

The logo for CleanBC, with 'clean' in green and 'BC' in blue.

cleanBC

CLIMATE LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM

Public Sector and Local
Government Action



New Legislation and Regulations for Local
Authorities and Public Sector Organizations – Risk
Assessment



MODERNIZED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION AND ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS



- 1) New legislation: *Emergency & Disaster Management Act*
- 2) New regulations associated with the Act
- 3) Timelines for implementation
- 4) Implications for PSO's and Local Authorities



B.C.'s Modernized Emergency Management Legislation:

A New Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Response, and Recovery

MODERNIZED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION AND ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS



Legislation Technical Paper:

- [B.C.'s Modernized Emergency Management Legislation \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/legislation/modernized-emergency-management-legislation)

Regulation Discussion Paper – with questions (Dec. 31 deadline):

- [09 05 2023 LA Reg Discussion Paper - mbm edits addressed \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/regulation/discussion-paper-09-05-2023-la-reg-discussion-paper-mbm-edits-addressed)

MODERNIZED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION AND ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS



B.C.'s modernized legislation will:

- Require risk assessments to consider how climate change may affect hazards
- Promote co-management
- Address all four phases of emergency management:
 - Mitigation
 - Preparation
 - Response
 - Recovery

MODERNIZED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION AND ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS



Legislation: Critical Infrastructure

- Critical infrastructure owners will be required to prepare and maintain:
 - Risk assessments
 - Emergency management plans
 - Business continuity plans
- Critical infrastructure will be defined in regulations made under the new statute



MODERNIZED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION AND ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS



Legislation: Local Authorities

- Risk assessments for foreseeable hazards within their jurisdictions
- At least one emergency management plan



MODERNIZED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION AND ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS



Regulation: Local Authorities

- Clear requirements for risk assessments, emergency management plans, and business continuity plans
- A framework for multi-jurisdictional emergency management organizations
- Requirements to consult and cooperate with Indigenous governing bodies



MODERNIZED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION AND ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS



Regulation: Risk Assessments

Under the proposed legislation, risk assessments need to consider the:

- Degree of risk posed by a hazard
- Likelihood of the hazard leading to an emergency
- Potential scope and scale of an emergency
- Available Indigenous and local knowledge
- Potential impacts from climate change or extreme weather events
- Impacts on people, animals and places

MODERNIZED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION AND ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS



Regulation: Emergency Management Plans

- Municipalities and regional districts will be required to have emergency management plans that are based on the results of risk assessments

MODERNIZED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION AND ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS



Regulation

- Discussion paper open for comment until December 31, 2023 at engage.gov.bc.ca
- Includes key questions for response
- Hyperlink for paper: [09 05 2023 LA Reg Discussion Paper - mbm edits addressed \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)

MODERNIZED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION AND ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS



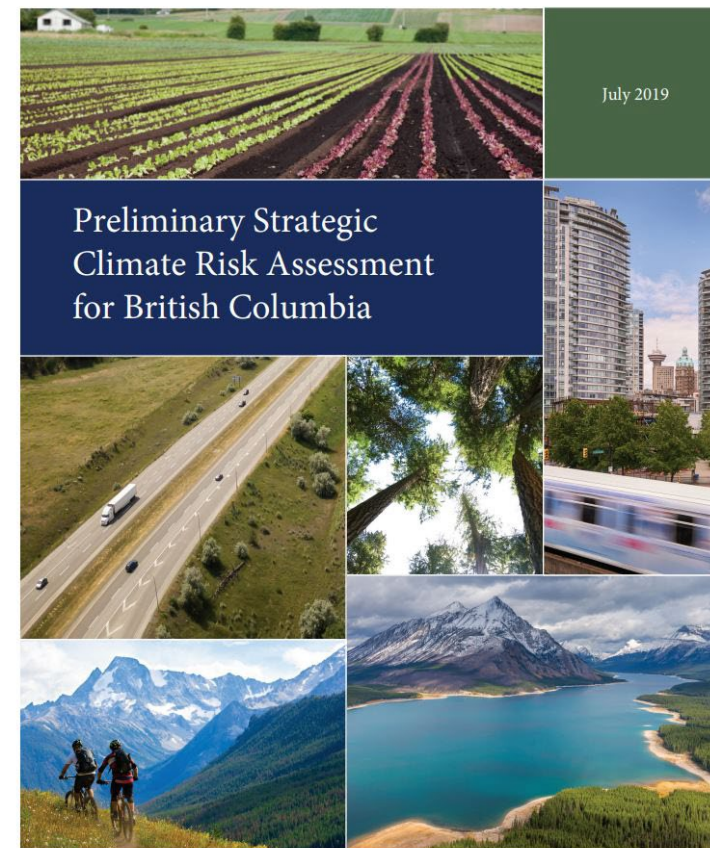
Timeline

Provincial Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment	Summer 2024
Regional Assessments (Under DCRRA)	Spring 2026
Local Authority Assessments	Post – Spring 2026
Critical Infrastructure Owners	Post - Spring 2026
Ministries	Post – Spring 2026

MODERNIZED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION AND ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Implications for PSOs and LGs

- Have you done a risk assessment?
- What barriers are there to completing this work?
- Do you have capacity to do this work?
- How can the Province best support?





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Climate Action Secretariat

Thank you



CleanBC
Roadmap to 2030