

Manitoba / Aid to the Civilian Power

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Spring Flood 2011
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The Emergency Measures Act

section 8.1 (summary)

Every local authority *shall*:

- Establish a committee of members of the community to advise the authority on the development of *emergency preparedness plans* and *programs*.
- Establish and maintain a local emergency response control group (*LERCG*) and
- Appoint a person from the *LERCG* and prescribe the duties of that person including the preparation and coordination emergency preparedness plans and programs for the local authority.

"local authority" means

- (a) the council of an incorporated community as defined in *The Northern Affairs Act*,
- (b) the council of a municipality,
- (c) the council of an incorporated city, town or village,
- (d) the resident administrator or council of a local government district,
- (e) the Minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs with respect to Northern Manitoba as defined in *The Northern Affairs Act*,
- (f) the Minister of Conservation with respect to
 - (i) provincial parks designated under section 7 of *The Provincial Parks Act*,
 - (ii) Crown lands in Manitoba within the meaning of *The Crown Lands Act*, and
 - (iii) wildlife management areas or wildlife refuges designated under section 2 of *The Wildlife Act*,
- (g) the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development appointed under the *Indian Act* (Canada) with respect to a reserve as defined by that Act,
- (h) the Minister of National Defence with respect to a Canadian Forces Base,
- (i) the Minister responsible for national parks under the *National Parks Act* (Canada) with respect to a national park; (« autorité locale »)

Initial Response

- Private Citizens
- Private Sector Resources
- **Emergency Services**
- Mutual Aid/Volunteers
- Other Municipal Services

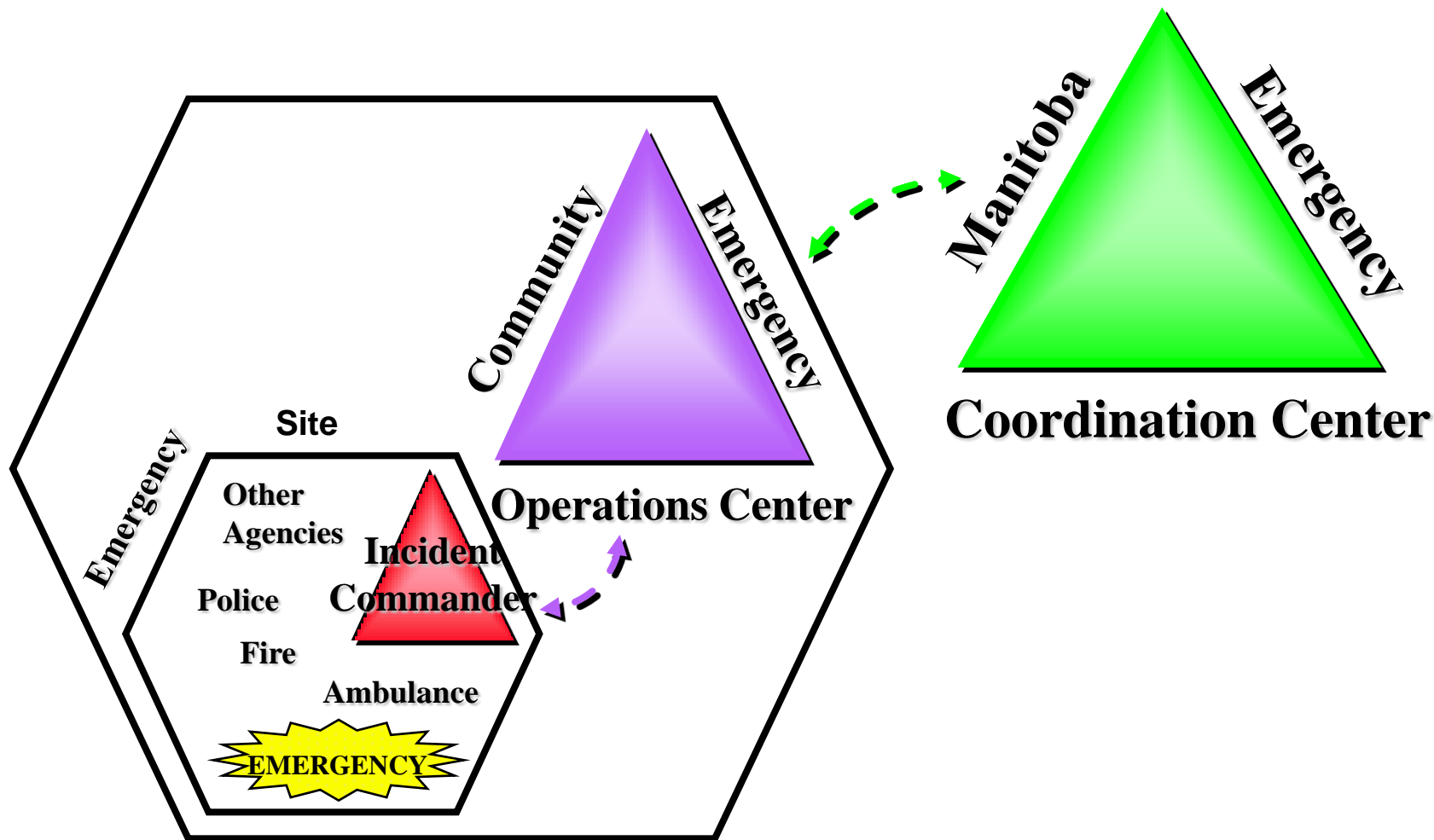
PROVINCIAL RESPONSE

- Provincial Departments
- RCMP/ Municipal Police
- Private Organizations
- Volunteers

FEDERAL RESPONSE

- Federal Departments - Military

Response Mechanism





Determine the specific task that you require federal assistance to complete . It must be a task that civilian resources and private contractors cannot perform .

“The province requires [...] a large, organized and capable body of personnel to assist in building up dikes,” said Joint Task Force West commander Brigadier-General Paul Wynnyk. “We will deploy Reserve Force soldiers from 38 Canadian Brigade Group with the balance of the task force coming primarily from the Regular Force at Canadian Forces Base Shilo.”

Lieutenant-Colonel Shane Schreiber, commanding officer of the Shilo-based 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry, will command the military task force.

The primary role of the CF is to defend and protect Canadians at home and abroad.

“Folks should understand that the Canadian Forces will be acting at the direction of the Government of Manitoba,” added Brigadier-General Wynnyk. “They are the experts at dealing with flooding in Manitoba.”

Canadian soldiers have a proud record of assisting Manitobans with flooding, most notably in 1950, when the military undertook Operation REDRAMP. In 1997, the CF responded to the “Flood of the Century” with Operation ASSISTANCE.

Request for Federal Emergency Assistance

A request for assistance is the formalization of the need, at the request of a province or territory, for the federal government to provide support towards emergency response efforts.

A provincial or territorial request for assistance during an emergency specifies the additional support or resources that the affected region determines are required for a successful emergency response.

The Public Safety Regional Director in each region is the primary agent responsible for the receipt of provincial and/or territorial requests for assistance. The Regional Director is required to support the provinces and territories with these requests as well as liaise with federal coordinating committees and the Government Operations Centre to expedite federal response.

When a province or territory determines that there is a need for federal government support, the process is initiated by a verbal request and may be followed by a formal letter between Ministers. Should a letter be required (see page 14 for sample), the federal government will inform the province or territory and coordinate efforts through the Public Safety Regional Director.

Sample Request for Federal Emergency Assistance Letter

Province/Territory of **XXXXXXXX**

To: The Honourable **XX**, Minister of **XX** – Government of Canada

A **XXXX** situation requiring an emergency response has developed (or is considered as likely to occur) in INSERT AFFECTED AREA. I have been informed, by responsible persons, that the current situation requires resources beyond those available to the province or department/agency.

The Province or department/agency **XXXX** has identified the following critical requirements for which we are seeking federal assistance:

Regional Input Required Here On Details Regarding The Type Of Assistance Required

Now therefore I, **XXXX**, title **XXXX**, do request that you provide federal resources in support of current and ongoing emergency response efforts to this event.

Dated at, this day of,



Domestic Operations - Domestic Operations, or Canadian Forces operations in Canada, have always been something that the Canadian military has been expected to do. These operations come about because the Canadian government has to resort to the use of the armed forces to deal with a situation in Canada that threatens Canadian lives and property. Some of these operations have been as a result of man-made threats such as terrorism, as in the the 1970 October Crisis, but many have been as a result of the ravages of nature.



In the past ten years the Canadian Forces have involved in a number of major Domestic Operations fighting floods in Manitoba, forest fires in British Columbia and helping Canadians deal with the effects of the Great Ice Storm in Atlantic and central Canada, and Hurricane Juan in Halifax. These are special operations in which thousands of Canadian soldiers, sailors and air force personnel have been deployed at short notice and worked hard to counter dangers to Canadians at home. They have saved thousands of Canadians lives and millions of dollars of property in the process.

During the 1997 flood, the Canadian military sent more than 8,500 personnel to Manitoba to help with everything from sandbagging and diking to evacuations and medical assistance. It was the largest deployment of Canadian troops since the Korean War.

At the height of the battle, over 8000 soldiers - one-tenth of the Canadian military - are on duty in the Manitoba flood zone. They come from all over - Canadian Forces Bases Petawawa, Kingston, Gagetown and Edmonton - to help in all sorts of ways. Engineers help the highways department. Other personnel build and patrol dikes and evacuate communities, police empty towns and provide medical assistance and, once it's all over, help thousands of people return home.

The flood is a public relations bonanza - not to mention a morale booster - for the Canadian military. Brigadier General Rick Hiller: "I think the Canadian public, right here in the city of Winnipeg, is starting to recognize that [the military] is a slice of Canadian society. We're your sons and daughters, moms and dads and brothers and sisters out there working. And not the fiendish people that sometimes people portray us."



“As they are demonstrating in Quebec and in Manitoba, the Canadian Forces are always ready to assist Canadians in times of crisis. Our Government was quick to respond to the request for assistance from Premier Selinger and our men and women in uniform are proud to be part of this effort to protect life and property from the flooded Assiniboine River.”

- Peter MacKay



Lessons learned Manitoba 2011 Flood : 1: Include all partners in all phases of planning and preparation . Manitoba EMO includes PSC and CF Domestic Operations in all planning meetings as well as monthly IAEPIC . We have a close relationship and communicate during events as to the probability of a request for Federal assistance . This allows CF to effectively manage and stage assets .



2: Establish an Incident Command System detailing roles and responsibilities . The CF were under the care and control of the Province of Manitoba personnel at all times . A joint command was established and CF resources were always under direction of the military command structure .



3 : Communications worked well when we allowed the federal communication staff to work directly with the provincial communications staff to produce one joint release .



4 . Liasons – The CF assigned Liason Officers to all major provincial personnel involved in the event . This kept the CF in the loop on all changes and updates .



5. Special Operations . In many areas we ran joint special ops . A NOTAM was put in place and the Province established air traffic control for the 15 helicopters involved in the operation . Water Rescue responsibilities were shared but joint communications was essential .



6 : Brief the Steering Committee , elected officials and military leaders as often as possible . .



7: Track the task that the CF have been assigned and develop a termination plan . Political interference and confusion is a constant concern establish guidelines and try to maintain control . Do not schedule your disaster during a provincial election .