Incident Management Teams and Regional Partnerships –
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Preparation for every possible emergency is too costly all jurisdictions, and particularly so for smaller jurisdictions. Participation in Mutual Aid Agreements is a cost-effective strategy for preparedness. Shane and Dave will provide an overview how regional agreements and mutual aid agreements can contribute to community resiliency at municipal and provincial levels. Using examples form the 2013 Southern Alberta Floods they will also describe how Alberta's adoption of the Incident Command System (ICS) as the emergency management system for the province has enabled the development of an Incident Management Team (IMT) capability in the province to enable communities to effectively manage events that are increasing in scope and duration.

Making Communities More Resilient
Incident Management Teams and Regional Partnerships

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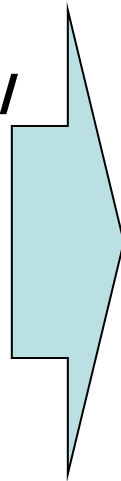Alberta Emergency
Management Agency

Agenda

- Introduction
- Emergency Management Framework
- Regional partnerships
- Incident Command System
- Incident Management Teams
- Discussion

Emergency Management Framework in Canada

Current Approach:

- **Individual / Family**
- **Municipality / First Nation / Metis Settlement**
- **Province / Territory**
- **Federal Government**

Future Approach:

- **Individual / Family**
  - **Neighbourhood**
- **Municipality / First Nation / Metis Settlement**
  - **Regional Partnerships**
  - **Industry**
- **Province / Territory**
  - **Provincial, Territorial, State Mutual Aid**
- **Federal Government**

Resource Sharing

- Alberta municipalities encouraged to develop regional mutual aid agreements and plans

- Government of Alberta prepared to support municipalities

- Alberta develops mutual aid agreements with neighboring provinces territories and state (British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territory, and Montana)

- Canada wide mutual aid agreement amongst all provinces, all territories

- National and international agreements for specific functions

Emergency Management in a Regional Context

Regional Approaches to Emergency Management

- Alberta municipalities encouraged to develop regional mutual aid agreements and plans

- Can be based on:

  - Mutual aid agreements reinforced by regional EOC, plans and exercises, e.g. Grande Prairie Regional Emergency Preparedness partnership (GREPP)

  - Establishment by legislation of a Regional Services Commission, e.g. Beaver Emergency Services Commission (BESC)

  - Establishment by Ministerial Order, e.g. Formal, e.g. by legislation or Ministerial Order, e.g. Central Peace Regional Emergency Management Committee.

  - Adhoc when responding to an emergency or event

Emergency Management Regionalization Grant Opportunities

- Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) - http://www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/albertacommunitypartnership.cfm

- The Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) - http://municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/msi.cfm

- Regional focus and use of ICS will be included as criteria to be considered when prioritizing allocation of emergency management portion of Fire Services Emergency Preparedness Program (FSEPP) training grants
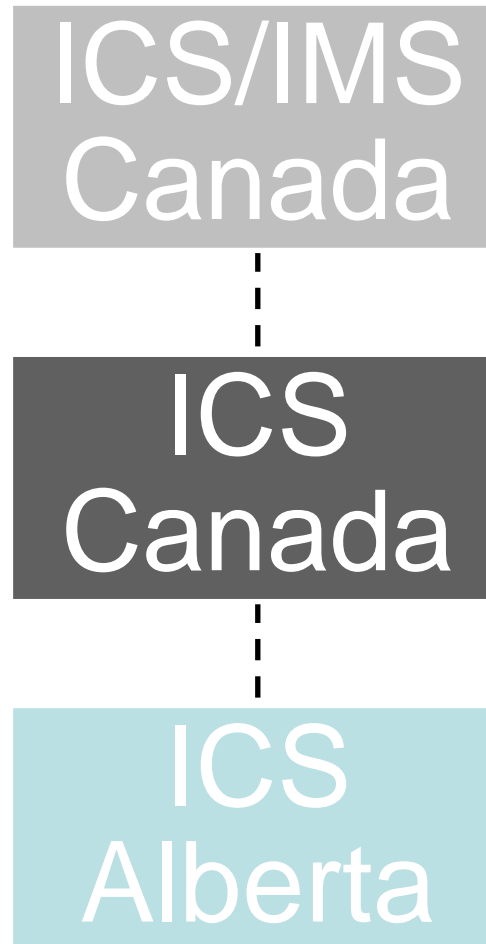
Incident Command System

- Alberta has adopted the Incident Command System (ICS) as the command and control / organizational model for incident management ,
    - Emergency response at Incident Command Post
    - Emergency Operations Centres and Emergency Coordination Centres
    - Provincial Operations Centre
- First Responders, local authorities, including municipalities, Metis Settlements and First Nations, and industry in Alberta are encouraged to utilize ICS
- The Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) is the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AJH) for all aspects of ICS training within the province of Alberta. In this role AEMA shall certify trainers, oversee training delivery standards, and accredit students.
    - AHJ responsibilities are delegated ESRD Wildland Fire Management for wildland fire and resource management staff and cooperators.
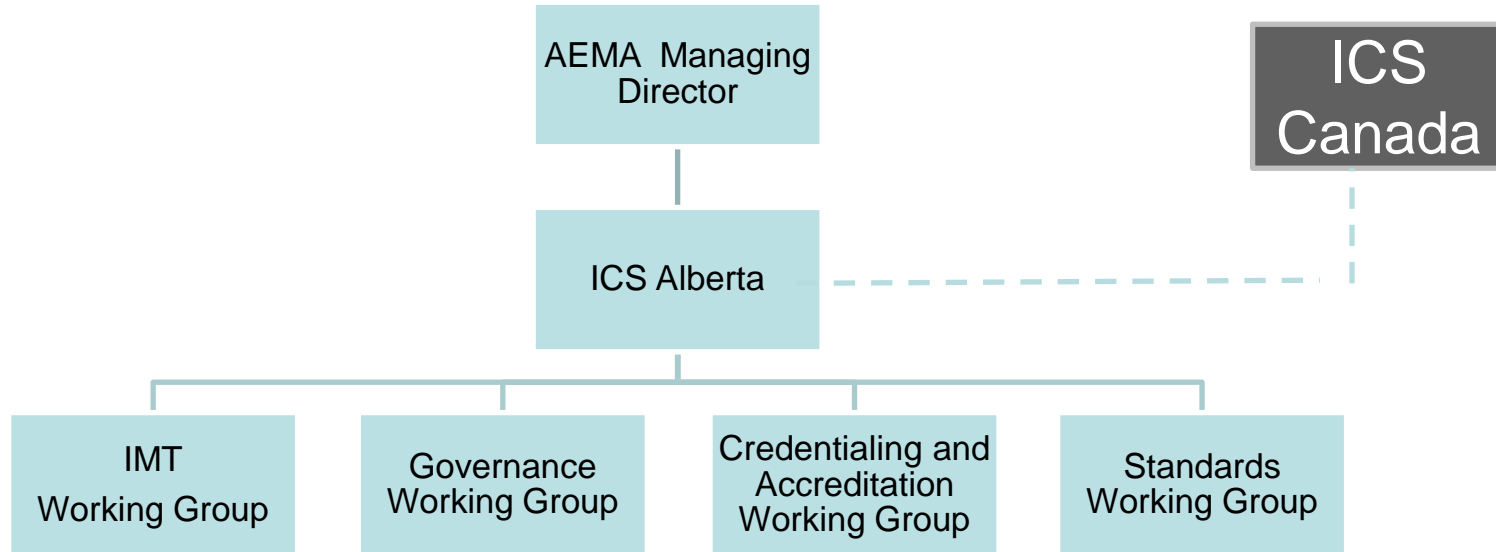
Incident Command System

- ICS Canada ICS training standards and training curriculum and materials shall be utilized when delivering ICS training within the province. (http://apsts.alberta.ca/information-for-instructors/)

- AEMA has been offering ICS training to the GoA and local authorities for several years and ICS is already being widely employed within the province.

  - Only ICS training and doctrine will be supported / recognised by GoA/AEMA.

  - AEMA trainers and Field Officers are available to teach GoA and local authorities.

  - AEMA delivered CEMP planning tool will only support ICS doctrine and best practices.

  - Effective April 1, 2016, ICS use will be an eligibility requirement to receive Emergency Management Training grants under the Fire Services Emergency Preparedness Program (FSEPP)

ICS Governance Structure in Canada

ICS Governance Structure in Alberta

Agencies Represented: AEMA, Alberta Health Services, AHS – EMS, ESRD, ERCB, PSD Alberta Municipal Affairs, Office of the Fire Commissioner, Justice and Attorney General, RCMP, City of Edmonton, CEMA,, Strathcona Emergency Services, NAIT, Lakeland College, Alberta Fire Chiefs, Association, ERMC, Red Cross

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ICS In A Regional Context

- Unified Command at:
  - Incident Site / Incident Command Post
  - Area Command / EOC level
  - Emergency Management Committee or Agency level
- Advantages:
  - Use of same command system (ICS) facilitates coordination and efficiency
  - Mutual Aid makes emergency management affordable and increases operational capacity

Incident Management Teams (IMTs)

- Personnel drawn from multiple organizations / mutual aid partners: municipal, industry,

- Trained and exercised all hazard emergency management teams designed to address response, and recovery activities

- Organized and operates on ICS model

- Flexible enough to expand or contract based on the size of the incident.

- Preserves essential incident management functions regardless of the size of the response

- Uses common terminology and organizational structures to allow for integration of response personnel and managers from different organizations and jurisdictions

- When employed the IMT works to the direction of the jurisdiction(s) supported maintaining their jurisdictional authority and responsibility

Incident Management Teams (IMTs)

- Concept:
  - Regional or Mutual Aid organizations plan for, establish, train and exercise regional IMT
  - For small-scale incidents that can be managed wholly within the resources and capabilities of the community, the community uses its integral resources
  - For complex, or extended duration incidents that require supplemental response and/or incident management resources from outside agencies or organizations, the local community calls on mutual aid partners to augment its organization by activating the IMT

Incident Management Teams Requirements

- **Incident command system (ICS)** – uses ICS doctrine and processes

- **Training** – personnel have knowledge and skills appropriate to position, and are trained in ICS and role

- **Qualifications and certification** – the United States has national standards for qualifications and certification for ICS positions. **Required to be developed in Alberta and Canada** (TBD)

- **Concept of Operations** – municipal, regional, provincial, national (TBD)

- **Deployment protocols and procedures** – could lead to an established rotation of teams (TBD)

- **Supporting equipment, technology and systems**

Incident Management Teams - Typing

Type 1	National - Provincial / State level	self-contained, all-hazard team	35-50 trained personnel	incidents of national significance and other incidents requiring a large number of resources over multiple operational periods (500-1000)
Type 2	National - Provincial / State level	self-contained, all-hazard team	20-35 trained personnel	incidents of regional significance and other incidents requiring a large number of resources (200 - 500)
Type 3	All hazard	multi-agency/multi-jurisdiction team	10-35 trained personnel	major and/or complex incidents
Type 4	Regional	city or county level	7-10 trained personnel	expanded incidents
Type 5	Local	city or county level	7-10 trained personnel	incidents contained within one operational period

IMT
Incident Management Team

A CanTF2 Incident Management Team (IMT) is available for deployment 24 hours a day, and will assist and support local responders and Incident Command staff during extended duration incidents or for incidents that require staff with specialized training and extensive experience in Incident Command Systems (ICS).

CanTF2 is a designated team of trained personnel from different departments, organizations, and jurisdictions.

CanTF2 is tailored to the requirements of each situation, but is typically deployed as a team of 10-20 trained personnel, representing multiple disciplines, who support complex incidents requiring a significant number of resources.

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http://www.cantf2.com/imt-incident-management-team/

Case Study for IMT

2013 Southern Alberta Floods – Town of High River

- Overwhelming event in terms of scale, complexity and duration

- Town EOC reinforced by:
    - Type 1 Wildfire IMT – relief in place with second team around day 20
    - Type 4 teams from Strathcona County, Lethbridge and Calgary – relief in place usually after 7-10 days
    - Individual augmentation from province and other municipalities and NGOs

- IMTs worked for the Town, excepting the period of the Provincial State of Emergency

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Discussion