



**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