



Purpose:

The purpose of ESSNA is to **EXCHANGE** knowledge and resources among communities, municipalities and regions in order to **ENHANCE** Emergency Social Services for Albertans.

ESSNA:

- **Exchanges** knowledge and resources by:
 - Networking at regional and provincial levels
 - Learning from others to identify and share best practices
 - Bridging local experience with systems design and implementation
- **Enhances** emergency social services for Albertans by:
 - Justifying the value & importance of ESS within communities and other levels of government
 - Advancing the practice of emergency social services
 - Creating and participating in partnerships that develop and increase capacity to respond

How ESSNA Exchanges & Enhances ESS:

- Facilitates a flexible and responsive structure
- Maintains communication with ESS practitioners
- Creates engagement opportunities for local authorities
- Disseminates information and opportunities

ESSNA Structure:

- Nine (9) regional committees (based on AEMA regional structure)
- ESSNA Provincial Committee
 - Two (2) regional representatives from the nine regions
 - One key stakeholder from:
 - GOA Human Services
 - GOA AEMA (Alberta Emergency Management Agency)
 - GOA Alberta Health Services (AHS)
 - Non-Government Organizations (NGO) Council
 - ESSNA Executive Committee
- Committees
 - Executive – consists of Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Chair of Communications
 - Communications – Chair and two Provincial representatives
 - Other ad hoc committees as needed

Responsibilities:

- Provincial Committee:
 - Ensuring ESSNA purpose is being achieved
- Regional Representatives:
 - Active member of their regional ESS committee
 - Bring forward regional views and perspectives to Provincial Committee
 - Bring forward agenda items and take information back to their region
- Executive Committee:
 - Oversee the logistics of the Provincial Committee including – meeting dates, location, agenda, financial matters, maintenance of contact list
 - Liaison with GOA Human Services, AEMA, AHS, and NGO Council
- Communications Committee
 - Target is ESS practitioners
 - Oversee the communications tools and techniques of the Provincial Committee

Operating Principles for ESSNA:

- Is a voluntary group of ESS regional representatives from AEMA regions
- Utilizes a model of collaboration and consensual decision making
- Activities are informed by the annual planning of the Provincial Committee
- Assigned positions are reviewed annually
- Travel costs are the responsibility of each Provincial Committee member