



Ruth Manning

Ruth Manning is the Emergency Social Services Director for the community of Summerland. She has more than 5 ½ years in this role. Ruth was first attracted to the Emergency Social Services world after seeing the need for workers in the “Firestorm 2003.” Ruth had the skills to make a difference and stepped forward to become part of the local ESS team. Once joining the team, Ruth sought out to gain as much training as possible, even when it meant travelling to other towns and cities! A lot of fun was had during the receiving of training over the past five years as well as the Emergency Operations Training (EOC) that she obtained.

Then the Questionnaire for ESSA was produced, and an invitation to join the Forum. The rest is history as they say. Ruth has enjoyed the time with the Forum, the telephone conference calls and Provincial meetings – great camaraderie; good thinking sessions and great to see ESSA moving forward and supporting the local ESS Teams. Some of Ruth’s ESS accomplishments include:

- December, 2008 – opening a Warming Shelter due to a lengthy power outage on an extremely cold day. While her assistant did the initial work of getting things underway, when all was ready to go Ruth moved over to the EOC at the Municipal hall.
- July 16, 2009 – called by Kelowna ESS and Beryl Itani in particular, to open a Reception Centre in Peachland to help with the Glenrosa fire evacuees caught on the South side of the road block at the Connector turn-off. That was basically a 4-day session and commitment, but good training for those that were called in to help with this Centre.
- Deployed by MST at the beginning of August, 2009 to work at the McArthur Island Group Lodging set-up. That was to provide assistance to the evacuees from Lillooet and three First Nations Groups that were affected by the forest fire threatening their communities. At the end of August 2009 Ruth was back to McArthur Island for a Reception Centre only set-up for evacuees from two separate Prichard evacuations and then subsequently the evacuation of Paxton Valley.
- Providing assistance to the Penticton ESS Team for two (2) separate apartment fires. Both required a Reception Centre set-up and Ruth was able to assist them in the RC when the field work was completed.