



BC FLOOD AND WILDFIRE REVIEW

Feedback Guide

Overview:

The Government of BC has launched the BC Flood and Wildfire Review – a strategic review of flood and wildfire practices in the Province – to be led by an independent team with a focus on the 2017 flood and wildfire season. The review is seeking feedback on how government can better prevent, prepare for and respond to future flood and wildfire events, leading up to the 2018 season.

If you would like to provide the review with feedback – either verbally, through a meeting with the co-chairs, or via a written submission – we encourage you to tailor your response to the key focus areas established in the review Terms of Reference.

Background

About the BC Flood and Wildfire Review

The 2017 flood and wildfire events were the worst recorded to date in British Columbia, resulting in the displacement of more than 65,000 people, response costs totaling greater than \$600M, and the declaration of a provincial state of emergency. The demonstrated effort and commitment resulted in significant fatigue, stress, and an overall impact on residents, First Nations, contractors, industry, and government staff. The review is mandated to examine and learn from these events through a combination of citizen engagement and technical research.

BC Flood and Wildfire Review objectives:

- Set the stage to reduce the risk of another flood and wildfire season like that of 2017.
- Assess 2017 performance in the context of the pillars of emergency management – planning and preparedness, prevention and mitigation, response, and recovery – to identify both successes, and areas for improvement.
- Listen to the experiences of individuals and communities, and learn from them and from other jurisdictions.

- Make recommendations that will lead to improvements to governance systems, regulations, policy, and leadership practices, that will help both to mitigate and prevent future flood and wildfire events, and to react and respond to them when they do occur.

Areas for feedback

The review Terms of Reference specify key focus areas for the review's inquiry and public engagement. Those areas include: planning and preparedness, prevention and mitigation, response, and recovery. An outline of these topic areas is provided below for your reference when developing feedback.

We would also like to hear about similar feedback activities taking place in your communities, and about key stakeholders we could involve in the review process going forward.

In addition to in-person engagement, written and online feedback opportunities will be provided. These alternatives will ensure that all British Columbians are able to offer their feedback.



Review Terms of Reference – Key focus areas

1. Planning and preparedness – please consider governance, process, communications, and capacity and resources (both financial and human) as you answer the following questions:

- What worked and didn't work in 2017?
- What can be improved to better plan and prepare for floods and wildfires in your communities?
- What planning and preparedness efforts, leading up to 2017, were satisfactory and should be continued/enhanced?

2. Prevention and mitigation – please consider management practices, economic costs and benefits, and capacity and resources (both financial and human) as you answer the following questions:

- Leading up to the 2017 season, what prevention and mitigation efforts were undertaken in your community? Were some more effective than others?
- What could be improved to help to prevent and mitigate floods and wildfires in your communities in the future?
- Which prevention and mitigation efforts were effective in the 2017 season and should be continued/enhanced?

3. Response – please consider governance, process, internal and external organizational communications, tactical efforts, and capacity and resources (both financial and human) as you answer the following questions:

- What worked and didn't work in 2017?
- How can the response to floods and wildfires be improved in your communities?
- What response efforts were satisfactory and should be continued/enhanced?

4. Recovery – consider governance, process, internal and external organizational communications, and capacity and resources (both financial and human) as you answer the following questions. Please also consider the differing impact on communities, businesses and individuals, as well as both the short-term (restoring community services and cleanup) and long-term (health, economic, societal) aspects of recovery:

- What efforts worked (and continue to work) well following the 2017 season? What efforts were ineffective?
- What do you see as recovery challenges in the next two to five years?
- What recovery efforts were effective and should be continued/enhanced?

Recent engagement activities:

- Have there been any recent data collection or engagement activities in your community pertaining to emergency services? If so, please specify.

Future review engagement and key stakeholders

- Who are the key stakeholders we should be speaking with in your community?
- Would you be interested in assisting with communication for the community events?

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