



National Municipal ESS Network

May 12, 2009 (11:30PST/2:30EST)

Participants: **Janine Aussem (ESSA), Jackie Kloosterboer (Vancouver), Sara Walsh (Victoria), Sheila Brantnall (Calgary), Joanne Stead (PHAC), Sue Ritchie (Peel), Elaine Smyer (Toronto), Steve LaRochelle (Kitchener-Waterloo)**

Agenda:

- April meeting minutes review
- Newsletter
- Website
- Round Table
- Other Business
- Next Call time/date

April Conference Call Meeting Minutes Review

- Add Jodi as the Central Ontario Rep
- Personal Services Manual – Carmen was involved with the PHAC H1N1 response so this has been delayed. Travel has been restricted so it is possible the June PS meeting will occur. Joanne will be in contact with Carmen and ask for an update on the PS manual draft/revision. Steve and Elaine will be available to comment on the draft.

Newsletter

- Jackie & Wendy are both able to provide articles for the upcoming June newsletter covering EP Week and Elaine will submit an article on the recent Toronto activations.
- Pauline will review the newsletter once it is ready to be sent out
- What are the objectives of the newsletter? Education, themes, committees/groups updates, reinforcing where people are publishing things: links, best practices, identifying resources, ESS planning for the Olympics.
- The summer edition will be out in August or September and the fall will be produced in November.

Website

- Janine is looking into the domain name for NMESSN page and to see if it is possible to link to a preview of the new look for the website.
- Janine will distribute the Introduction to NMESSN to the group to see if they have anything to add for the website. Included with the membership will be membership application, newsletters, minutes, terms of reference, agendas, blog, and equipment.
- Janine is looking into the need to monitor the blog for inappropriate use and/or spam.
- The PHAC Wikipedia site is not user-friendly, the access was challenging, and it isn't really being used. PHAC will assess whether or not to maintain the site.

Round Table

- Vancouver ESS – Jackie Kloosterboer:
 - There is a focus on Group Lodging right now
 - Meeting with other ESS team in the region to form a regional team during the Olympics, as no hotels will be available.
 - The Pet Emergency Supplies container has been put into place and stocked.



National Municipal ESS Network

- Calgary – Sheila Brantnall
 - Arlene Baxendale has moved to a new position with Waterworks (business continuity and emergency management).
 - Calgary held a mock exercise in April with the Waterworks department. It was a good opportunity to test the Standard Operating Procedures.
 - H1N1 has increased their efforts to review and update their pandemic planning
- Toronto – Elaine Smyer
 - Dealing with 3 apartment fires with 500 evacuees, including 100 long-term evacuations. The City is involved with the long-term accommodation. Seeing more of this type of situation as infrastructure is aging. People don't meet OW criteria and the Province is providing support through per diems.
 - Blurring of the line in terms of ESS use for large scale emergency response and ongoing service to social situations.
 - See www.toronto.ca information alerts on the evacuation situation.
- PHAC – Joanne Stead
 - PHAC staff are getting back to their usual tasks and catching up following the PHAC response for H1N1.
- ESSA – Janine Aussem
 - The Provincial Emergency Program has dropped funding of ESS, EM and SAR training due to financial constraints. ESSA has applied for a BC Direct Access Gaming Grant for \$250K annually to be able to take over funding the ESS courses, which has been offered free to ESS volunteers in BC for many years.
 - ESSA was successful in their grant application and is now working on agreements with the Justice Institute of BC to provide the training and with the Provincial Emergency Program to continue to support the administration of the training program in BC. These are huge changes for ESS in BC.

Other Business

- Sue Ritchie – ORID model for debriefing:), O, Observe; what did you see/observe, R, Reaction; what did you feel, I, Interpretive...,D, Decision; where do we go from here. ORID doesn't dwell on feelings but takes people through a process to deal with incidents, reactions and feelings and highlights a path to move forward. It is useful at the end of a particularly challenging meeting or activation, when emotions have run high.
- ACTION ITEMS:
 - PHAC: Shelie Laforest – Janine to coordinate a call with Shelie to review the NMESSN and confirm the status of the conference calls. Janine will forward the information to Steve and Elaine. (PHAC is considering their role post-Dave Hutton, will all of these groups so a discussion with Shelie is timely.)

Next Conference Call:

Tuesday, June 2 – 11:30AM PST/2:30PM EST

Conference Call Coordinates:

1-866-646-2080 (Participant code: 9416764)