
Glossary of Terms and Acronyms

All Hazards

All-Hazards is an integrated approach to emergency management focused on developing capacities and resources that are critical to being prepared in times of emergency or disaster.

Disaster Resilience

Disaster resilience refers to a community's ability to anticipate, prevent, or minimize the potential damage a disaster might cause. It involves how well a community can cope with the effects of a disaster, maintain certain basic functions and structures during the disaster, and to recover and adapt to the changes that result from the disaster. Another way of describing emergency management is "Disaster Resilience".

Emergency Management

Emergency Management is the organization of people and the management of resources and responsibilities when dealing with emergencies. The Emergency Management Planning cycle is composed of four components:

1. Mitigation/Prevention
2. Preparedness
3. Response
4. Recovery

Emergency Management Planning

Emergency Management Planning is a community-driven process that builds on each stage of the Emergency Management Planning cycle: Mitigation/Prevention, Preparedness, Response & Recovery. An Emergency Management Plan contains some type of disaster or risk assessment, like a hazard, risk and vulnerability assessment (HRVA), and utilizes that tool to develop policies and guidelines to ensure the community can effectively prevent, prepare, respond to and recover from major incidents.

Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)

Emergency Plans often include instructions for activating an EOC during an emergency. This is a central command and control facility made up of core staff from your organization that carry out the responsibilities and principles of emergency planning as outlined in your Emergency Plan, including response and recovery, while also ensuring business continuity for your organization. EOC's are typically composed of an Incident Commander, and four main sections: Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance. There may also be Public or Media Relations or other positions as identified in an Emergency Plan.

Framework Agreement (FA)

The Framework Agreement is a government to government agreement signed in 1996. It gives First Nations the authority to opt out of the land management sections of the *Indian Act* and resume governance and management control of their reserve lands and natural resources

Hazard, Risk & Vulnerability Assessment (HRVA)

Sometimes called a Risk Assessment, an HRVA is the foundation of community emergency management, as it informs risk reduction strategies, response, and recovery plans, and more. In order to prepare for emergencies, it is helpful to know what to plan and prepare for. A HRVA helps communities by answering some common questions:

What hazards are likely to occur in my community/region?

How severe will the impacts of certain hazards be on our community? To our infrastructure? To our environment? To our social and economic lives?

How resilient is our community to these hazards?

What strategies will help to reduce the risk from these hazards?

Incident Command (IC)

IC is a standardized command and control system used in All-Hazard Emergency Management. IC, or Incident Command Structure (ICS) is built into most Emergency Plans using an All-Hazards approach. IC or ICS is an organizational structure that is activated during an emergency, usually at the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), or on the site of an emergency to manage incidents and emergency-related training events.

Indian Act (IA)

The *Indian Act* is a legislation enacted by the Federal Government. The current act has been in place since 1951.

Land Code

A Land Code will be the basic land law of the First Nation and will replace the land management provisions of the Indian Act. The Land Code is drafted by the First Nation and will make provision for the following matters: identifying the reserve lands to be managed by the First Nation (called "First Nation land"), the general rules and procedures for the use and occupation of these lands by First Nation members and others, financial accountability for revenues from the lands (except oil and gas revenues, which continue under federal law), the making and publishing of First Nation land laws, the conflict of interest rules, a community process to develop rules and procedures applicable to land on the breakdown of a marriage, a dispute resolution process, procedures by which the First Nation can grant interests in land or acquire lands for community purposes, the delegation of land management responsibilities, and the procedure for amending the Land Code.

Mutual Aid

This refers to a formal relationship between a First Nation and other entities (including other First Nations, Local governments, Local industry or other organizations). Mutual Aid agreements call for the mobilization of emergency resources for emergency assistance, and they include important Planning information from your Emergency Plan to help those external parties in their response and recovery efforts.