

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FUNDING

Welcome to Vic-Alert

Sign up to receive emergency notifications from the City of Victoria



Public Notification System (Vic-Alert):

- 6,800 subscribers on Jan.22nd before Tsunami warning – now over 60,000 subscribers. Increased numbers = Increased cost (\$25,000)
- Provincial/Federal Alert Ready system does not replace the need for Vic-Alert. Differences and benefits of Vic-Alert include:
 - Vic-Alert**
 - Victoria neighbourhood specific messages
 - Opt in or out for those who live, work, or play in Victoria
 - Works on ALL cell phones, email, and landlines
 - All-hazards information (not just Tsunamis)
 - Tool to provide specific information to get in front of any chaos or panic
- The responsibility as per legislation lies with the local authorities to notify their citizens of hazards.

Recommendations is to develop as pilot project and then ascertain the most efficient system moving forward in order to assign to the annual financial planning.



Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) training and exercises program development:

- Under the Emergency Program act, Local governments must establish and maintain an emergency program and emergency plan appropriate to the community; and an executive and administrative structure to support the ongoing planning, exercise and implementation of the Plan
- Council approved the updated Emergency Plan in March 2018. The next step is to test it through training and exercises.
- Development of a multi-year training and exercise plan will include:
 - In house staff training
 - Hosting of external EOC courses (ie: JIBC)
 - Exercising the Emergency Plan (at least twice / year)
 - Exercising Business Continuity Plans
 - Exercises and Drills that involve staff, volunteers, the public, community groups, and other stakeholders

Once developed and staff have the fundamental baseline, this will be maintained and sustainable through internal City staff and will not require additional funding.



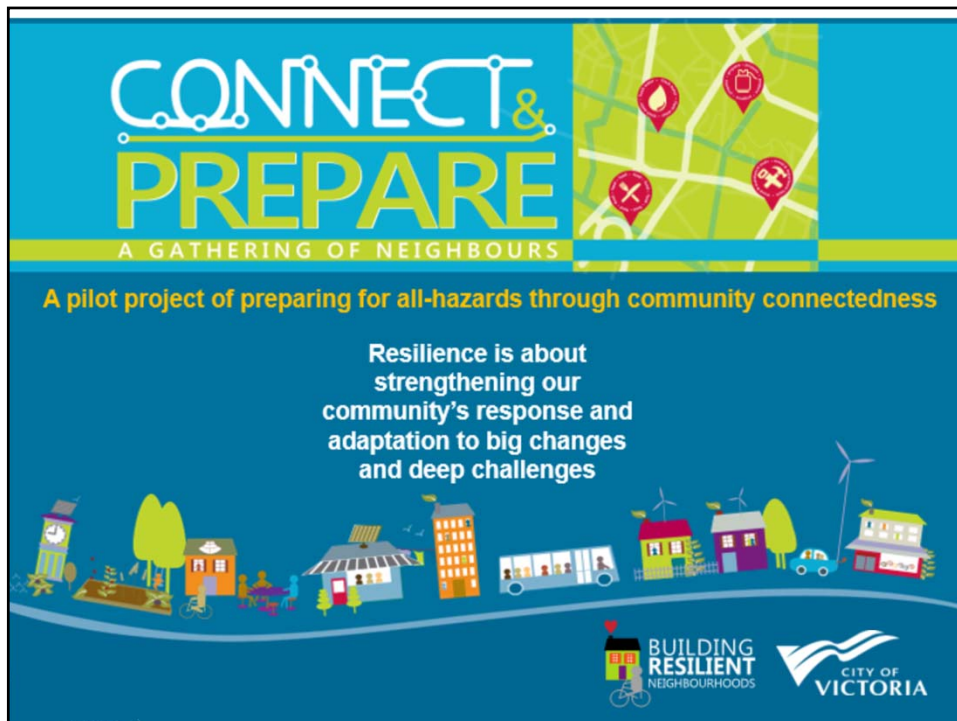
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Connect and Prepare Pilot

- Bringing neighbours together to support and empower them in their emergency preparedness and recognizing how connectedness builds resilience.
- Series of facilitated workshops. A scenario is presented and neighbours identify their assets, challenges, skills, resources, etc... and develop a plan on how they can work together and support each other.
- Victoria Ready assists with program development, material design and delivery, facilitation, and equipment and supplies worth approx. \$500 for each group. (Also partnered with City Studio & RRU Intern student)
- Building Resilient Neighbourhoods assists with development, connections with interested groups, facilitation etc.
- From January to April the program was delivered to 3 groups with great success! Mariner's Landing (condo), LeBlond Place (CRHC housing), and a block on Grant Street. These groups are keen to continue the program with their neighbours further and spread it City wide.



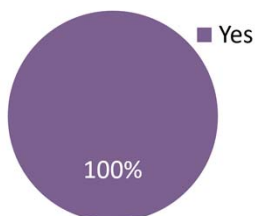
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Feedback received included:

Participant Impacts

- Neighbours taking action to be better prepared for an emergency
- Neighbours better understanding strengths, assets vulnerabilities on your block
- Neighbours becoming more connected with each other
- Neighbours getting to know each other better
 - Neighbours taking action to build long term resilience



Agreement with The Canadian Red Cross for the delivery of Emergency Social Services

- In order to effectively and efficiently manage the City's Emergency Management priorities, staff are entering into a contractual agreement with the CRC for Emergency Social Services Response for a three year period. The initial agreement will be operated as a pilot project commencing on September 1, 2018 and expiring on December 31, 2020.
- This agreement allows us to work together from the beginning of an emergency right through to the recovery process helping to ensure affected residents have access to seamless care and necessities such as food, shelter, clothing, emotional support, and family reunification, and eliminate the often confusing aspect of "switching" service providers.



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Benefits of this agreement include but are not limited to:

- Increased potential for volunteers to broaden their experience through deployment to other areas of the province or country where CRC would be providing support
- Increased training opportunities for volunteers
- Increased recognition, support and opportunity in working with an International Organization, including response assistance and training prospects
- Increased capacity for large scale events
- Staff oversight and support would be redirected to enhance other areas of the Emergency Management objectives of the City of Victoria
- Increased efficiencies through online / digital registrations, referrals, and trainings.



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