

**DATE:** July 3, 2024

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Community Emergency Management Coordinators

**FROM:** Bernie Derible  
Deputy Minister and Commissioner of Emergency  
Management  
Treasury Board Secretariat

**SUBJECT:** **Engagement on Proposed Modernization of the  
*Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act***

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I am pleased to share that Ontario is engaging partners and stakeholders on proposed modernization of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* to support a safe, practiced and prepared Ontario – before, during and after emergencies.

The province continues to work with partners to strengthen emergency management through targeted investments, enhanced capabilities, and expanded training across Ontario as highlighted in the 2023 annual report for the Provincial Emergency Management Strategy and Action Plan. Engagement on a modernized legislative framework is an integral next step to identify opportunities to strengthen our tools to ensure that we are ready for the challenges of today and the future.

Building on feedback from partners and stakeholders, best practices, and lessons learned from past emergencies, Ontario is engaging on **five areas of focus** as a first step of a phased approach to inform opportunities for a proposed modernized legislative framework:

1. The scope of an emergency and emergency management
2. One window approach to provincial emergency management coordination
3. Enhancing coordination between government, broader public sector, and external partners
4. Improving the consistency, quality and inclusivity of emergency management programs
5. Reflecting how Ontario works with First Nations in emergency management

To support engagement, a discussion guide has been posted to [Ontario's Regulatory Registry and the Environmental Registry of Ontario](#), which includes further details and questions for partners, stakeholders and members of the public. This discussion guide will be open for feedback until August 26, 2024.

Emergency Management Ontario is also holding focused engagements with partners and stakeholders, including Community Emergency Management Coordinators, to seek further feedback and build upon what we have heard. We will be in touch soon to set up time for discussion.

Responses from this engagement over the Summer of 2024 will help inform how Ontario could modernize the emergency management legislative framework to strengthen the province's ability to prevent, mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and align with Ontario's emergency management vision for a safe, practiced and prepared Ontario.

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Astill, Director, Emergency Management Policy and Governance Branch, Emergency Management Ontario, at [Michelle.Astill@ontario.ca](mailto:Michelle.Astill@ontario.ca).

We are grateful for your valuable feedback and thank you for your ongoing collaboration and coordination to advance emergency management in the province.

Best always,



Bernie Derible  
Deputy Minister and Commissioner of Emergency Management  
Treasury Board Secretariat

Cc:

Eric Everett, Assistant Deputy Minister, Emergency Management Strategy, Monitoring and Intelligence Division, Emergency Management Ontario, Treasury Board Secretariat

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