

Extreme Heat Information

In light of the warmer weather the province has been experiencing, please review your emergency plans to ensure planning for extreme heat has been considered.

ESS Reception Centre planning considerations:

- * Use air conditioned facilities if possible.

- * Avoid long line-ups outside of Reception Centres (RC) of evacuees exposed to direct sunshine. Stage people in cool or shaded areas if possible, e.g. Kamloops ESS in 2003 utilized a community arena as a RC. The ice arena was utilized as a holding area where evacuees received information and refreshments awaiting entry into the RC. Shade tents and a refreshment tent providing cold water, fresh fruit and cookies were also positioned outside the complex. Tents can be rented through party rental vendors and are an eligible expense. Another example was that a community corporate partner provided refreshments and staffing of the refreshment tent.

- * Offer water and light refreshments to people in line ups.

- * Have Meeters and Greeters constantly monitor outside line-ups to check on the condition of at-risk populations and to offer water and information. At-risk populations include seniors, infants and small children, pregnant women and people with medical conditions, etc.

- * Immediately refer people in distress from heat to First Aid for assessment and treatment as required.

- * Frequently patrol parking lots for people and pets in possible distress in parked vehicles. Ensure a pet holding area is planned near the building to avoid having pets left in vehicles.

- * Pay special attention to food safe practices.

It is also recommended to confirm key staff and volunteer availability over the summer months. Now is a good time to review plans with partner agencies and key local and regional emergency response agencies such as the Ministry of Forests and Range, Wildfire Management Branch.