

Making Resiliency and Recovery the New Norm



BCEDA Disaster Recovery Team

- Established in 2012 – First in Canada
- Team(s) of EDOs and other resource providers
- Can go to communities when asked and when resources are available
- Partnership with IEDC and Restore Your Economy
- Our work focuses on every sector – including Tourism

EDRP Projects

- Burns Lake – Mill Explosion
- Southern Alberta – Worst flooding in Canadian history
- Washington, DC – United States Economic Recovery Framework
- BC Wildfires 2017, 2018
- US Virgin Islands – Hurricanes Irma and Maria
- Saskatchewan – Pre-disaster plans for economic recovery training
- Grand Forks – Short Term Recovery Plan, Business Assessments, and Long-term Recovery Plan
- BC – Provincial economic recovery recommendations
- Economic Disaster Recovery Workshops and Training



Resiliency and Recovery

- Economic Resiliency is being proactive in having the strategies and actions identified pre-disaster
- This enables “recovery” to be a more streamlined and faster process



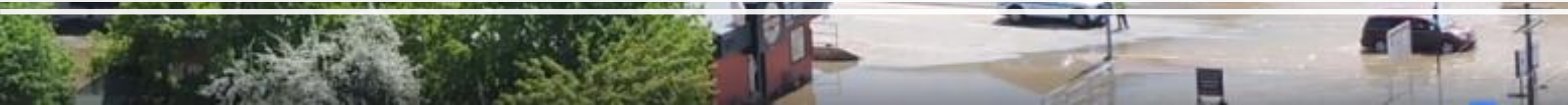
“It has been shown that resilience strategies (pre-economic recovery plans) could have significantly reduced GDP losses by 47.4% during 2008-2011 by accelerating the pace of recovery.”

Is Your
Community
Ready?





Getting your Community Disaster Ready





Phases of Disaster

Does your plan mention these?

Quick review of 9 plans shows:

- 1 - Mentions “**recovery**”
- 1 - Mentions “business”
- 1 - Mentions “economic” or “economy”
- Not one plan mentions business re-entry as a priority



The Recovery

- Fourth Phase of Disaster
- Recovery Phase can last a long time
 - Short-term typically last 6 months to a year
 - Long-term can last decades
- Investment in economic development capacity becomes even more essential



Pre-Disaster Planning is a Must

- Post-disaster, small businesses face many challenges – these are your employers
- Assumption that there are significant external resources to help with business recovery
- Timely access to capital is extremely important for small business recovery
- Multiple benefits for economic recovery by performing pre-disaster planning efforts



Plan Content

1. Community Risk Assessment
2. Business Community Engagement
3. Business Centre for Economic Recovery
4. Business Re-entry System
5. Business Financing
6. Capacity Building
7. Workforce Planning
8. Land and Building Reuse and Redevelopment
9. Communications Strategy
10. Federal and Provincial Programs for recovery



Top 10 Steps to Prepare Your Business for Evacuation

If you are on evacuation alert or think you will be put on evacuation alert, there are some important steps you will want to consider. If you have an evacuation plan, review the plan and start the implementation process. If you do not have an evacuation plan, here are 10 things to consider:

1. **Protect your information** - back up electronic files using a USB stick, emailing them to yourself, backing up to an online '[cloud](#)' and grabbing your laptop, external hard drive, or computer tower if needed.
2. **Pack insurance and registration information for all commercial vehicles in your evacuation kit.** For more information to go:
<http://www.icbc.com/about-icbc/newsroom/Pages/2017-Jul10.aspx>
3. **Preparing for an Insurance Claim** - take pictures and/or a video of your business pointing out key equipment. Don't forget to take a copy of your insurance documents with you.
4. **Remove any uncertainty as to what staff should do in an emergency.** Assign tasks to help staff respond as quickly as possible. Make sure you have their contact information and out of area contacts.
5. **Turn off utilities** – electrical and water, and remove any fire hazards that may be near the building. If you are evacuated, leave your gas service on. If a fire or emergency officials request Pacific Northern Gas to do so, we will turn off the utility service as a precautionary measure, or if there is an immediate threat to Pacific Northern Gas infrastructure.
6. **Empty cash from your cash register and seal in an envelope.** Sign the envelope, the cash amount and the date across the seam. If you go to use any of this cash in your evacuation efforts, be sure to track how much of it you spend and if it is a business-related expense.
7. **Make sure you have a list of links to emergency information.** A list is provided at the end of this document.
8. **Create a list of emergency phone numbers and key contacts;** be sure you have them with you when you are evacuated.
9. **If there is an environmental threat 30 km or further from your place of business,** you may be eligible to register for business interruption insurance. In the case of a wildfire, insurance companies require that the nearest fire be no closer than 25 – 30 km.
10. **Contact suppliers about a potential delivery disruption** and **contact service providers about a potential disruption in services** (if applicable).

Educate and Inform

Develop information sources before and following a disaster and circulate to your businesses



Economic Disaster Recovery in Action

Burns Lake, BC, Mill Explosion - 2012



Southern Alberta Floods - 2013





BC Wildfires 2017 and 2018

- First agency to launch resources – July 7, 2017
- Launched Hotline – mid-July in partnership with FortisBC
- Over 500 calls and over 480 call backs from Volunteers
- 22% of callers identified as Tourism – 33% identified as Retail/Food Services



US Virgin Islands

“Bringing the Tourist back”

Panama City, and Panama City Beach,
Florida – Hurricane Michael

- Marketing campaign started in Panama City Beach – within months of disaster
- Panama City is sending postcards to past visitors – What Was, What Is, What Will Be.
- Website promoting those businesses now open





Business Assessments – Final Report

Prepared by: British Columbia Economic Development Association

BCEDA





EDRP – Some Key Points

- Communities are not prepared to rebuild an economy
- When a disaster strikes – everyone must pull together
- Businesses need to prepare - and you need to help them
- Be aware of sensitive situations
- Develop Communication Plans – should be led by community – then work regionally
- Meet with business before and after
- Do not think you know what's best – ask for help
- Local and Regional Governments need to be the lead on Pre-Disaster Recovery Plans



PREPARE YOUR COMMUNITY OR REGION

Host a “Making Economic Resiliency and Recovery The New Norm”

Full day workshop



Questions

www.bceda.ca