



New Governance Structure for EMO (with a thank you!)

The emergency programs for the City of Parksville and Town of Qualicum Beach work in unison to provide large scale disaster support and emergency service to residents of the Oceanside region. The Emergency Management Oceanside partnership provides an efficient, effective and cooperative approach to a holistic emergency program in our region. EMO provides professional 24/7 emergency support and has the capacity to develop and undertake preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery planning.

The Councils of the City of Parksville and Town of Qualicum Beach recently approved resolutions supporting an updated Emergency Program Bylaw and new joint Emergency Program Services Agreement between the emergency programs of these two municipalities. The agreement secures the continued strong partnership which has existed between the City and Town for many years, and the continuation of the work and initiatives of Emergency Management Oceanside. The new bylaw allows the two local governments the same ability to share and develop the emergency program together and provide a combined response to and recovery from an emergency or disaster.

EMO Volunteer Program - Emergency Management Oceanside relies heavily on community support when responding to any size of emergency or large-scale disaster in the Oceanside area. Volunteers from the Oceanside area make up our two main programs: Oceanside Emergency Support Services (OESS) and Oceanside Emergency Communications Team (OECT). OESS volunteers help residents directly displaced by an emergency or disaster while OECT volunteers provide communications within the region, throughout the province and around the world supporting a local emergency response. If you are interested in volunteering to support your community, please contact one of the emergency coordinators listed below. No experience required and all training is provided.

EMO Vendor Program - In addition to volunteer programs, EMO relies heavily on local businesses to provide support for displaced residents. OESS volunteers provide up to 72 hours of provincially funded support including food, lodging and essentials such as clothing and toiletries. Local businesses willing to participate in this program are referred to as vendors. Displaced residents are provided with referral forms when needed which they take to vendors in exchange for itemized services. Vendors forward the completed forms to the province to be reimbursed for their services. If your business is interested in supporting Oceanside residents in this way, please contact an emergency coordinator.

EMO Can't Do It Alone - It takes a community effort to respond to and recover from disasters, including supporting displaced residents in their time of need. Nothing is more frightening and stressful than experiencing an emergency or disaster. EMO thanks all our tireless volunteers, available to the community 24 hours a day, every day, who are there at the ready providing support to anyone suffering through an emergency. EMO especially appreciates the efforts of our volunteers and vendors to stay committed and safe while helping during the COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information:

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