



2021 Business Plan Emergency Planning/ All Electoral Areas (1385)

Stuart Larson, Manager of Protective Services

Working in partnership with communities large and small to offer local, sub-regional, and regional services to ensure that the Cariboo Chilcotin is a socially, economically, and environmentally desirable region.

Department/Function Services

The Cariboo Regional District Emergency Planning service was created as a result of provincial legislation requiring that Regional Districts develop an emergency management organization and prepare an emergency plan for their jurisdiction.

The CRD Emergency Program was established in 2004, authorized by Bylaw No. 3934. All electoral areas participate in this service and taxation is based on the assessed value of land and improvements. There is no requisition limit.

All Electoral Area Directors, representing Areas A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, and L, are responsible for the governance of this service.

Business Plan Goals, Rationale & Strategies

2021 Goals

- 1. Goal:** Continue to update the Cariboo Regional District Emergency Plan.
Rationale: The CRD emergency plan will require updating as the changes to the Emergency Program Act take effect throughout 2021.
Strategy: To be modified by staff on an as needed basis.
- 2. Goal:** Complete processes and policies to ensure seamless operations in a dynamic environment.

Rationale: Formalization is required to capture all information in relation to the incidents as they occur and increase the ability to transition between events.

Strategy: Staff to complete during winter months as operational tempo is lower.

3. **Goal:** Transition the community liaison program to an internal function of staff and continue with the achieved successes.

Rationale: To support broad emergency preparedness planning to build resiliency and enhance community communication during emergencies and throughout recovery phases.

Strategy: Addition of second staff member for the Emergency Planning section of Protective Services to equalize workload and assume the duties of the Community Liaison program.

Significant Issues & Trends

The increasing frequency and severity of emergency events such as the 2017 and 2018 wildfire seasons, annual spring floods, and the Mount Polley tailings facility breach have very substantial impacts on staffing and our ability to complete workplans within proposed time frames. The CRD EOC has been active since the beginning of March and will continue to be operational at least Level 1 until a COVID vaccine is produced. The EOC will continue to action multiple events for the duration of 2021.

Measuring Previous Years Performance

Goal: Update Cariboo Regional District Emergency Plan.

- Ongoing

Goal: Continue recovery efforts from the 2017 wildfire season.

- Ongoing.

Goal: Investigate emergency communication systems for use during emergencies in rural areas with no cell service.

- Carried over to 2021. If unable to be covered by grant funding, may need to be tabled pending budgetary review.