
PEP - Emergency Social Services Office Monthly Bulletin

LONG RANGE PROVINCIAL FORECAST

The Environment Canada forecasts for April, May and June are:

Precipitation:

The entire province is expected to experience below normal levels for the three months.

Temperature:

The forecast is for the entire province to expect above normal levels for the three month period.

EMERGENCIES NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

Recent global emergencies and their aftermath's affecting large numbers of people and property include but are certainly not limited to:

- Cyclones
 - March 30 – Australia – the cyclone season has attacked with a vengeance in the past month. There have been at least 5 separate cyclones that have made landfall in western regions. The largest and greatest impact was Cyclone Larry in the northeast coast area, where significant damage and injury resulted from the force 3 storm.
- Landslides
 - March – Serbia and Montenegro – heavy rains and uncontrolled deforestation have been blamed for the multitude of landslides that have occurred in this country. One area reported 150 landslides that resulted in at least 60 local roads being cut off and a number of destroyed homes and buildings.
- Tornadoes
 - March 4 – Bangladesh – a two minute twin tornado has resulted in 4 deaths, 537 injured and 1070 families affected. The damage reported was 6 villages affected with 350 homes completely damaged and 670 partially damaged.
 - March 8 – Democratic Republic of the Congo – a strong tornado like storm has impacted the community of Oicha leaving 3 dead, 85 injured and approximately impacted 78,000 people.
- Earthquake
 - March 14 – Indonesia – a quake measuring 6.7 on the Richter scale was reported but no information available regarding damages or impacts.
 - March 20 – Algeria – a quake measuring 5.8 on Richter scale left 4 dead and 70 people injured.
 - March 30 – Iran – a moderate quake measuring 6.0 on the Richter scale has left 70 dead, 1,300 injured and approximately 15,000 homeless. Reports thus far show 330 villages impacted with between 30 – 100 percent of the homes damaged.

PEP - ESS OFFICE SECTION

You should have received the latest **ESS Office Update Letter** in the mail recently along with a few other updated packages:

The revised **ESS Field Guide**.

The new **Group Lodging Operational Guidelines**.

The announcement of a new online resource called **Referrals Unit Online** along with a link to the JI website.

One additional piece of information is:

That one more online piece has been added to the JI website (<http://www.jbc.ca/emergency/default.htm>) for our program. It is called **“ESS in a BCERMS Environment”**. This is the presentation that was given by Colleen Vaughan last year through out the province and this online version was created to continue in the education of ESS volunteers.

If there are any other issues or items that you would like to see posted here on the ESS Watch monthly bulletin please do not hesitate to drop us a note either directly to myself (David.Tomaz@gov.bc.ca) or our office (MHRESS@gov.bc.ca).

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ESS ACTIVITY

Date	# of Persons Assisted	Event
March 2006	64	24 separate house fires
	63	2 apartment fire
	1	1 flood
	99	1 ferry sinking
	227	
February 2006	92	27 separate house fires
	12	2 floods
	4	1 dangerous goods
	40	1 apartment fire
	63	1 bus fire
211		
January 2006	88	32 separate house fires
	3	1 apartment fire
	5	2 mudslides
	2	1 police incident
	98	
Total – 2006	536	96 separate incidents

DETAILED ESS INCIDENTS FROM THE PAST MONTH

The following information is intended as a “snapshot” of recent ESS activity:

2006	Incident	# of people assisted	Community
Mar 2	House Fire	0	Chilliwack
Mar 2	House Fire	2	Terrace
Mar 3	House Fire	3	Castlegar
Mar 4	House Fire	5	Victoria
Mar 4	House Fire	2	Keremeos
Mar 4	House Fire	4	Vancouver
Mar 5	House Fire	3	Prince George
Mar 5	House Fire	4	Kelowna
Mar 5	House Fire	4	Courtenay
Mar 7	Apartment Fire	50	Victoria
Mar 11	House Fire	4	Chilliwack
Mar 11	House Fire	3	Abbotsford
Mar 12	Flooding	1	Smithers
Mar 13	House Fire	0	North Saanich
Mar 16	House Fire	1	New Westminster
Mar 18	House Fire	2	Lake Country
Mar 19	House Fire	3	Kelowna
Mar 19	House Fire	5	Coquitlam
Mar 21	House Fire	2	Campbell River
Mar 22	House Fire	1	Abbotsford
Mar 22	Ferry Sinking	99	Prince Rupert
Mar 25	House Fire	6	Surrey
Mar 27	House Fire	1	Kamloops
Mar 27	House Fire	2	100 Mile House
Mar 27	Apartment Fire	14	Vancouver
Mar 29	House Fire	1	Williams Lake
Mar 29	House Fire	4	Burnaby
Mar 30	House Fire	1	Gabriola Island
TOTAL		227	

Your feedback is [important](#) to us at the ESS Office. Please send your comments, questions or tips to:
David Tomaz, Provincial ESS Coordinator, at 1-800-585-9559, by fax at 250-952-5831
or e-mail at David.Tomaz@gov.bc.ca.