

Appendix E

Emergency Preparedness



From www.victoriaready.ca

Interested in Volunteering?

When you volunteer with Emergency Management Victoria, you join dedicated individuals who want to help their community in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery.

During times of crisis, we know that communities will come together and help one another. People who are trained in advance will be more prepared with the tools necessary to assist our community when we are faced with hazards. Well-trained, skilled volunteers play a vital role before, during and after a crisis. We have a number of volunteer teams that will play critical roles when needed.

Victoria Red Cross ESS Team – NEW!

The City of Victoria and Canadian Red Cross are partnering to provide seamless Emergency Social Services (ESS) from emergency response to recovery for Victoria residents. The City of Victoria is the first municipality in the Capital Region to partner with the Canadian Red Cross to deliver Emergency Social Services.



The new Victoria Red Cross ESS Team is a multi-year pilot which will increase the City's capacity to provide Emergency Social Services in a major emergency, and will help ensure continuous care. All Victoria Red Cross ESS volunteers will receive free, world-class training and will be part of the largest

international humanitarian network. Victoria Red Cross ESS volunteers will have the opportunity to volunteer with or lead ESS operations both locally and abroad.

The City of Victoria ESS Red Cross programs and activities are guided by the Fundamental Principles of Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Voluntary Service, Unity and Universality. These principles allow us to provide help immediately to whoever needs it, wherever they are, whatever their race, political beliefs, religion, social status, or culture (Canadian Red Cross, 2018).



Two Types of Responders:

There are two types of Victoria Canadian Red Cross ESS responders. Please see the descriptions below and apply for either a Personal Disaster Assistance (PDA) Responder or a Emergency Response Team (ERT) Responder.

Notes on applying:

- To begin you'll need to fill out an online application.(Only fill out **one** application. If, at a later date, you wish to make a change in your position, we will be happy to assist.)
- There is a question on the PDA and ERT responder applications (*Are you a volunteer with Emergency Social Services (ESS)?*). Please answer **"Yes."**
- You will be asked to provide a driver's abstract This is available at no cost from ICBC:
<https://onlinebusiness.icbc.com/clio/>
- You will be asked to upload your resume.

1) Personal Disaster Assistance (PDA) Responder

The Personal Disaster Assistance (PDA) Team is activated to respond and provide assistance for up to the first 72 hours following a disaster. This position is responsible for conducting an assessment to determine the needs of clients. The PDA Responder will provide Emergency Social Services (ESS) for relief and referral services and direct assistance for recovery, as well as, works with the PDA Supervisor to plan and organize ongoing preparedness activities. PDA responders may be asked to deliver services during a large-scale emergency response in their community.

Requirements: Candidates must be 18 years of age or older. A valid provincial driver's licence and First Aid Certification (training provided) is required. This position also requires a successful Canadian criminal record check with vulnerable sector screening.

[Apply here.](#)

2) Emergency Response Team (ERT) Responder

ERT Responders are responsible for various emergency shelter and reception centre response activities in addition to other responsibilities related to emergency preparedness, such as engaging in team preparedness activities including emergency planning and kit preparedness. The Emergency Response Team (ERT) is activated for responses that exceed Personal Disaster Assistance (PDA) capacity, such as setting up reception centres and emergency shelters. During non-response times, the ERT Responder may resume duties as a PDA Responder.

Requirements: Candidates must be 18 years of age or older. A valid provincial driver's license and First Aid Certification (training provided) is required. This position also requires a successful Canadian criminal record check with vulnerable sector screening.

Our Other Volunteer Teams

Cyclist Response Team

The Cyclist Response Team, or CRT, trains for responding when roads may not be passable on vehicles and is able to perform damage assessments and provide logistical support between response sites.



(Photo above is courtesy of www.cyclingtips.com of cyclists assisting with emergency supply delivery after the 2017 Mexico City 7.1 magnitude earthquake.)

Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) Support Team

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) Support Team is tasked with the set up and logistical support of City Officials who would be staffing the Emergency Operations Centre during an emergency or disaster. Other tasks that the EOC Support Team would be responsible for are basic computer and peripherals set-up, clerical support, being a runner for supplies or materials, supporting the Auxiliary Communications Team, etc. Ideal EOC Support Team members have some computer and networking knowledge, are organized and able to perform several tasks at any given time. *(Note: Not currently accepting applications.)*

Auxiliary Communications Services (ACS) Team



The Auxiliary Communications Services Team provides back-up communications services when traditional communication services are unavailable. Members use various radio systems to provide two-way communications in times of disaster to deliver messages to emergency responders or agencies and the emergency operations centre. An amateur radio licence is not required to join this team.

Training and Teamwork



Volunteering with Emergency Management Victoria is a dynamic and ongoing process. No experience necessary! We'll teach you everything you need to learn for free -- but you need to be a team player and able to work in high stress environments. Positive attitudes are also a must!

There is a lot of training and work involved to learn and maintain skills in order for each team to be effective and efficient.

We want to ensure that you are able to commit the time and are a good fit for whatever team you choose to join. Volunteering with us equips you with free training, valuable experience in public safety, and the opportunity to help your community in an emergency.

Together we are ready. *Everyday readiness for every person, every business, every organization.*