Evolution of BCERMS to BCEMS BC Emergency Management System

EPBC Conference November 17, 2015

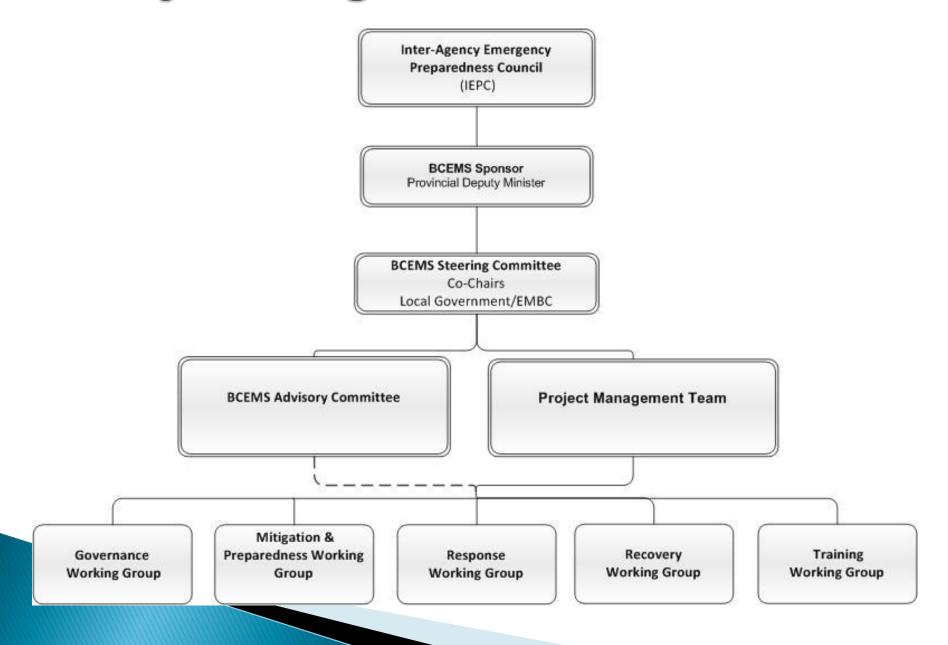
BCERMS - Background

- Original Overview 2000 Document focused on Response
- Stakeholders survey (2009-10) supported a refresh
- ► EMBC internal review (2011) supported a refresh and expansion to include all phases of emergency management
- IEPC (Inter-Agency Emergency Preparedness Council)
 directed EMBC to lead refresh (2013)
- ▶ BCERMS evolved to BCEMS British Columbia Emergency Management System (2014-15)

Focus of Refresh

- Ensure integrated approach
- Review/update response content
- Develop content for other emergency management phases
- Create linkages between phases and establish a continuum
- Broaden relevance to all emergency management stakeholders
- Maintain legislated responsibility to provincial entities:
 - Ministries, Crown Corporations and Provincial Agencies
- Continue recommended use by Local Authorities & Stakeholders

Project Organization Structure



Integrated Engagement

Local Authorities

- Urban / Rural
- Small to Large
- Regional Districts

Regional Entities

- Regional Health Authorities
- Translink
- BC Fire Chiefs
- BC Police Chiefs
- BC Emerg Health Service

Provincial Government

- Provincial Ministries/Agencies
- Crown Corps
- Federal Government
- First Nations
- Volunteer Sector
- Corporate Sector
- Private Sector

BCEMS Guide

Target Audience

The new BCEMS Guide is intended for those who have responsibilities in the areas of emergency management and public safety . . . in both public and private sectors.

"Not intended to be a general public document"

BCEMS Guide

Goals:

- Promote understanding of BCEMS framework, emergency management (EM) legislation and other applicable legislation/regulations, EM principles and terminology
- Describe four phases of emergency management, the components of each phase and linkages across phases
- Enable EM practitioners to apply BCEMS in assessing, developing and strengthening their EM programs
- > A Guide (what) vs Operational Procedures (how)

Sections of the Guide

1. Introduction

- Why BCEMS
- Target Audience

2. Governance

- Relevant legislation and regulations

3. Foundations for BCEMS

- Background
- Vision, Mission, Purpose
- Guiding Principles

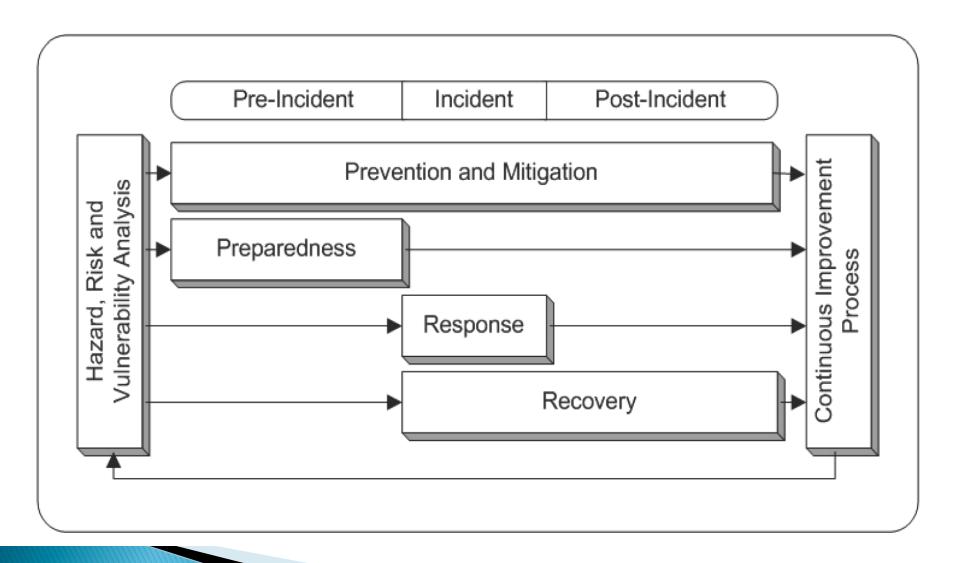
BCEMS Guiding Principles

- Health and Safety
- Shared Responsibility
- All-Hazards Approach
- Collaboration and Stakeholder Engagement
- Common Approach to Emergency Management
- Clear Communication, Consistency and Continuity
- Continuous Improvement

4. Getting Started

- Establishing an Emergency Management
 Program
- Identifying Stakeholders
- Conducting a Hazard Risk Vulnerability
 Assessment
- Maintenance and Continuous Improvement

Four Phases of EM



5. Mitigation

- Definition & Key Considerations
- Managing risk
- Tools and activities

6. Preparedness

- Definition & Key Considerations
- Planning & Business Continuity
- Resources
- Training & Exercises
- Public Education

7. Response

- Definition & Key Concepts
- Goals
- Levels & structure
- Response Management Model (Incident Command System – ICS)
- Key Activities
- Communication and Information Management
- Resource Management

BCEMS Response Goals

- Ensure the health and safety of responders
- Save lives
- Reduce suffering
- Protect public health
- Protect infrastructure
- Protect property
- Protect the environment
- Reduce economic and social losses

8. Recovery

- Definition & Key Concepts
- Key Activities
- Stages of Recovery
- Models & Structure

9. Next Steps - possible program assessment tool

"Checklist for Emergency Management Program Considerations"

Consultation Phase

- ▶ Shared with more than **250** different agencies
- Received 49 feedback responses:
 - > 95% very positive with few suggestions for change
- High Level Feedback:
 - Target Audience = Emergency Mgmt Practitioners
 - Guide vs Operational Procedures
 - Inventory of all Related Legislation and Regulations
 - Required vs Recommended
 - Implications/Changes: Liability, Bylaws, Plans, Training
 - Forms and Templates
 - Checklist Assessment vs Benchmarks/Standards

Successes

- > High level overview of Emergency Management in BC
- Provides a "continuous cycle" foundation to support
 BC emergency plans and programs
- Provides guiding principles applicable to all phases
- Reinforces BC's four levels of coordination: Site, Site Support, Provincial Regional and Provincial Central
- Continues to utilize the Incident Command System
- Incorporates research and best practices acquired over the last 10 to 15 years

"BCEMS Vision: Resilient Communities across BC"

Project Timeline

- ▶ June 30/15 = Content developed
- July 30/15 = Draft BCEMS Guide compiled & formatted
- ▶ Aug 1 Nov 6 = Outreach and consultation process
- Nov 9 Dec 31 = Review, prioritize and incorporate all feedback and approved recommendations
- Jan 29, 2016 = Target date for IEPC approval and publication of new BCEMS Guide

Questions



Heather Lyle Director, Integrated Public Safety Email: heather.lyle@gov.bc.ca