

CITY OF PITT MEADOWS

NEIGHBOURHOOD EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

The basis behind the City of Pitt Meadows Neighbourhood Preparedness Program is Neighbours helping Neighbours. The goal is to prepare neighbourhood to be self-sufficient for 72 hours following a major event as first responders will not be available. A neighbourhood is defined as a school, and group of homes and/or a stratum such as apartments or townhouses. The same concept can be used for businesses, daycares and adult care facilities.

The advantage of organizing now is that people who are prepared will more likely respond quickly, calmly and effectively. Obviously the more neighbours that prepare now, the more effective your immediate response will be. A well-organized, prompt response saves lives, reduces the severity of injury and lessens property damage.

Most neighbours already have the skills and resources to look after many of their own needs. Neighbourhood Programs simply pre-identify and organize the available resource.

NEIGHBOURHOOD DISCUSSION AT MEETING #1

- Minimize existing hazards in the home
- Acquire supplies for an emergency kit
- Prepare for evacuation from home or the neighbourhood
- Introduce the basic structure of the Neighbourhood Program
- Introduction to Personal Preparedness
- Develop a list of names, phone numbers and emails of the neighbourhood
- Form a steering committee
- Determine date of Meeting #2

NEIGHBOURHOOD DISCUSSION AT MEETING #2

- Identify population mix (Children, seniors, daycares), anyone needing special assistance, pets, people with disabilities, people who speak English as a second language).
- Special skills neighbours bring to the table
- Formally organize the Neighbourhood Program Team (includes determine the tasks which neighbours are willing to take on.
- Discuss the responsibilities and skills required for the response units

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #3

- Develop a map of the neighbourhood
- Identify neighbourhood hazards
- Identify other characteristics such as limited access, distance to major waterway, floodplain, remote location, advanced age of buildings.

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NEIGHBOURHOOD DISCUSSION AT MEETING #4

- Identify neighbourhood resources

NEPP WORKSHOPS OFFERED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR TO SUPPORT THE PROGRAM

TITLE	DURATION	DESCRIPTION
1. Emergency Preparedness	1.5 hours	Provides reasons why you would want to be prepared and explains tools to assist in being prepared.
2. Introduction to the NEPP	2 hours	A pre-requisite course to all the NEPP workshops.
3. NEPP Leadership Team	2.5 hours	Provides NEPP overall leadership before, during and after an event
4. Communication	11 hours + pre-study	Provides a communication link between teams and outside resources through ham radio licensing
5. Rapid Damage Assessment	3.5 hours	Performs a preliminary assessment of damage in the neighbourhood
6. Basic First Aid & Triage	2.5 hours	Provides first aid and emotional support to the injured
7. Light Urban Search and Rescue	4 hours	Locates the missing and rescues those trapped and/or injured
8. Shelter and Caregiving	2.5 hours	Provides a safe, clean environment with food and care for those in need such as the elderly
9. Utilities and Fire Suppression	3.5 hours	Reduces hazards from fire and or damaged utilities

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