

FLOOD READINESS INFORMATION FOR ORGANIZATIONS SERVING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

In the Southwestern region of BC the following communities are considered at risk for flooding: Hope, Kent/Harrison/Agassiz, Fraser Valley Regional District, Chilliwack, Abbotsford, Barnston Island, Mission, Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, Port Coquitlam, Coquitlam, New Westminster, Langley, Surrey, Pemberton, and Squamish

People with disabilities are a population at greater risk during emergencies and if flooding does happen, they need to be prepared for possible evacuation from their homes. As a disability and/or community group in these communities you can help reduce the risk to your clients or members by sending them the attached sheet, **Flood Readiness Information for Individuals with Disabilities**. Feel free to add items under **What to take with you** for the specific clients that you serve. An electronic version is available by contacting the number below.

If your office is in the potential flood zone, you need a plan because you may need to temporarily move your office in order to continue operating and supporting your clients.

If your organization has the staff or volunteer capacity to help during the emergency flooding, contact your local Emergency Social Services (ESS). Let them know how you can be of help in getting pre-emergency information to your clients or helping the population you serve when they come into reception centres and emergency shelters. Your local ESS needs your expertise. They are not specifically trained to assist people with disabilities.

For more information contact:

Karen Martin, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator,
BC Coalition of People with Disabilities,
Co-chair, Emergency Preparedness and People
with Disabilities Committee
604 875-0188