BC FLOOD AND WILDFIRE REVIEW

January 23, 2018

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The 2017 floods and wildfires were unprecedented. Many British Columbians experienced catastrophic impacts to their lives and communities, with First Nations traditional territories and communities facing disproportionate impacts.

15 First Nations communities were impacted by flooding in 2017, while 26 First Nations communities were impacted by wildfires. Several communities faced both events in 2017.
• Over 65,000 people were displaced in 2017 as a result of floods and wildfires.

• As of Nov. 30, 2017 flood response costs for the season were estimated at over $73 million, while direct fire suppression costs were estimated at over $564 million.
• The Government of B.C. commissioned an independent review of flood and wildfire practices in the province, with a focus on events surrounding the 2017 flood and wildfire season.

• The BC Flood and Wildfire Review will examine the implementation of both provincial and local government emergency management systems to determine how the province can better plan for the future.

• The review is seeking community input and community-driven solutions to guide its recommendations to government.

• The review aims to be completed in advance of the 2018 flood and wildfire season.

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• In December 2017, the Government of B.C. appointed two independent co-chairs to lead the review:

**Chief Maureen Chapman**
Shxwetelemel-elhot (Chief Maureen Chapman) is the hereditary Chief of Sq’ewá:lwx (Skawahlook) First Nation and has filled that role since 1999. In that time, she has established a provincial and national reputation as a committed advocate for First Nations self-governance and autonomy with a particular interest in children and families, women’s and health issues.

**Mr. George Abbott**
Mr. George Abbott has enjoyed a long and distinguished career in politics and public service. Most recently, he was BC’s Minister of Education (2010-12), successfully launching such initiatives as the BC Teachers Council, the BC Education Plan and full-day kindergarten.
REVIEW OBJECTIVES

• The review will focus on the four phases of emergency management operations:
  - Planning and preparedness
  - Prevention and mitigation
  - Response
  - Recovery

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The BC Flood and Wildfire Review will meet with communities, local and provincial stakeholders, and government and First Nations leaders and officials between January and March 2018.

The review is targeting late April 2018 to release its recommendations report.
The BC Flood and Wildfire Review is just one part of the broader After Action Review.

The After Action Review was initiated following 2017’s unprecedented flood and wildfire season.
ENGAGEMENT

• We are meeting with local and provincial stakeholders, as well as government and First Nations leaders and officials.

• We are reaching out to communities to host events February – March 2018. We want to hear directly from those impacted in 2017.

• Our website will include an online feedback mechanism, providing all British Columbians with an opportunity to share their experiences and provide recommendations.

• We will accept written submissions from individuals or organizations. To receive a copy of our feedback guide, please contact info@bcfloodfirereview.ca.
• More information about the review will be posted on our website in the coming weeks.

• Please visit our site now to sign up for project update emails: Bcfloodfirereview.ca

• We can be reach via email at: info@bcfloodfirereview.ca