STANDING COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
~
THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2018
COMMITTEE ROOM “A”
12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.

AGENDA

1. Prayer

2. Review and Adoption of Agenda
   a) Decision on In Camera items (items marked with an asterisk [*] may be dealt with in camera)

3. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

4. Today’s Committee Business:
   a) Public Briefing on the Northwest Territories Emergency Management Modernization Plan, with the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, Honourable Caroline Cochrane.

5. Date and Time of Next Meeting:
   - Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 7:30 A.M. (Joint SCOGO and SCOSD)
   - Thursday, March 15, 2018 at 10:30 A.M.

6. Adjournment
OPENING REMARKS
HONOURABLE CAROLINE COCHRANE
MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES EMERGENCY PLAN MODERNIZATION

I am here today to brief Committee members on a newly modernized Northwest Territories emergency management plan and framework.

With me from MACA are Eleanor Young, Deputy Minister; Ivan Russell, Manager, Emergency Measures, Kevin Brezinski, Director of Public Safety, Melissa Kruger, Senior Policy and Legislative Advisor; and my Ministerial Special Advisor, Mira Dunn.

A short presentation has been provided to help describe the new emergency management plan and framework, and the path which has led us to these documents.

As you know, revitalizing the NWT Emergency Plan is a priority for the 18th Legislative Assembly.
Climate change and recent emergency events have highlighted a real need to improve the GNWT’s approach to emergency management.

Working closely with all GNWT departments, these instruments represent lessons learned from previous events, and best practices from across Canada. They provide the structure and guidelines on how the GNWT and its partners work together to support community governments and meet a collective responsibility in responding to territorial emergencies.

I wish to acknowledge the contributions of staff from all GNWT departments who contributed significantly to the development of these important documents, and the preparations which are now taking place to put these instruments into practice.

Ms. Young will now deliver the presentation and your comments and input are most welcome afterwards.

Thank you.
Response Plan
Revitalize the Territorial Emergency Civil Emergencies Measures Act and to propose amendments to modernize the work with stakeholders to develop and

GNWT Mandate Item #5.4.7: "We will"

Purpose
What is the NWT Emergency Plan?

- Created and administered by MACA under the authority of the Civil Emergency Measures Act. Last updated in 2001;

- Describes the emergency management framework in the NWT, and the roles and responsibilities of departments and partners during emergencies;

- Includes:
  - A description of the NWT emergency management system;
  - A framework for relationships with other departments, governments and non-government agencies in preparing for and responding to emergencies; and
  - GNWT procedures for the coordination of responses to territorial emergencies and in supporting communities during disasters.
Progress to Date

- Started formal ICS training with assistance from the Alberta Emergency Measures Agency.
- Developed an implementation strategy and.
- Developed an executive communications plan.
- Updated the Emergency Communications Protocol.
- Created guidelines for community evacuations.
- Updated the NWT Emergency Plan.
- Created a new NWT Emergency Management Framework.
- Developed a new regional and headquarters delivery model based on the Incident Command System (ICS).
- Developed departmental roles and responsibilities in support of civil emergency response (relates to HIR(A)).
- Public discussion - Modernizing the Civil Emergency Measures Act (2014).
Canada is becoming much more rigid in administering the
organized.

Disaster Financial Assistance and we need to be better
factors).

more intense and frequent (climate change and other

NWT Hazard environment is changing - events are becoming

convertional systems approach.

Current plan and approach are old and they do not follow a

Why are we modernizing the plan?
Training is readily available.

Aspects that are necessary for a given incident:

- The system is scalable, which allows officials to use only those miscommunications.

- Standardized ICS Plain Language Terminology reduces the risk of

  Formulate a unified plan to manage the incident.

  Standardized processes allow all involved in a response to

  Processes, and Terminology:

  Offers a standardized organizational structure, functions,

  In use by emergency management partners across the NWT

  Incident Command System


What's New
Concept of Operation
Immediate Supervisor:
- Participation in Operations and Training activities must be approved by volunteers approved by Deputy Ministers.
- Participates in ICS/EOC training provided and maintained via table-top or live exercises.
- Roles involve communications, logistics, planning and operations.
- Centres (to ensure sufficient availability).
- Additional contingent desired - ten (10) in HQ and six (6) in regional centres.
- Most events may be managed by MACA personnel.
- GVWT personnel capable of supplementing resources at the territorial and regional Emergency Operation Centres (EOC) during periods of intense or prolonged activity.

Surge Capacity
Ministers:

- Identified by NWT EMO and approved by Deputy
- Basic ICS training provided
- If and when required
- Authorities
- Access to departmental resources and approval
- Responsibilities specified in the NT Emergency Plan
- Pre-identified GNWT positions capable of informing emergency planning and response efforts relative to prevalent hazards and departmental roles and
- Subject Matter Experts
NWT Emergency Planning Committee

- Coordinate and lead emergency management planning for the GNWT;
- Provide advice to the Emergency Management Organization;
- Develop and maintain the Territorial Emergency Plan; and
- Carry out testing of the Territorial Emergency Plan.
Implementation Plan

- Sustainment Training
- Update plan and SOPs as required
- Summer 2019 – assess response activity and lessons learned and
  scenario (to validate new plan and SOPs (Sept 2018));

  Use OP Nangko 2018 (includes major civil emergency response

  Activate, orient, and coordinate Territorial Planning Committee;

  Available tools; and

  Communications with stakeholders concerning new system and

  emergency response committees); and

  Train and develop EOC staff (participants selected from current

  decision-making;

  Develop standard operating procedures to guide planning and

  ICS model;

  Update current Emergency Operations Centres consistent with the
Northwest Territories
Government of

Capacity:

- Ongoing: Sustained training, system maintenance via TPC
  engagement, establishing surge

  Sept 2018: Go Live! (Pending Asset Title of EMA)

  Aug - Sep 2018: External communications announcing new system to stakeholders and partners

  Sept 2018: OP Naval (final validation for new plan before go-live)

  Aug 2018: SME identification; orientation to departmental SMEs; upon request

  July 2018: Establishment of the Territorial Planning Committee (TPC)

  May 2018: Ministerial approval of new plan (coming into force - Sept 2018)

  April 2018: ICS training for executives and senior officials (1/2 day)

  Mar 2018: 1st and 2nd reading of EMA Bill

  Feb 2018: Briefing to Standing Committee

  Standing Committee:

  Jan 2018: Decision Paper seeking direction to proceed with approval of new plan and briefing to

  Jan 2018: Finalize draft Bill for new NT Emergency Management Act (EMA)

  Dec 8, 2017: Priorities and Planning Committee of Cabinet

  Nov 6 - 24, 2017: Departmental feedback on draft framework documents

  Sep 2017 - Sept 2018: Training: exercises and preparation

Next Steps