



Message from the Co-Chairs

As the holiday season approaches we would like to take some time to reflect on the year past and to thank all those that have participated and contributed to the various IPREM projects, without whom we could not continue our work.

The above is an easy statement to make but the reality is that we cannot overstate the contributions that our various stakeholders make. For IPREM’s work to have meaningful impact and sustainability we need the participation and input of many around us. We recognize that this translates into you investing your time and effort - work. IPREM’s aim has always been one of working together, to continue to find efficiencies and build the relationships and stability that will carry us through the future emergencies and disasters that we will face together. Your continued support is evidence that you too see value in our work, and for that, we thank you and look forward to continued success in 2015.

A Year in Reflection—The People of IPREM

Lori Wanamaker

This past summer we were again reminded of the tremendous leadership that is a part of the IPREM Steering Committee. As one of her many responsibilities, Lori Wanamaker, Deputy Solicitor General with the Ministry of Justice sits as the provincial Co-Chair of IPREM’s Steering Committee and “on June 24, Lori, was presented with the prestigious *Lieutenant Governor Silver Medal for Excellence in Public Administration* through the [Institute of Public Administration of Canada – Victoria Region](#).



<https://www.gov.bc.ca/news/2014/0812/award-excellence>

Awarded for her outstanding contributions and dedication to the public service, Lori is no stranger to high honours. In 2013, she was also named one of [Canada’s Top 100 Most Powerful Women](#).

Watch the clip below as Lori’s former and current colleagues share their admiration and respect for this long-term public service employee. When you sum it all up, they all agree on one thing – “Lori’s integrity, leadership style and approach to fun are what make her a truly successful leader.”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JEVixltNHMI&feature=player_embedded

Changing Faces and Roles

John Leeburn

John Leeburn, CAO Port Coquitlam, joined the IPREM Steering committee as one of the RAAC representatives this past spring. His guidance and support has been tremendous and we look forward to his continued engagement.



Heather Lyle

Heather Lyle’s position and area of responsibility has shifted slightly within EMBC but she remains as the IPREM Partnership Manager. Heather reports to Assistant Deputy Minister Pat Quealey leading Integrated Public Safety. Among her roles, and in support of EMBC’s Strategic Plan, Heather has been given responsibility for researching and expanding a network of regional emergency management frameworks, including enhancing partnerships between local authorities, the province and stakeholders.



Vision

A disaster – resilient region where all levels of government and key stakeholders work together seamlessly

Mission

To develop and deliver a coordinated seamless regional emergency management strategy by an integrated concept of emergency operations and strategic priorities

Inside This Issue:

Regional Concept of Operations	2
Regional Emergency Communications Strategy	3
Regional Disaster Debris Management	3
Disaster Response Routes	4
Look Forward to 2015	

The People of IPREM ...continued

This Spring Clarence Lai was seconded to the City of Vancouver for one year as a project manager to implement components of the City's Earthquake Preparedness Strategy as outlined in their 2014 Corporate Business Plan. While we have, and will continue to miss Clarence at IPREM this is an opportunity to share our knowledge and bring other's knowledge into our organization.



In his absence Clarence's position is being filled on a temporary basis by Sandy Miller. Coming from the South West Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Center with a wealth of emergency management knowledge and experience we look forward to Sandy's mid December start date.

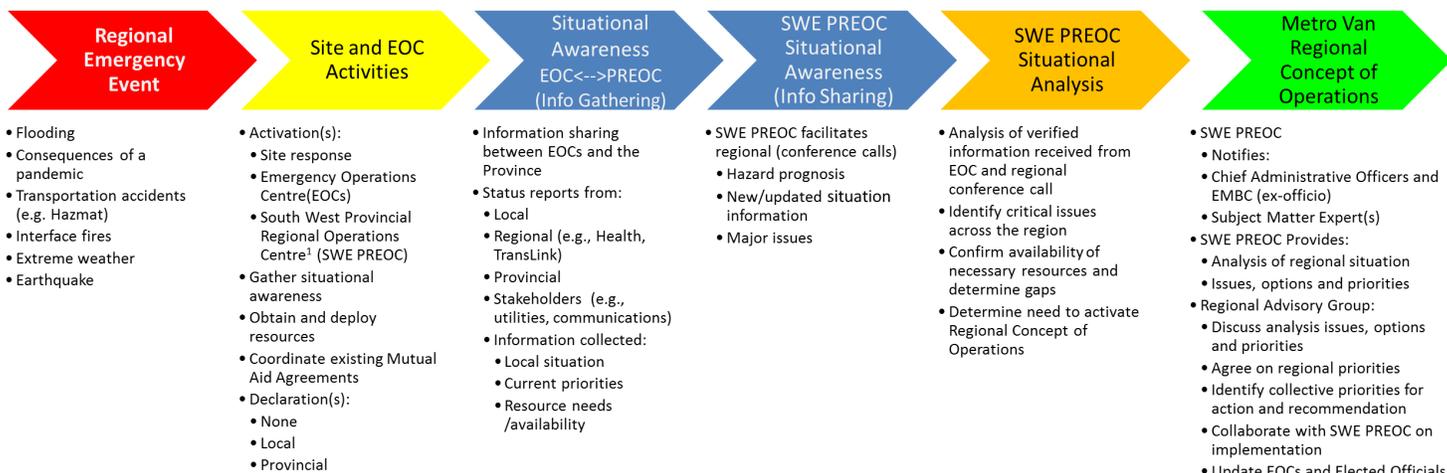
In addition to these changes, a new posting for IPREM Senior Project Manager has recently closed. This position will include overseeing and monitoring the status of all IPREM projects and coordinating our outreach and communications. We are excited to have this capacity and once the successful applicant is confirmed will make an announcement on our website (www.iprem.ca). As always, any questions can be forwarded to: info@iprem.ca

Collaboration and Learning

In addition to participating in various exercises, and collaborating with an increasing network of emergency managers both within Metro Vancouver and abroad, Chad Pacholik had the opportunity to attend a few conferences on behalf of IPREM. This includes the International Conference of Crisis Mappers, the Emergency Preparedness and Business Continuity Conference and Canadian Interoperability Technology Interest Group (CITIG) 8. Each of these opportunities has provided insight and best practices into various aspects of IPREM's work. Early in the new year we will organize a chance to share the learnings with others in our region.

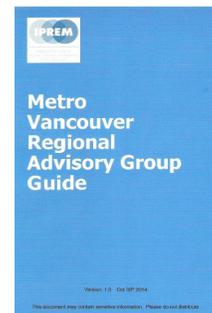
Regional Concept of Operations

2014 has seen the continued development and refinement of the Regional Concept of Operations. Through a series of workshops and exercises, IPREM has been validating the establishment of a *Regional Advisory Group*, comprised of Local Authority Chief Administrative Officers and Emergency Management BC. The Regional Advisory Group will be brought together to address extraordinary regional information sharing determining regional priorities, resource sharing, and collaborating on recommendations or decisions.



IPREM has been conducting exercises with the seven CAOs on the working group to test the validity of the concept, activation trigger points and the roles and responsibilities of the Regional Advisory Group. Exercises were conducted on December 9th, 2013; May 15th, 2014 and December 4th, 2014. From the exercises and debriefing sessions it was determined that there was a need for a playbook or guide for the CAO members and that there was a desire to have more policies and procedures developed pre-event. Appropriate existing committees or organizations were identified to address and develop the required materials. The Metro Vancouver Regional Advisory Group Guide was developed and tested for the first time at the December 4th, 2014 meeting.

IPREM is looking forward to exercises with the full complement of Metro Vancouver CAOs in 2015.



Regional Emergency Communications Strategy

There have been many achievements for the communications portfolio in 2014. From the release of findings and recommendations after the fall 2013 communications exercise, to the release of the Draft Site Support Communications Procedures defining communication procedures for Local Authority Emergency Operations Centers and EMBC's South West Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Center it has been a very productive year

The major milestone of 2014 within this portfolio is a Draft Regional Emergency Communications Strategy which is now in the consultation process. This Strategy ties together outcomes of the communication workshops, working group contributions, IPREM staff research and the Communications Interoperability Strategy for Canada. The Regional Strategy sets common understanding and expectations for emergency communication. This is accomplished through the defining of terms and explanation of concepts used when describing emergency communications and interoperability. It also establishes a series of strategic objectives based on the five lanes of the interoperability continuum (Governance; Standard Operating Procedures; Technology; voice and data; Education, training and exercise; and Frequency of use and familiarity).

IPREM will conduct a series of targeted presentations to orient stakeholders to the strategy and a copy of the draft strategy can be found at: <http://www.iprem.ca/initiatives/Pages/communications.aspx>

Regional Emergency Communications Strategy's Strategic Objectives

Governance	Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)	Technology	Training and Exercise	Familiarity and usage
<p><i>A regional culture exists where:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Emergency Management personnel hold a common understanding and expectation of regional interoperability □ Appropriate resources are allocated to the development and maintenance of regional interoperability □ A supporting governance structure continues to evolve, while still respecting jurisdictional authorities. It should remain empowered, resourced, representative and accountable 	<p><i>A regional culture exists where SOPs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Are integrated across the region as required and authorized □ Support a system of systems approach □ Are openly available as required and authorized □ Enable rapid and effective familiarization □ Enhance Regional Structures (e.g. Regional Concept of Operations– CAO Advisory group) 	<p><i>Stakeholder's technology will:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Be based on common user requirements and open standards □ Be able to operate and interoperate as required and authorized □ Have redundant and dedicated infrastructure identified and in place as required 	<p><i>A regional culture exists where:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Regular communications specific training occurs □ Communications specific exercises are regularly conducted □ Communications objectives are integrated into all emergency exercises 	<p><i>Users are familiar with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Operations of their communications technology □ Applicable communication processes, procedures □ Stakeholders use interoperable communications processes, procedures and technologies for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Planned events •Routine operations •Emergency operations

Regional Disaster Debris Management

Over the summer a few members of the RDDM working group stepped forward to develop a set of guidelines that can be used to help personnel tasked with debris management. Topics include site selection criteria, streams (categories of debris) and processing options for each stream.

The draft guidelines were shared with Metro Vancouver's Regional Engineers Advisory Committee (REAC) Solid Waste Sub-Committee at their September meeting. This has generated an increased interest in their participation. IPREM staff are engaged in the process and continue to provide background, context, and research while participating in this further development of materials. We are excited about REAC's interest and look forward the increased participation of Solid Waste Managers.

This enhanced interest has been felt in a number of ways over the past few months, at conferences, regional committee meetings and within municipal departments. Disaster debris management is quickly becoming a topic of discussion and a focus of resources. Is your organization one of them?



Disaster Response Routes

A significant amount of time has been spent on some of the administrative aspects of Disaster Response Routes this year. This included the IPREM DRR working group reviewing the DRR network and its supporting structures here in Metro Vancouver and the Lower Mainland. From this review, focus was placed on the governance structures required to recommend and move forward changes within the existing DRR Structures and practices.

IPREM put forward the concept of a Provincial Committee responsible for the consistent use and implementation of DRRs across the province. In further development of the concept, the IPREM working group consulted with the Capital Regional District's DRR working group, Emergency Management British Columbia (EMBC), and Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI). The end result is a Provincial Disaster Response Transportation Advisory Group. This Advisory Group engages policy level leadership in the creation and maintenance of a consistent and compatible disaster response transportation system for B.C., including recommend standards and guidelines to local, provincial and federal governments as well as private transportation providers among others. The current membership includes: MoTI (Chief Engineer or Regional Director), EMBC (Executive Director, Strategic Planning, Policy and Legislation), two representatives (one from a transportation authority and one from a local authority) from each regional Disaster Response Transportation working group, Transport Canada, Public Safety Canada, Other Subject Matter Expertise as required. Leadership for the Provincial Advisory Group is being provided by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

In addition to the leadership role that MoTI has taken provincially, they have also assumed leadership regionally within the Lower Mainland. IPREM sits as a member of MoTI's regional working group instead of DRRs being a direct IPREM project. IPREM welcomes this leadership role, and recognize that one of the immediate advantages is the ability to expand the scope of this region's working group beyond IPREM's Metro Vancouver mandate to now include parts of Fraser Valley and Squamish Lillooet Regional Districts.

Information on Disaster Response Routes can be found at:

<http://bit.ly/1CNsymh>

All inquiries regarding Disaster Response Routes should now be directed to MoTI at:

drd.info@gov.bc.ca

Look Forward to 2015

2015 will see IPREM moving forward with our Projects. The Regional Concept of Operations and the Regional Emergency Communications Strategy remain our two priority initiatives.

The Regional Concept of Operations: With the validated framework and model for activation and operation of the Regional Advisory Group, 2015 will begin with IPREM providing increased awareness and orientation training on the model to Metro Vancouver's REPC, RAAC and key stakeholders. This will culminate in an exercise with the proposed participation of all of Metro Vancouver Municipal Chief Administrative Officers.

The Regional Emergency Communications: We will continue to provide presentations and orientation on the *draft Regional Emergency Communications Strategy* in the beginning of the year. The strategy identifies next steps and following adoption of the draft document we will engage stakeholders to establish roles, responsibilities and respective leads for the realization of the strategy.

