## BULLETIN

# **Flood Information** For Licensed Residential Care Facilities

During a flooding event, some licensed community care facilities within Fraser Health may be affected either directly or indirectly. It is imperative that licensees have a plan to address this type of emergency. The Government of Canada's online tool can help you write your plan. https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/cnt/plns/mk-pln-en.aspx

#### PREPARING FOR A FLOOD

The following considerations should be included in your emergency plan:

RESIDENTIAL CARE (Staffing, Medications, Equipment, Food & Water services, Physical facility)

- Is your residential care facility located in a flood risk area? (Check your local municipal office or municipal website).
- If there is a potential for flooding, are the residents and/or families aware of this possibility?
- Are resident contacts aware that they may be requested to assist in arranging for alternate care of the resident in the event the facility needs to be evacuated? (e.g. resident home with their family).
- Have you determined how you will contact numerous families within a short period of time?
- How you will transport necessary supplies? (e.g. incontinence supplies, bedding, towels, cleaning supplies, etc)
- How will you manage utility disruptions and/or road closures? (e.g. development of emergency kits, extra food supplies, medication, etc)
- How will you remain current of the emergency situation should you be without power or telephone? e.g. emergency kits equipped with battery powered or wind-up radio and lanterns
- Have you identified staff that may be personally affected by flooding? How will you ensure you have enough staff to meet the resident's basic care needs?
- How will special diets be addressed?

It is anticipated that residents in the flood plain will be provided with notice by their Community Emergency Response personnel if an evacuation is necessary.

Licensees need to consider the number of persons in care requiring evacuation and ensure adequate time is allotted to remove all of the individuals. Equipment and supplies may be able to be stored ahead of time.

### **DURING A FLOOD**

If you experience flooding and there is a disruption in your ability to provide care, you must:

- 1. As soon as practical, contact your Licensing Officer to inform them of your service delivery problem. If you cannot reach your Licensing Officer, you may contact the Duty Line at 604-587-3936.
- 2. Undergo a facility inspection before your residential care facility can re-open. Please contact your Licensing Officer to arrange for an inspection.

#### Licensed Residential Care Facilities that have been impacted by the effects of flooding cannot operate until authorized to do so by a Licensing Officer

#### AFTER A FLOOD

For information on how to clean up after a flood, refer to one of the following:

- Fraser Health Authority
  - Flood information for Homeowners
  - Flood information for Personal Service Establishments
  - Flood information for Food Premises
  - Flood information for Swimming Pools and Hot Tubs

Additional references that may be of assistance:

- River Forecast Centre (web site) provides advisories and warnings <u>www.env.gov.bc.ca</u>
- Check your local municipal website for additional community specific information