From: General
To: Admin
Subject: FW: Emergency Management and Climate Readiness January 2026 newsletter
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From: EMCR Community Newsletter <emcr.communications@news.emcr.gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 15, 2026 10:52 AM
To: General <general@lakecowichan.ca>
Subject: Emergency Management and Climate Readiness January 2026 newsletter

Please confirm you would like to continue to receive the monthly Four Phases newsletter from the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness.

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Welcome to the first Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) newsletter of 2026.

To better meet the growing complexity of emergencies in B.C., EMCR has modernized its organizational structure to strengthen coordination, clarity and accountability. The changes took effect January 12 and aim to provide clearer points of contact, stronger preparedness and risk-reduction support, and smoother transitions from response to recovery. With these changes, EMCR is setting the stage for more coordinated, partner-focused support in 2026 and beyond.

In this issue, you will find details on Disaster Financial Assistance availability, information on hazard preparedness, opportunities to share feedback on climate data, innovations in emergency management and how to participate in a federal engagement on strengthening emergency management leadership.

EMCR regional offices are available to support First Nations' and local governments' emergency management planning, response and recovery needs. Reach out if you need assistance.

December 2025 flood event recovery

Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) is now available for eligible people, businesses and communities in southwestern B.C. affected by flooding from heavy rainfall December 10 to 19, 2025.

The deadline for submitting applications is April 13, 2026.

This support is available to homeowners, renters, business owners, farmers, corporation-owned properties, charitable organizations, local governments and Indigenous communities to cover uninsurable disaster-related losses.

Visit DFA.gov.bc.ca to apply online.

For additional information, visit:

- DFA for individuals, small businesses, farms, and charitable organizations
- DFA for Indigenous communities and local governments

Ongoing hazards awareness

Many areas of the province continue to face seasonal and weather-related events, including flooding, atmospheric rivers, unstable riverbanks, ice jams, landslides and avalanches.

Understanding these hazards is the first step in being prepared. Help keep people in your community safe by encouraging them to remain cautious by sharing the following resources:

- Prepared BC Social media packages and seasonal hazard information

- River Forecast Centre for current advisories and streamflow hazard outlooks
- Avalanche Canada for mountain weather forecasts and danger ratings
- EmergencyInfoBC for current alerts and orders
- DriveBC for road conditions, closures and repair updates

Earthquake anniversary reminds us to be prepared

On January 26, 1700, a massive earthquake caused intense ground shaking and a powerful tsunami across the Pacific. Its occurrence was confirmed centuries later through Japanese records of an unexplained “orphan” tsunami, along with Indigenous oral histories and geologic evidence from the region.

This undersea megathrust generated widespread coastal impacts throughout the Pacific

Northwest and beyond. It ruptured much of the 1,000-kilometre Cascadia Subduction Zone from British Columbia to northern California.

Preparation and practice are key! The anniversary of this earthquake is a good time to share the following resources in your community:

- PreparedBC's earthquake and tsunami preparedness social media package
- PreparedBC's earthquake and tsunami preparedness guide and webpage
- Information on Natural Resources Canada's earthquake early warning system
- ClimateReadyBC's earthquake information and resources webpage

Follow PreparedBC on Facebook, Instagram, X and Threads for more. You can even sign up now for ShakeOut 2026 – it's not too early!

Free webinar: Insurance and climate risk

Are you interested in climate resilience for renewable energy projects? Join the free virtual renewable energy climate adaptation project (RECAP) learning lab on February 24 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. PST.

The RECAP learning lab will focus on the impacts of climate risk on insurance for solar and biomass energy projects, how insurance can help protect projects against climate-related losses and how communities can work with insurers.

RECAP is a project led by the Fraser Basin Council in partnership with Natural Resources Canada and other key organizations, including EMCR.

Register for learning lab

Provide feedback on the new ClimateData site

The Canadian Centre for Climate Services (CCCS) is looking for feedback on the new version of ClimateData.ca.

The updated platform includes a wide range of resources, interactive maps and educational materials. Your input will help ensure that it is accessible, valuable and easier than ever for communities to access easy-to-understand, high-quality data to develop mitigation and adaptation plans.

Register now and choose to participate in a short self-guided activity with a follow-up group discussion or a one-on-one activity.

Subscribe to the ClimateData.ca newsletter to receive updates on new data and resources.

Strengthening government’s response to emergencies

New province-wide opportunities are available for B.C. companies to test and showcase cutting-edge technology aimed at protecting communities from floods, wildfires and other extreme-weather events.

Created by the Government of B.C. in partnership with PacifiCan and delivered by Innovate BC, the Integrated Marketplace helps companies to demonstrate innovative solutions in:

- wildfire and flood prevention
- mitigation and management
- emergency response

Read the news release for additional information about the program and companies that

have participated.

Public engagement open: strengthening federal leadership in emergency management

Public Safety Canada is conducting a public engagement to gather input on how to strengthen federal leadership in emergency management.

Open until February 28, the engagement is seeking perspectives on coordination, capacity-building, partnerships and improving risk awareness and public preparedness.

Feedback will help guide future federal actions to better prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies across Canada.

Learn more and participate in the engagement.

Funding opportunities

First Nations and local governments can apply for funding to support disaster mitigation, recovery and response.

Visit the emergency management financial supports webpage or ClimateReadyBC for available programs.

Upcoming deadlines

January 30, 2026: Indigenous Cultural Safety and Cultural Humility Training

January 31, 2026: Wildfire Community Preparedness Day

January 31, 2026: FireSmart Neighbourhood Recognition Program Incentive

February 27, 2026: Emergency Operations Centres Equipment and Training

April 13, 2026: Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) for eligible people and communities

April 30, 2026: Emergency Management Exemplary Service Award

September 30, 2026: FireSmart Community Funding and Supports

Connect with us

We look forward to connecting with you at upcoming meetings, tradeshows and events.

Contact your regional office for emergency management information and support.

If you have received this by way of forward, **subscribe here**.

We acknowledge with respect that Emergency Management and Climate Readiness operates throughout British Columbia on the traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples. We invite you to learn which territories you work/live on and how to respectfully acknowledge the land.

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