



May 26, 2022

Greetings,

I am writing as a follow-up to Emergency Management BC's (EMBC) request for review of the *Financial Assistance for Emergency Response Costs: A Guide for BC First Nations and Local Authorities* (September 2020) ("the guidelines"), which were developed to replace the *Emergency Response and Recovery Costs: A Guide for BC Local Authorities and First Nations* (September 2005 revised January 2008).

EMBC received over 30 letters from First Nation communities and local governments providing feedback ranging from concerns with process to very specific questions on reimbursement guidance. Based on this information and the extent and severity of the wildfires this summer, EMBC delayed implementation of the updated guidelines. EMBC has now had the time to reflect on the feedback and develop next steps.

EMBC is currently in the process of modernizing the *Emergency Program Act* including the *regulations* and associated guidelines. Given the feedback received, the delay in implementation due to activation and the upcoming modernization of legislation, EMBC will not be releasing an update to the *Emergency Response and Recovery Costs: A Guide for BC Local Authorities and First Nations* (September 2005 revised January 2008) for the 2022 freshet and wildfire seasons.

EMBC is committed to working collaboratively with First Nation communities and local governments to develop a process that will provide for adequate time for meaningful input and considers the timing associated with the modernized *Emergency Program Act* and *regulations*.

Sincerely,

Madeline L. Maley, RPF
Assistant Deputy Minister, Regional Operations
Emergency Management BC