

Update on Emergency Management Initiatives & Personal Preparedness

Presentation to York Region Accessibility
Advisory Committee

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Agenda

- ❑ Emergency Management Program Overview
- ❑ Update on Initiatives
 - ❑ Background – Focus Groups, Best Practices
 - ❑ Initiatives
 - ❑ Upcoming Events
- ❑ Personal Preparedness
 - ❑ How You and Your Family Can do to Become Better Prepared

Emergency Management Program

- ❑ *Emergency Management & Civil Protection Act*
- ❑ Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, Recovery
- ❑ (HIRA) Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment
- ❑ Emergency Plans
- ❑ Training & Public Education
- ❑ Exercises

Background Focus Groups-2010

Focus Groups- 2010

- ❑ To better understand concerns of people with disabilities regarding Emergency Management
- ❑ Suggest *Go-Forward items* that would address these concerns
- ❑ Participants
 - YRAAC Members,
 - First Responders (Fire, EMS, Police)
 - Community Partners (i.e. Canadian Hearing Society and York Support Services)

Background Focus Groups-2010

Outcomes

Guiding Document –Emergency Planning with People with Disabilities Focus Group Report



Focus Groups Report

York Region Emergency Management
October 5, 2010

- ☐ Enhance Emergency Preparedness Education for people with Disabilities
- ☐ Invite Exercise Design input
- ☐ Provide Opportunities for Exercise Observation
- ☐ Share Information with Community Emergency Management Partners

Outcomes Mirrored Best Practices

U.S. National Council on Disability (2009):

- promote collaboration between emergency management and disability organizations, agencies and advocates
- include people with disabilities in training exercises

B.C. Coalition of People with Disabilities (2008):

- include service providers in all phases of emergency planning, training and community outreach

Nobody Left Behind: Disaster Preparedness for Persons with Mobility Impairments (2007):

- include people with disabilities in the local planning process

Canadian Red Cross Emergency Management and High-risk Populations Project (2007):

- engage high-risk organizations in local emergency exercises and training

American National Organization on Disability's Emergency Preparedness Initiative program (2001):

- partner with people with disabilities

Results of Focus Group Corroborated Best Practices

Update on Initiatives

Focus Group Report was Shared with local Municipal Community Emergency Management Coordinators (November 2010)



Annual Emergency Exercise – Design(June 2011-Ongoing)
YRAAC members Continue to participate in the planning process



Public Education Partnership with Community Support Agencies (Oct 2011)
Workshop for agencies servicing people with disabilities



Update on Initiatives

Brochure- Emergency Support Contacts (May 2011)

Information for people with disabilities to establish personal support networks and contacts



Emergency Preparedness Guide Revised with Section on People with Disabilities (May 2011)

Distributed through EP Week, All 9 Municipalities, home shows, festivals



York Region Accessibility Plan (2011/12)

Reaching a New Standard for Accountability



Upcoming Events

- ❑ Work shop for agencies providing Services for People with Disabilities(October 2012)
- ❑ Training for Community Living South of York Region (September 2012)
- ❑ Investigating the use of Twitter to disseminate information during an emergency
@YorkRegionGovt 
- ❑ Community Safety Village(2012)

Conclusion

- ❑ Excellent participation and feedback from YRAAC
- ❑ Progress made
- ❑ Keep moving forward

Personal Preparedness





York Region





23 4 2007

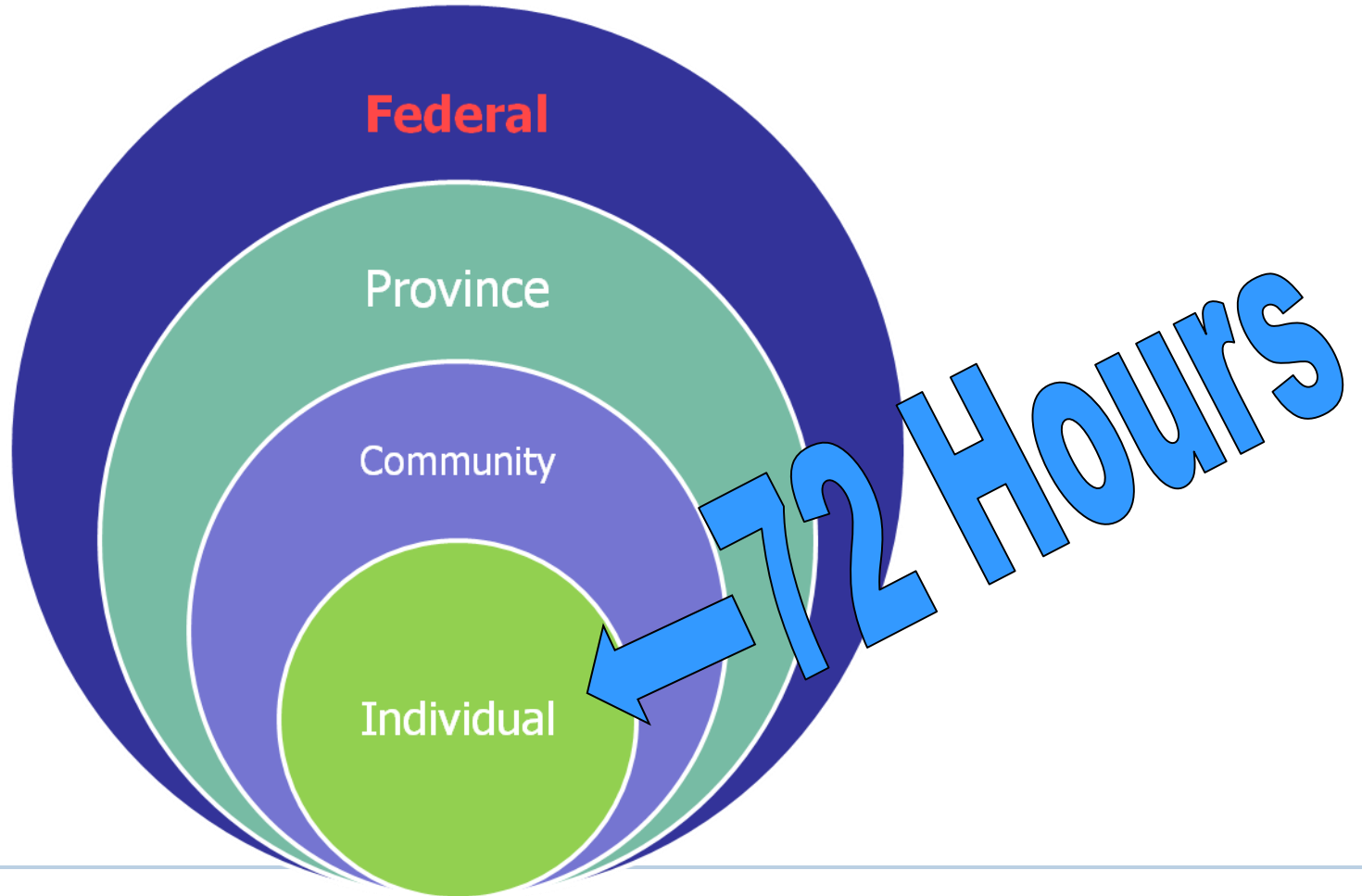


YOUR PHOTO





Emergency Preparedness Begins with the Individual !



Emergency Planning Strategy



Know the Risks



Make a Plan



Get an Emergency Kit

Know evacuation procedures

Be prepared to shelter in place

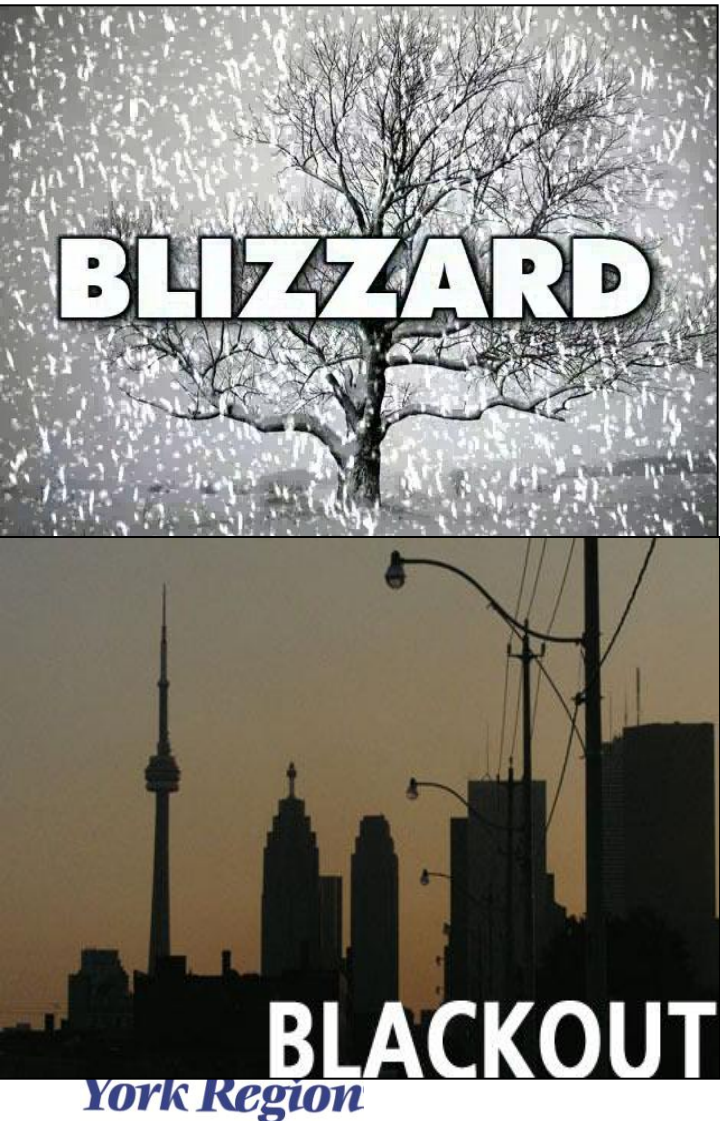
Top 5 Risks in York Region

- ❑ Region has completed a Hazardous Inventory Risk Assessment (HIRA)
 1. Widespread, epidemic disease in humans
 2. Widespread, multi-day power outages from severe winter storms
 3. Slow onset floods from heavy, sustained rainfall
 4. Widespread property damage from severe summer storms
 5. Transportation-Hazardous materials incidents

Make a Plan

- ❑ Develop a plan to stay in contact with family members
- ❑ Keep small amounts of cash in a safe place
- ❑ Keep copies of important documents available
- ❑ Ensure provisions for family members with disabilities and special needs
- ❑ Create a buddy system with your neighbours
- ❑ Include provisions for pets

Sheltering-in-Place



Prepare to shelter-in-place by storing 72 hours worth of:

1. Water
 2. Food
 3. First aid supplies
 4. Medications
 5. Tools and supplies
-

Sheltering-in-Place



Evacuation



Preparing to Evacuate

Planning for functional requirements

Do you, or a family member, have specialized requirements in an emergency?



- Communication
 - Medical needs
- Supplies required to maintain functional independence
 - Transportation
 - Supervision

PREPARE FOR THESE PRIOR TO AN EMERGENCY

Preparing to Evacuate

Assemble a Go bag



Examples of Go Bags



Preparing to Evacuate

Go-Bag contents:

1. Water – a few bottles
2. Food – nutritious snacks



Preparing to Evacuate

Go-Bag contents (cont.)

3. Health care items



4. Photocopies of important family documents



LIVING ROOM			
QUANTITY	Item	YEAR PURCHASED	Cost / VALUE
1	COUCH	1985	\$ 700
1	CARPET	1980	\$ 1200
1	CHAIR	INHERITED	EST \$ 100
5	SHELVES	BUILT BY ME	EST \$ 200
20 VOLUMES	ENCYCLO- PEDIA	1975	\$ 200

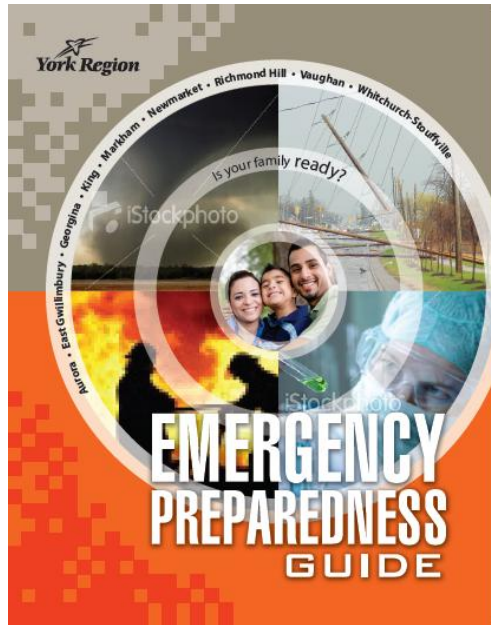
Preparing to Evacuate

Go-Bag contents (cont.)

5. Other essentials

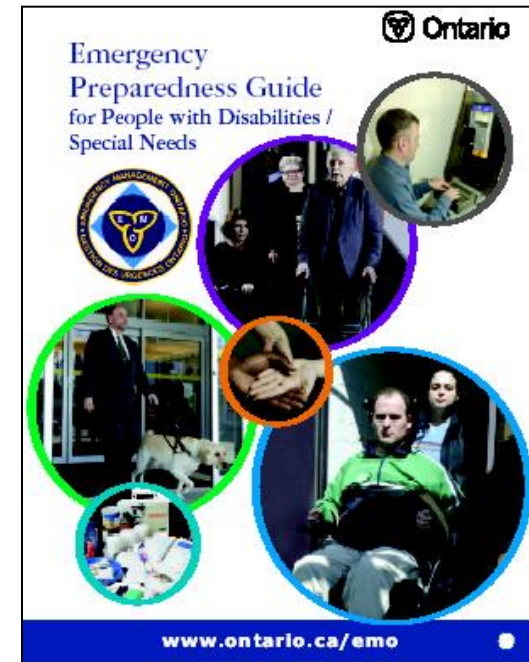
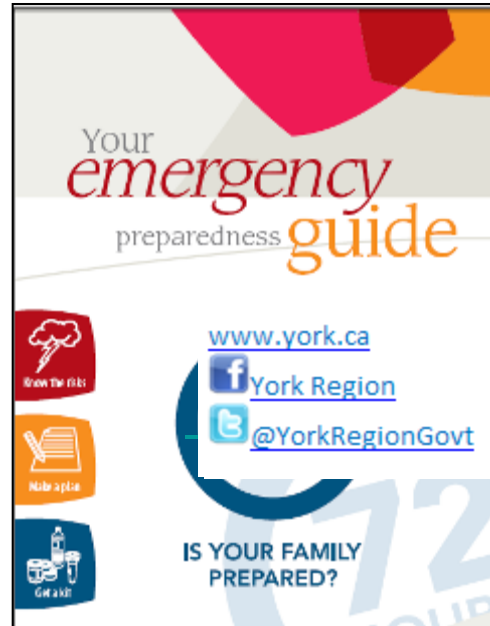


Resource Information



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