

WOLASTOQEY TRIBAL COUNCIL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

“THE WAY FORWARD”

Prepared for
WOLASTOQEY TRIBAL COUNCIL INC.

By ***SCOUT 5 Consulting***



Wolastoqey Tribal Council Inc.

2 -Year Emergency Management Strategy and Program Development

As outlined in the keystone documents developed for Wolastoqey Tribal Council:

- Community Needs Assessment (*Completed February 2021*)
 - *Madawaska Maliseet First Nation*
 - *Kingsclear First Nation*
 - *Oromocto First Nation*
 - *Saint Mary's First Nation (Scheduled June 2021)*
- HRVA-Hazard, Risk Vulnerability Assessment (*Completed April 2021*)
 - *Madawaska Maliseet First Nation*
 - *Kingsclear First Nation*
 - *Oromocto First Nation*
 - *Saint Mary's First Nation (Scheduled June 2021)*

An effective emergency management program must consider these key components during development:

- Development and maintenance of hazard, risk and vulnerability analysis.
- Conduct risk analysis that identifies options for implementing a range of Emergency Management Program activities required to support safe and healthy First Nations communities.
- Prevent and mitigate hazards and risks in order to reduce the potential impacts of a disaster(s) in First Nations communities.
- Develop process and procedures to mitigate impacts on First Nations Cultural and Heritage Values. Plans Policies and Procedures
- Coordinate effective planning, preparedness, response and recovery management with First Nations Communities, federal government, local and regional agencies, and other organizations.
- Review all emergency management policies, plans and procedures to ensure they are respectful of local culture, sensitive to the needs and challenges of First Nations communities, and are specific to and aligned with, the individual community needs, and specifically focused on prevention and mitigation.
- Engage our communities and review policies, plans and procedures.

- Evaluate the effectiveness of emergency management plans for our member communities and the development of new measures to reduce the consequences of an emergency event.
- Liaise with the private sector (e.g. utility companies and industry) to ensure their emergency management plans support and integrate with First Nations emergency management plans. (Prioritizing First Nations community critical infrastructure for NB Power restoration)
- Assist our member communities to determine the level of preparedness their community has reached and encourage our communities to increase their level of preparedness.
- Evaluate the effectiveness/development of emergency management plans for our member communities and develop new measures and provide feedback to reduce the consequence of impacts resulting from emergency events.
- Provide Emergency Management program evaluation services to determine compatibility with the Emergency Response Plans (ERP's) of neighboring industries and review the efficiency and effectiveness of the current Emergency Management Plan for the First Nations.
- Support continuous improvement of Emergency Management Program initiatives by documenting successes and challenges and identifying recommendations for improved programming effectiveness. Emergency Management - Organizational Design
- Development of First Nations communities' organizational and reporting structure as it relates to Emergency Management that is customized to suit each community.
- Identify the appropriate information databases, mapping and reporting tools required to support community planning along with response and recovery initiatives over the short, mid, and long-term.

Recovery Planning

- Assist our member communities to make effective planning decisions in the management of human, financial, and material resources and to coordinate and communicate procedures to ensure the timely and effective provision of assistance and humanitarian aid to community members.
- Assisting ISC Atlantic to provide expertise, education and awareness to identify programs and processes for accessing funding at the Federal levels to support all phases of Emergency Management and to "Build Back Better". The evolution in Emergency Management is consistent with the international concept of Disaster Risk Reduction.

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR); which is defined by the United Nations (UN) as “systematic efforts to analyze and reduce the causal factors of disasters. Reducing exposure to hazards, lessening vulnerability of our people and property, wise management of land and the environment, and improving preparedness and early warning for adverse events are examples of Disaster Risk Reduction.

A key function of the Government of Canada is to protect the safety and security of First Nations peoples. Federal government institutions are increasing their focus on emergency management (EM) activities, given the evolving risk environment in their areas of responsibility. Emergency Management can save lives, preserve the environment and protect property by raising the understanding of risks and by contributing to a safer, more prosperous and resilient Canada. Emergency Management planning, in particular, aims to strengthen resiliency by promoting an integrated and comprehensive approach that includes the four pillars of Emergency Management: prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. Effective Emergency Management results from a coordinated approach and a uniform structure.

Development of the First Nations Emergency Management Program for Wolastoqey Tribal Council member communities.

This is why developing a **First Nations Emergency Management program**, including an **All-Hazards Emergency Management Plan** is critical to a coordinated response. A First Nations Emergency Management Program establishes objectives, approach and structure for protecting communities and Indigenous people from threats and hazards and sets out how to ensure a coordinated response during all phases.

An effective Emergency Management Program does not need to be lengthy or complicated to be comprehensive—less is more. An effective program must be executable and deliberate.

Priority Areas of Activity for First Nations Communities and for Canada seeks to align the efforts of all Canadians as well as to strengthen overall resilience through five priority areas of activity.

These priority areas of activity are:

- 1. Enhance whole-of-society collaboration and governance to strengthen resilience;**
- 2. Improve understanding of disaster risks in all sectors of society;**
- 3. Increase focus on whole-of-society disaster prevention and mitigation activities;**
- 4. Enhance disaster response capacity and coordination and foster the development of new capabilities; and**
- 5. Strengthen recovery efforts by building back better to minimize the impacts of future disasters.**

The Emergency Management Strategy supports all levels of governments' vision to strengthen Canada's Emergency Management capabilities to prevent/mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters, in order to reduce disaster risk and increase the resiliency of all individuals and communities in Canada.

To reach this goal, the Emergency Management Strategy adopts a whole of society approach to Emergency Management and Disaster Risk Reduction in Canada. In articulating the five FPT Priority Areas of Activity, and describing a variety of approaches to engage, empower, encourage, and educate Emergency Management partners, the Emergency Management Strategy outlines a path toward a more resilient future for Canada by 2030.

Key areas of Focus “The Way Forward”

Key findings during the WTCI First Nation community assessments determined areas of focus:

- ❖ Mitigation/building back better initiatives.
- ❖ Preparedness and planning initiatives such emergency public alerting, notification procedures/capabilities, training, exercising, All Hazards plans, TRVA, contingency plans.
- ❖ Response plans and operational constructs such as Emergency Operations Centre's. Identified resources, stockpiles and arrangements.
- ❖ Recovery plans and identified resources.

These key finding and areas identified to focus on during the development of an Emergency Management Program and All Hazard Plan development for each community.

Working Together for resilient First Nations Communities”

In partnership with First Nations Communities, Indigenous Services Canada's Emergency Management Assistance Program (EMAP) helps First Nations communities access emergency assistance services. Indigenous Services Canada's Emergency Management team are empowering First Nations communities to adopt a holistic approach to emergency management; together we can build resilient First Nations communities in New Brunswick.

The objective of an emergency management program is to ensure community preparedness and resiliency during all phases of the emergency management continuum. Wolastoqey Tribal Council and our member communities are working together to access EMAP funding. Working with our First Nations Communities and our Industry Partner Scout 5 Consulting, we are taking a holistic approach to emergency management and building an inclusive emergency management program that will assist us in building resilient communities.

Community resilience is an attribute of the community as a complex integrated system, describing the ability of its members to draw upon their own inherent strengths and capabilities to absorb the impact of a disruption, to reorganize, change, and learn from the disruption, and to adapt to emergent shocks. While the concept of community resilience can seem abstract, tangible examples from international research that describe what resilient communities actually look like can be clarifying, for example:

- Members of resilient communities are empowered to use their existing skills, knowledge and resources to prevent/mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters. They are able to adapt their everyday skills and use them in extraordinary circumstances.
- Members of resilient communities are educated on the risks that may affect them. They understand the links between risks assessed at FPT levels and those that exist in their communities; and how this might affect their lives, businesses and the local environment.
- Members of resilient communities are engaged in all aspects of community life, adopting a long-term, holistic and community reflective perspective, influencing and making decisions that address the needs of their whole community. They take proactive steps today to help reduce risks tomorrow.
- Resilient communities encourage trusted champions to communicate the benefits of resilience to the wider community and influence others to get, or stay, involved. These champions help strengthen the relationships and bonds already working well in the community.

“The Way Forward”

Development of a 2-year rolling Emergency Management Program for each community within WTCI.

Year 1 (2021)

Jan - Feb

- ❖ **Community Needs Assessments (*Completed Jan-February*)**

March - June

- ❖ **HRVA (*3 Completed March-April, 1 scheduled June*)**

May - June

- ❖ **The Way Forward 2 -year Emergency Management Strategy (*Completed May-June*)**
- ❖ **Emergency Management Training (June) (BEM/ Emergency Communications)**

July - Oct

- ❖ **Emergency Management Program Developed for WTCI First Nation Communities**
 - **All Hazards Emergency Plan Development (July-Oct)**
 - **Team member identification/validation and SOP development (Aug- Sept)**
 - **Hazard specific reviews/assessment as required**

Sept - Dec

- ❖ **Emergency Management Training (Sept-Oct) ICS**
- ❖ **Plan validation (EOC role specific training & TTX Exercise) (Sept-Dec)**
- ❖ **EOC facility review/development (2021-2023)**

Year 2 (2022)

- ❖ **EOC facility development (cont..2022-2023)**
- ❖ **Hazard specific reviews/assessment as required (cont..2022-2023)**

Jan - Feb

- ❖ **Hazard specific contingency Plan development (Jan/Feb)**

Feb - March

- ❖ **Emergency Management Training (Emergency Operations Centre) (Feb/March)**

April -May

- ❖ **Community outreach and plan education (Briefings/pamphlet development and dissemination) (May)**

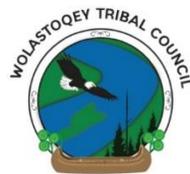
June

- ❖ **EOC activation exercise (Full Scale) (June)**
- ❖ **Community notification exercise (Full Scale) (June)**

July - Dec

- ❖ **HRVA (Mitigation Strategies/Programs developed) July-Dec**
- ❖ **Development of next 2 year strategic plan – The Way Forward 2023-2024**

“Working Together for Resilient First Nations Communities”



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