

ESSNA Website Spotlight – Contact Us

Launched in September 2013, ESSNA's website at www.essna.ca is a useful resource where you can find information related to ESSNA contacts from across the province.

Have you ever wondered which ESSNA member listed you should contact? The members listed have been organized to align with the Regions that are used by the Alberta Emergency Management Agency.

If you would like to find out which Region your community falls into, and who your ESSNA Regional Contact is, please visit http://aema.alberta.ca/regional_offices.cfm for more information.

Once you are aware of which ESSNA Region you fall into, please feel free to contact your Region's ESSNA member to say hello and establish a connection!



In This Issue:

- ESSNA Website Spotlight
- 2013 Flood Learnings event
- Dr Tim Haney Speaks in Medicine Hat
- ESS Updates from across Alberta

Upcoming Events

2014 ESS Forum

Make sure that you Save the Date for this year's ESS Forum, which will be held on November 25-26th at the Fantasyland Hotel in the West Edmonton Mall.

Registration will be available at www.essna.ca in the early fall.

2013 Southern Alberta Floods Learning Event

ESSNA hosted the 2013 Southern Alberta Flood learning event in High River, Alberta on March 20-21, 2014. This event was designed to surface the "best of" learnings from the different ESS activations across Southern Alberta - the experts for this event were the participants themselves!

Using an appreciative approach to the open space facilitation technique, participants engaged in a number of different conversations based on an agenda formed by the participants themselves. A number of key learnings are emerging from this event and ESSNA has partnered with Dr. Tim Haney from Mount Royal University to support the analysis of the event data - a full report is anticipated by August 2014 and will be published on the ESSNA website.



Want to contribute?

If you would like to share information to be posted on our website and/or in the next newsletter for Fall 2014 on upcoming ESS training events, exercises or project/initiatives in your community, please contact us at info@essna.ca.

Dr. Tim Haney presentations in Medicine Hat

A community collaboration between the City of Medicine Hat, the United Way of Southeastern Alberta, CF Industries, the Canadian Red Cross, Alberta Health Mental Health and Addictions brought Dr. Tim Haney, Associate Professor of Sociology at Mount Royal University to Medicine Hat on May 5, 2014. Dr. Haney made a number of presentations to seniors, community professionals, residents impacted by the flood and community volunteers. He shared his knowledge with approximately 150 people on a range of topics that included "Understanding the Effects of Disaster on Families Neighborhoods and Community", "Common Disaster Myths and Disaster Recovery Needs" and "Rebuilding Community Following a Disaster".

ESS Updates from across Alberta

North Central Region

City of Edmonton

New Roles in Edmonton

The City of Edmonton's Office of Emergency Management now has an Emergency Support Response Team (ESRT) that focuses on evacuee care from the beginning of an incident through to recovery, as well as improving operational efficiencies and communications with key stakeholders, organizations and agencies involved within Edmonton's emergency response network.

ESRT also supports community outreach events and programs that educate our residents on emergency preparedness with the emergency guide and the annual *Get Ready in the Park* event held during the national Emergency Preparedness Week each May. Find out more at www.edmonton.ca/EmergencyManagement.



ESSNA Website

For more ESS information, please visit our website at www.essna.ca.

Contact Us

If you have any questions, please email us at info@essna.ca.

Feedback

Let us know what you think about the ESSNA newsletter. Do you have any suggestions for upcoming issues? Email us at info@essna.ca.

Northeast Region

Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo recently held ESS training courses on Registration & Referrals and Resource Acquisition in late May, and also completed a series of drills throughout the spring to ensure that the local ESS Team was prepared in the case of flooding due to River Breakup. Thankfully, this year there was not a need to activate, but our ESS Team was ready if the situation had been different.



Northwest Region

The Grande Prairie Regional Emergency Partnership sponsored the ESS Director training for NW Region partners. 18 people from across the region attended the training. A Regional Meeting is set for September 4, 2014 in Grande Prairie.

Southern Region

City of Medicine Hat

A second community collaboration between the City of Medicine Hat, the United Way of Southeastern Alberta, CF Industries, the Canadian Red Cross, Alberta Health Mental Health and Addictions occurred between May 20-23 at 3 schools and at the Strathcona Centre. Approximately 100 residents and 300 elementary school children attended a short information session on Disaster Preparedness. Following the information session attendees had the opportunity to create their own evacuation kit. There was a very positive response to the initiative and attendees expressed their gratitude for both the opportunity to learn and to make their own kit. Thanks to all the partners and supporters who made this initiative such a great success.



South Central Region

The ESSNA South Central Region is hoping to organize a meeting in June to build a connection with all ESS Leads in the South Central Region.

City of Calgary

Calgary is preparing citizens for all hazards by providing them information on personal preparedness. Several agencies in Calgary have been assisting Calgarians who were affected by the flood last year and Mayor Nenshi has declared June 21st as “Neighbour Day” to celebrate the spirit of Calgary.

The City of Calgary developed a website that provides information to citizens about preparedness, recovery, and commemoration.



Central/East Central Region

The Central Region is comprised of 54 communities which are identified through the Alberta Emergency Management Agency regional map. Lacombe hosted a Reception Centre Workshop on May 7 with Red Cross and CRESS working together to provide a learning opportunity around the different functions provided within a reception centre.

City of Red Deer

On June 17 the City of Red Deer’s ESS team will be touring the three major identified reception centre sites. This tour will enable the ESS group leads to scope out the best location for their respective areas (food, clothing, lodging, pet care, personal care, registration & inquiry, etc.). This will provide an opportunity for people to have a game plan in place and ensure we are prepared when we have to activate one or more reception centres. The ESS Supervisors will be in attendance which will help provide them with insight into the different facility, spaces and services. This information will be extremely important when determining which reception centre to use – if we have a choice. Gathering all the players together to brainstorm will help us identify potential challenges as well as any areas not yet addressed.

