Emergency Social Services Plan

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Plan Update: Scope

These Plans outline the response the Region shall provide to meet the essential needs of people during and following an emergency until they may re-establish themselves.

The role of the CSD is to plan, lead, coordinate and manage the delivery of ESS to those affected by a small or large scale incident in Niagara.

The delivery of ESS is provided through partnerships with first responders, local area municipalities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), other Regional departments and community partners.



Past ESS Responses in Niagara Region

- 2004: Safe Third Country Agreement
 - During the month of December, 791 people crossed the Peace Bridge seeking asylum in Canada
 - Opening of old Sunset Haven as an Evacuation Centre
- 2006: Fort Erie and Port Colborne White October
- 2010: Port Colborne Diesel Spill in the Canal
- 2010/11: Trilogy of Fires
 - December 10: 64 unit building
 - December 15: 114 unit building
 - January 15: 130 unit building
- 2017: Downtown Grimsby Fire
- 2019: Flooding and Power Outages in Port Colborne, Fort Erie and Wainfleet
- 2020: COVID-19



Emergency Social Services

Standard Services	Specialized Services
Reception and Information	First Aid
Registration and Inquiry / Family Reunification	Psychosocial Support
Food	Financial Assessment
Clothing	Culturally-Specific and Language Services
Lodging	Vulnerable People and Unattended Children
Personal Services	Public Health
	Animal Care
	Recreation



Plan Update: Types of ESS Responses





Plan Update: Structure

Niagara Region Emergency Management Plan

Annex D: Regional Emergency Social Services Plan

Sub-Plan A: Curbside Response Protocol Sub-Plan B: Evacuation Centre Plan

Standard Operating Procedures



ESS Community Partners Standard Services

Organization	Service Type
Canadian Red Cross	 Reception and Information Registration & Inquiry Family Reunification Lodging Personal Services Food Clothing
Salvation Army St. Catharines Branch	- Food - Clothing



ESS Community Partners Specialized Services

Organization	Service Type
St. John Ambulance Niagara Region Branch Niagara Falls Branch	- First Aid
Victim Services Niagara	- Psychosocial Support



ESS Community Partners Specialized Services

Organization	Service Type
INCommunities	- Interpreter Services
Local SPCA and Humane SocietiesNiagara SPCA & Humane SocietyServing Lincoln, Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Pelham, Port Colborne, Wainfleet, Welland, West Lincoln]Lincoln County Humane Society [Serving Grimsby, St. Catharines, Thorold]Fort Erie SPCA [Serving Fort Erie]	- Animal Care



CSD ESS Team Composition

• 41 staff

- Social Assistance & Employment Opportunities
- Children's Services
- Seniors Services
- Homelessness Services & Community Engagement
- Niagara Regional Housing
- Niagara Region Mental Health



CSD ESS Team Service Expectations

Acknowledge + respond to call-out as soon as possible

• Deploy within two (2) hours

• Once contacted and provided with emergency information, ESS Team members are asked to deploy within two (2) hours of notification to the assigned location of the emergency Evacuation Centre.

• Be prepared

• ESS Team members are responsible to have access to appropriate equipment (e.g. personal go-bags, Regional mobile device if appropriate, etc.)

Use appropriate reporting lines

• ESS Team members staffing an Evacuation Centre will take instruction from the Evacuation Centre Liaison (a Regional employee) and the Site Manager (a Canadian Red Cross employee).



Capacity & Training

- Ongoing monitoring of staffing complement and composition on the ESS team, and offer additional training sessions to sustain the team
- Canadian Red Cross training specific to CSD ESS Team (e.g. go-bag essentials)
- Training offered to all team members on shelter operations
 - Day 1 technical in-class work
 - Day 2 hands-on simulation exercise



Questions ?

