

Disaster Financial Assistance

UBCM Electoral Area Director's Forum
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Ministry of
Emergency Management
and Climate Readiness

Overview of Presentation

- What is Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA)
- DFA Declaration Process
- Funding Streams
- Eligible Expenses
- Applying for DFA
- Completing Recovery Works
- Program Changes and Replacing the CDFAR
- Question and Answer

What is DFA?

- Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) is a provincially administered recovery program aimed at helping communities, individuals, businesses, farms, and charitable organizations **cover uninsurable losses** from **eligible disaster events**.
- DFA's intent is to provide assistance in the aftermath of **large-scale, unforeseen disasters** that affect multitudes of individuals, businesses, farms, and non-profits and/or impose significant financial burden on local government and/or Indigenous Governing Bodies.
- If declared, the province will specify the eligible streams and geographic areas able to apply.

DFA Declaration Process

- Following a disaster, EMCR staff will conduct a review of the event, in line with Policy 5.09, to determine if the event has met the required criteria to be declared DFA eligible.
- The policy indicates that consideration for declaring an event can be made if three or more indicators are met. These indicators include:
 - damages exceeding \$1-million
 - a Band Council resolution or declaration of a local or provincial state of emergency
 - 10 or more eligible structures were damaged
- In effort to better inform the consideration of a declaration, the Ministry is developing a new form for communities to collect information on private and public sector damages.

Funding Streams

DFA has two streams

- **DFA Private** – eligible individuals, businesses, farms, and charitable organizations can receive **up to \$400,000** at a reimbursement rate of **80%**
- **DFA Public** – eligible local governments and First Nations communities on reserve can receive **up to 95%** reimbursement for eligible infrastructure repairs

DFA Public Eligible Expenses

Funding may be provided to cover	By regulation, we can't cover
Rebuilding or replacing essential public infrastructure to its pre-disaster condition	Enhancements or betterments beyond pre-event functionality unless required by code or by-law
Repair or replacement of essential materials	Preventative measures to guard against future damages
Debris removal	Repairs or replacement of infrastructure where there is no proof of ownership/title/rights or structures that were not maintained pre-event
Insurance deductibles	Eroded or damaged land, except essential access routes
Inspection, appraisal, planning, and design costs	Landscaping
Administrative costs up to 10% of total project costs	Temporary works

Applying for DFA

- The “DFA for Communities” webpage lists any eligible events
- Communities need to complete a one-page application
- Upon approval, a DFA Team Lead will reach out to schedule a call focused on next steps
- Staff are available to answer any questions and can be reached at DFA.Public@gov.bc.ca

DFA event details	
Geographic area (subject to change)	<p>Those impacted by overland flooding following recent disaster or emergency event(s) may be eligible to apply for disaster financial assistance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• City of Port Coquitlam• City of Coquitlam• City of North Vancouver• District of West Vancouver• District of North Vancouver• Squamish First Nation• Village of Anmore• City of Port Moody• City of Surrey
Type of event	Overland flooding
Date of event	October 18, 2024 – October 20, 2024
90-day deadline for applications	March 13, 2025

Completing Recovery Works

- Communities will need to prepare Infrastructure Cost Recovery Plans (ICRP), outlining recovery project works for DFA approval.
- Upon approval, communities can move forward with completing recovery works in line with the ICRP.
- Once completed, communities prepare Claim Submissions for DFA program review and if approved, reimbursement.
- Templates of both the ICRP and Claim Submission form are available on the website.
- If at any point in the process, DFA renders a final determination that the community does not agree with, the community has an option to file an appeal. Appeals are handled by a separate EMCR team and will be adjudicated based on the order received.

Program Changes

- Combined Funding Policy
- Development of an Advanced Payment policy
- Community Recovery Teams
- Community Recovery Guide
- Changes to the Federal Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements
- Development of a new regulation to replace the Compensation and Disaster Financial Assistance Regulation

Any Questions?

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