# Lessons from an Atmospheric River: Insights for Local Government



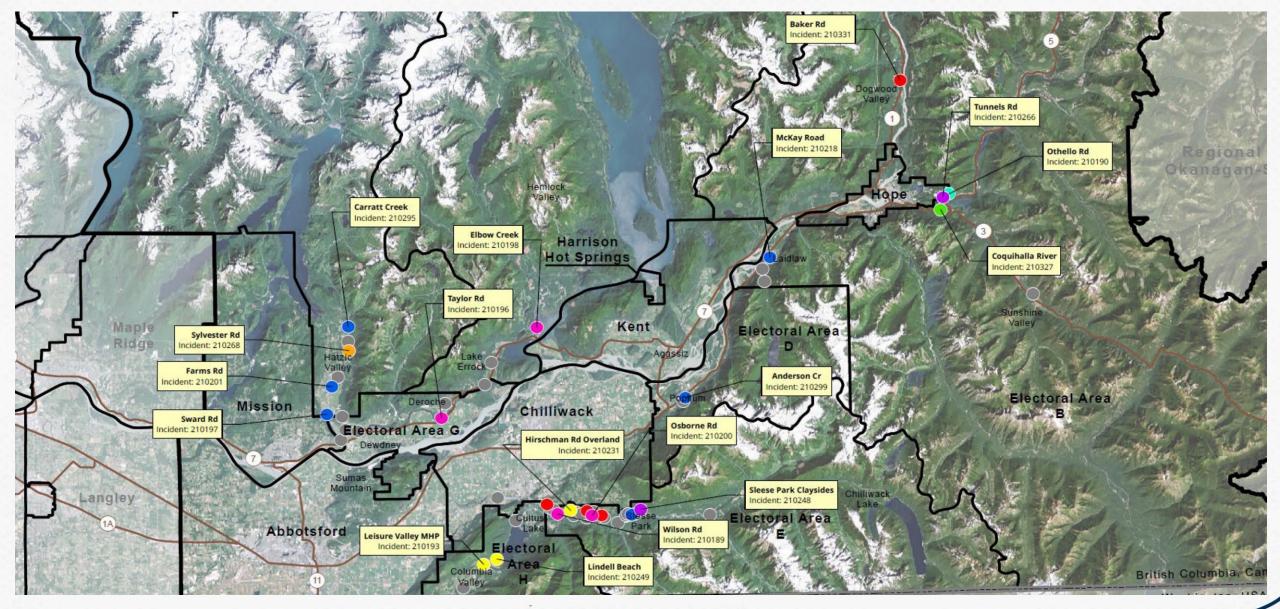
# Squamish-Thompson-Lilooet RD Nicola RD Okanagan-Similkameen RD Harrison HS Metro Vancouver **Abbotsford**

# FVRD: 8 Electoral Areas

- +10,000 km2
- Population +11,700
- Challenging Geography including – Major River Systems, Floodplains, Streams, and Slopes
- Multiple Critical Transportation Corridors

## **Situation Report**

- Three Atmospheric River Events Nov.14th to Dec. 2nd
- Multiple flood events
- Multiple landslide events
- Numerous other simultaneous incidents, including vast power outages, road closures, supply and logistics disruptions, and stranded travelers.



**Snapshot – EOC GIS Dashboard – Tracking 60 + Incidents** 

## **Broad Impacts**

27 Evacuation Orders and Alerts Issued

- +2000 Properties Affected
- 700 Properties Subject to Evacuation Order
- Half EA Population Affected +5,600 People

### **Damages**

- FVRD Flood Infrastructure Damage Wilson Rd. Dyke, Frosst Creek Dike, Debris Basins
- FVRD Parks
- Highway (#1, #7, #9)
- Other Critical Infrastructure:
  Highways, Pipelines, Electrical Grid, Railway, and Other Critical Assets
- Estimated 300 400 Structures with damage (Multiple properties completely destroyed or deemed uninhabitable)

#### **Observations**

- New Risk Profile: Escalated post-event risk in some places, reduced channel capacity, debris, changed/weakened slopes
- Increased overall risk from climate change & frequency and severity of disaster events.

#### **Observations**

#### **Regional District Challenges:**

- Large land area, small population, difficult landscape.
- Increased use of Airpark services for EM response.
- Complex jurisdictional overlaps (MOTI, FLNROD, EMBC, LG's, Private Infrastructure)
- Small tax base and restrictive financial structures
- Multiple cascading events across the region

#### **Observations**

- EOC technology improved in our EOC thanks to Provincial grants to create a dashboard for EOC
- Non-Profit Teams, and Community Members stepping up to assist (Team Rubicon, Multiple NGO + Charity Groups
- Increased Regional Awareness for Emergency Response.
- Increased Advocacy for Regional/Provincial Flood Strategy,
   Orphaned infrastructure, Changes to DFA











