

## **Disaster Financial Assistance Available for Qualified Claimants**

Emergency Management BC (EMBC) has announced that as a result of the damages sustained from the major flooding event that started on November 14, 2021, provincial Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) has been authorized for qualifying claimants, such as homeowners, residential tenants, small business owners, farmers, charitable organizations and local government bodies, who are unable to obtain insurance to cover these disaster-related losses. Disaster Financial Assistance has been authorized for Vancouver Island and southwest and central areas of the province, including all first nation communities, electoral areas and municipalities within the geographic boundaries of these areas.

Information about Disaster Financial Assistance, the application form and other information for applicants is available on the DFA web site at [gov.bc.ca/disasterfinancialassistance](http://gov.bc.ca/disasterfinancialassistance). Applicants should first check with their insurance agent to determine if their current insurance policy provides coverage for the resulting damage. The deadline for EMBC to receive this form is February 12, 2022, although submission of applications as soon as possible is encouraged.

### **Returning After the Flood**

When evacuation orders are rescinded and after floodwaters have receded and areas of occupancy and contents have been deemed safe for return by the proper authorities, there are important steps that must be taken. These steps include:


- Getting authorized technicians to assess any electrical or gas equipment exposed to floodwaters.
- Getting your power or gas turned back on.
- Ensuring your home and contents are properly cleaned before moving back in.
- Confirming a supply of safe water is available.
- Arranging for the proper disposal of human waste and garbage.

For information on how to safely return to your home or place of business, visit [rdn.bc.ca/flooding](http://rdn.bc.ca/flooding). For the latest information on the evacuation orders, visit [rdn.bc.ca/emergency-alerts](http://rdn.bc.ca/emergency-alerts). To learn more about the RDN emergency program and how to be prepared, visit: [rdn.bc.ca/emergency-program](http://rdn.bc.ca/emergency-program). To receive emergency and information alerts from the RDN via phone call, text, email or app, sign up for Voyent Alert at [rdn.bc.ca/voyent-alert](http://rdn.bc.ca/voyent-alert). Updates are also posted on the RDN [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) feeds. The RDN Emergency Call Centre is open today until 4:30 p.m. to answer questions regarding flooding in the region at 250-390-0940.

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### **For more information, please contact:**

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