAST) that supports communities using the “no wrong door” approach.

The MAST can also be deployed to impacted communities to support collaborative approaches and services to emergency response and recovery. To request a MAST visit or more information, contact the Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centre (PREOC).

This document outlines the current supports within the response pillar of emergency.

This document is current as of May 10, 2023.



Working Together

IF IN DOUBT, please call your Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Center (PREOC). For assistance outside of business hours, please contact the Emergency Coordination Centre 24/7 emergency line: 1-800-663-3456.

MINISTRY OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CLIMATE READINESS

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BC (EMBC) is the lead coordinating agency in the provincial government for all emergency management and business continuity activities.

EMBC provides executive coordination, strategic planning, and multi-agency facilitation through the Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centres (PREOCs) and the Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre (PECC).

EMBC also oversees the Public Safety Lifeline Volunteer programs, including Search and Rescue, Emergency Support Services, and Road Rescue efforts.

For task numbers, please contact the appropriate PREOC. EMBC has a 24/7 emergency line: **1-800-663-3456**.

South West PREOC Phone: 778-572-3962 Email: preoc2.ops1@gov.bc.ca	Central PREOC Phone: 250-312-6623 Email: preoc3.ops1@gov.bc.ca	South East PREOC Phone: 778-671-9032 Email: preoc4.ops1@gov.bc.ca
North East PREOC Phone: 250-614-6322 Email: preoc5.ops1@gov.bc.ca	North West PREOC Phone: 250-615-4800 Email: preoc6.ops1@gov.bc.ca	Vancouver Island PREOC Phone: 236-478-2830 Email: preoc1.ops1@gov.bc.ca

1. Activating an EOC

- ▶ EMCR supports incremental costs associated with activating an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) during emergency and disaster response. This includes activities related to planning, implementation or monitoring of any specific response actions or measures directed by the Province through EMCR, or by federal counterparts in collaboration with First Nations governments within the province.
- ▶ Feeding emergency response staff during an event.
- ▶ Renting EOC equipment, such as laptops.
- ▶ Facility rental, if the facility is not owned by the First Nation or community. If no community-owned facility is available, when approved by expenditure authorization form (EAF).
- ▶ Incremental overtime and reasonable benefits for essential services as defined by contract, or collective agreement terms and conditions.
- ▶ Incremental telephone and data services, including installation and operation while EOC is active.
- ▶ Incremental janitorial services or security.

- ▶ Purchase of EOC office supplies (under \$100). Contribute to more effective operations activities.

2. Acquisition of Resources

- ▶ Provide or assist in the acquisition of resources, such as equipment, personnel, and services. Examples include sandbags, EOC surge capacity (e.g. Information Officer), and recce helicopter flight. Resources are acquired through a Resource Request form that is submitted to the PREOC.

3. Financial Reimbursement for Response Costs

- ▶ Financial reimbursement for response costs can be requested through an EAF that is submitted to the PREOC. It is recommended that approval (confirmation of eligibility with the **Financial Assistance for Emergency Response and Recovery Costs: A Guide for B.C. Local Authorities and First Nations**) of an EAF is acquired before incurring the corresponding cost.
- ▶ Response costs may include incremental costs for workers deployed to the EOC, rental of equipment and security.

- Using the “no wrong door approach,” EAFs that are received that are not eligible under the financial guidelines will be shared with the Multi-Agency Support Team agencies to see if the request can be fulfilled under an alternative program.
- To receive reimbursements for approved response costs, supporting documentation, such as invoices, proof of payment, sign-in sheets, are required. For support or more information on the response claim process, please contact the PREOC.

4. Supports for Evacuees

- Emergency Support Services (ESS) for evacuees. Supports may include food, lodging, and incidentals.
- When communities are evacuated to a host community, a First Nations Community Navigator is recommended. Financial support for this position is an eligible response cost. To learn more about First Nations Community Navigators, contact the PREOC.

- Cultural Activity Location Support provides financial support for renting a facility that is used as a space for community members to gather and partake in community and cultural activities outside of the ESS Reception Centre. To receive financial support for a Cultural Activity Location, submit an EAF to the PREOC.
- Through the Extraordinary Evacuee Form, provide supports for vulnerable community members to evacuate when on evacuation alert. For more information on extraordinary evacuees contact the PREOC.

5. Just-in-Time Training

- Just-in-time training is provided quickly during emergency or disaster response.
- Training can be requested for EOC or ESS response personnel, and may be provided directly by EMCR or by one of the MAST agencies, such as FNESS.
- Requests for just-in-time training are made through a Resource Request to the PREOC.

INDIGENOUS SERVICES CANADA (ISC)

ISC works with First Nations communities to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergency events. In partnership with First Nations communities, provincial and territorial governments and non-government organizations, ISC's Emergency Management Assistance Program (EMAP) supports on-reserve emergency management.

EMAP provides funding to First Nations communities so they can build resiliency, prepare for natural hazards and respond through mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

CONTACT INFORMATION EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Phone: **604-209-9709** | Email: bcaandc.do@sac-isc.gc.ca

1. May provide funding for unmet response needs as eligible under the Emergency Management Assistance Program (EMAP) such as:

- Undertaking appropriate and necessary actions once it is determined that an emergency event is imminent or occurring
- Purchase of low dollar value equipment needed for response when it is the only option available
- Additional or enhanced evacuee supports
- Cultural continuity
- Rental of special equipment

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH AUTHORITY (FNHA)

FNHA is the first province-wide health authority of its kind in Canada. FNHA is the health and wellness partner to over 200 diverse First Nations communities and citizens across B.C.

FNHA has been working to address service gaps through new partnerships, closer collaboration, health systems innovation, reform and redesign of health programs and services for individuals, families, communities and Nations. FNHA is also a champion of culturally safe practices throughout the broader health care system.

FNHA has five regional teams and a central team that all work collaboratively to support First Nations communities in their health and wellness. The location needs and relationship of the First Nations community will determine who from FNHA will respond in each situation. It will be up to the FNHA Liaison in either the PREOC or PECC to communicate internally with the other teams and to determine the best approach from a health and wellness perspective.

FNHA integrates traditional wellness, traditional foods, climate change, harm reduction, primary care and nursing services, health benefits and counselling and cultural support into all the work we do. These are all resources that we tap in to, to support preparedness, mitigation, recovery and response.

FNHA champions the First Nations Perspective on Health and Wellness, including the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual aspects, while encompassing two eyed seeing, bringing the best of traditional and western ways of knowing together. This includes ensuring cultural safety and humility as new policies and partnerships are being established.

CONTACT INFORMATION

FNHA HEALTH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TEAM

Phone: 1-604-456-7669 | Email: HEM@fnha.ca

1. Community and Service Provider Health and Wellness Supports

2. Medical and Health Supplies through First Nation Health Benefits

3. Health Benefits and Medical Emergency Transport

4. Health Human Resources Surge Capacity

- As needed, work in partnership with communities to address surge capacity requirements related to public health and primary health care through planning and identifying appropriate solutions.

5. Mental Health, Wellness, and Cultural Supports

- FNHA Mental Health & Counselling Support through Health Benefits
- Cultural Supports, for more information visit: <http://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/mental-wellness-and-substance-use/mental-health-and-wellness-supports>

6. Public Health Inspections in First Nations communities

7. Drinking Water Sampling

8. Health Emergency Management



FIRST NATIONS EMERGENCY SERVICES SOCIETY (FNESS)

FNESS' mission is to assist First Nations in developing and sustaining safer and healthier communities. FNESS has a long history of delivering emergency programs, training and support for First Nation communities and continues to enhance and develop their programs and services for long-term emergency program sustainability.

FNESS works closely with First Nation communities, EMCR, ISC and various other partners to support the successful implementation of emergency management for First Nation communities in B.C.

The FNESS Emergency Management department provides community-based emergency management guidance, support and assistance to First Nations in B.C. The support includes:

FNESS Liaison Support

FNESS immediately enhances response support for all-hazards engagement for the BC Wildfire Service (BCWS), EMCR and ISC. FNESS supports First Nations from start to finish in an emergency by:

- Providing services to help with documentation that would eliminate and prevent administrative issues after the incident.
- Ensuring emergency services resources are provided in a way that is comparable to other similar sized emergencies and communities.
- Clearing communication on developing situations from local First Nation EOC to PREOC to Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre (PECC).
- Eliminating communication issues by providing updates to First Nation Leadership at the PECC level on the status of emergencies in First Nation Communities..

CONTACT INFORMATION FNESS

BC Toll Free: **1-888-822-3388** | Email: info@fness.bc.ca

1. **Activate EOC**
2. **Response and Recovery Team Deployment**
3. **Assessments and Emergency Program Supports and Assistance**
4. **Communication Support**
5. **EOC Just-in-Time Training and ESS Just In Time Training**