

# Local Governments Adaptation to Climate Change



How is it affecting us? Physically? Psychology?



# Climate Adaptation and Local Government

- **Emergency Operations Centers (EOC)**
  - Activates in time of *emergency*
  - Relies on trained staff in specific roles
  - Deal with citizen's safety (alerts/evacuation orders)
    - Emergency Support Services (social) / Disaster Financial Assistance
    - Communications/media, on the ground support - i.e. sandbagging, recon, door to door
  - Requires employees to do their own work and work shifts in the EOC





# Affects of Fires and Flood

Regular Staff Hours - 8:30 - 4:30 Mon - Fri

2017 = 2900 hrs = \$106K

2018 = 4819 hrs = \$177K

66% increase

EOC Overtime Hours - 4:30 to?? Plus weekends/  
holidays

2017 = 2700 hrs or \$184K

2018 = 4130 hrs or \$288K

53% increase



# What Does That Look Like?

**Wildfires:** RDOS costs - \$318,723 (excludes municipalities)

- 93 Wildfires, including starts reported by BC Wildfire
- Approx. 6 wildfires prompted action by the RDOS EOC to initiate alerts / orders
  - Number is approximately (14) but in several situations, fires merged together to form larger fires or complex fires
- 40,185 Ha burned
- 40,122 Ha, was from those 6 fires

**Flooding / Landslides:** RDOS costs to Province \$7.5 million

- Approx. 6 dams ordered drawn down / at risk
  - Multiple debris jams and beaver dams created issues
- More than 9 lakes flooded
- More than 21 creeks / rivers caused flooding
- More than 10 incidents of landslide / debris flow





# Everyone Steps Up



# The Toll on People?



Those that had 'go kits' and were prepared suffered far less stress when evacuated





# What Are We Doing?

- Using all related funding sources we can access
  - Wholesale valley-wide Lidar and imagery for flood construction level amendments and floodplain mapping, infrastructure grants, Capital Asset Management Planning, Drought and Flood Risk Planning
  - Partnering with Provincial Climate Adaptation Projects to assist agriculture to be ready and adapt
    - Agriculture is most often the first affected by changes to climate; crops, pests, floods and wildfire
  - Reviewing all facets of our Emergency Planning