



Miawpukek First Nation(MFN)

Conne River

Flood Event
Tabletop Exercise
April 6, 2022



Agenda

- Introductions/Welcome
- Rules
- Purpose
- Objectives
- Scope
- Scenario/Discussion
- Conclusion
- Debriefing
- Feedback Forms

Characteristics of a Tabletop Exercise

- Discussion-based.
- Facilitated group analysis of a situation.
- Conducted in an informal, low-stress environment.
- Designed for the examination of plans or policies, combined with problem solving.
- Usually deal with “what if” scenarios.
- Delivered within a structured framework.





Rules

- Please set cell phones to vibrate.
- Everyone participates.
- No wrong answers.
- Everyone's opinion counts.
- Use existing policy/procedures as outlined in your emergency plans.
- Relax and Learn.



Purpose

- To better enable MFN Government employees to prepare for, mitigate against, respond to/ manage and recover from a major disaster (flood) event.
- To assist each player to understand their roles and responsibilities plus that of their team members in an activated Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) during disaster (flood) event.
- To develop a clearer understanding of partner/stakeholder roles & responsibilities during a disaster (flood) event.



Objectives

- To examine the level of knowledge each player has regarding their own resources and the resources/expertise of other players/community partners.
- To identify/confirm roles and responsibilities related to a major flood response/evacuation.
- To identify and prioritize emergency response activities.
- To familiarize players with notification protocols and decision-making processes.



Objectives (Cont'd)

- To enhance developed multi-level partner/ stakeholder relationships/linkages and empower/promote community leadership skills.
- To build local community capacity which will reduce risk, heighten preparedness, and strengthen resilience.
- Identify potential gaps in developed MFN Community Disaster, Evacuation, and Emergency Management Communications Plans and prioritize future planning efforts.



Scope

- This exercise will assist Chief & Council, MFN Government employees, residents, community stakeholders & partners to better prepare for, mitigate against, respond to and recover from a disaster (flood) event.
- This exercise will also provide an opportunity to review components of the developed Emergency Management Communications Plan.
- Provide opportunities to further develop linkages between community partners and stakeholders.



Scenario: Weather Forecast

*Forecast for Newfoundland issued by Environment Canada at **6:00am**, Friday **April 8, 2022**. The next scheduled forecast will be issued at **11:00 am**.*

- South Coast, Newfoundland and vicinity:
 - Rainfall: 30-50mm
 - Southerly wind: 40 km/h increasing to 60 km/h this afternoon. Temp 2C.

Discussion Points

- Would EOC be activated at this point? Full or partial membership?
- What preparedness measures would be considered/actioned at this point?
- Who would initiate the measures?
- Would the Emergency Management Communications Plan be activated? If so, who activates it? What components of the plan would be initiated...weather advisories on Facebook, Website, etc?





Scenario: Weather Forecast

*Forecast for Newfoundland issued by Environment Canada at **11:00am**, Friday **April 8, 2022**. The next scheduled forecast will be issued at **4:00 pm**.*

- South Coast, Newfoundland and Vicinity:
 - Rainfall: 30-50mm
 - Southerly wind: 40 km/h increasing to 60 km/h this afternoon. Wind gusts 80-100km/ over open area. Temp 2C.
 - Storm surge warning issued. High tides could exceed 3m above normal.



Discussion Points

- What additional preparedness and mitigation measures would be taken at this point?
- Who would initiate them?
- Would there be updated advisories provided to businesses, homeowners, department directors? Who would initiate them?
- Would EOC have discussions at this point about potential flooding concerns that could warrant evacuation of some households?
- What would evacuation discussions entail? If required, who would approve an Evacuation Order?



Scenario: Weather Forecast

*Forecast for Newfoundland issued by Environment Canada at **4pm**, Friday **April 8, 2022**. The next scheduled forecast will be issued at **11:30 pm**.*

- South Coast, Newfoundland and Vicinity:
 - Rainfall: 20-30mm
 - Southerly wind: 60 km/h increasing to 80 km/h this evening. Wind gusts 80-100km/ over open area. Temp 2C.
 - Storm surge warning continued. High tides could exceed 4m above normal.



Discussion Points

Now that the threat of a flood event is evident (based on storm surge and tide forecasts):

- What additional preparedness and mitigation measures should be taken at this point?
- Who would initiate them?
- Would a “State of Local Emergency” be declared at this point? If so, by whom?



Scenario (Update)

At 5:00pm the EOC is Notified That the Clover Farm Grocery Store Area Is Impacted by Flooding.

- Approximately 8-10 Homes impacted

Potential Infrastructure Impacted:

- Road impacted, closure
- Lift station impacted
- Large septic tank under turnaround
- Gas storage?
- Sewer outfall?
- Electrical?



Simulation Insert #1

Clover Farm Grocery Store Area



Discussion Points

- What would be the EOC's immediate **Response** effort coordination for this area include?
- What would Public Works, Natural Resources, and other departments within the MFN Government **Response** efforts include?
- Would external resources be contacted to provide assistance? Who would be contacted?
- Would evacuation of households take place?
 - Who would coordinate response efforts?
 - What processes would be followed? For e.g., muster station, registration & Inquiry, alternate accommodations, support for vulnerable populations.



Scenario (Update)

At 5:30pm the EOC is Notified That the NFL/Marina/Wharf Area Is Impacted by Flooding.

- Entire wharf area under water
- NFL building flooded
- Entire wharf is under water
- NFL building cut off.
- **No** homes affected

Potential Infrastructure Impacted:

- 4 Storage containers & contents, Boats (local and Band owned)
- CRHSS supply storage container
- Gas & diesel tanks & accessories



Simulation Insert #2

NFL/Marina/Wharf Area



Discussion Points

- What would be the EOC's immediate **Response** coordination effort for this area include?
- What would Public Works, Natural Resources, and other departments within the MFN Government **Response** efforts include?
- Would external resources be contacted for assistance? Who would be contacted?
- No Homes impacted. There is no immediate evacuation requirements in this area. Is there are plans needs regarding potential evacuation of households? What processes would be involved?



Scenario (Update)

At 5:50pm the EOC is Notified That the Area Near Public Works, & the Old Sawmill Is Impacted by Flooding.

- Entire area under water (including road into Public Works building)
- PW buildings are impacted by water
- **No** homes affected
- Gas bar and gas/diesel storage not affected
- Main road is flooded above river culvert





Scenario (Update) Cont'd

Potential Infrastructure Impacted:

- PW buildings
- PW equipment & storage for maintenance
- Storage containers & contents
- Salt warehouse & NFL equipment/supplies
- Business – Hansen's trailer & equipment



Simulation # 4

**Public Works Depot &
Old Sawmill Area**



Discussion Points

- What would be the EOC's immediate **Response** coordination effort for this area include?
- What would Public Works, Natural Resources, NFL and other departments within the MFN Government **Response** efforts include?
- Would external resources be contacted for assistance? Who would be contacted?
- Main road into and out of community is impacted by flooding. How will this risk be addressed? How will individual's requiring emergency medical transport be accommodated? Who would take the lead on this concern?



Scenario (Update)

At **3:00am** the EOC was notified by Public Works Director that:

- The rain has stopped
- The storm surge appears to have ended
- Water levels in all flooded areas have receded.

It appears that the main road does not have substantial damage and one lane is expected to be open at approximately **6:00am**.



Scenario Weather Forecast

*Forecast for Newfoundland issued by Environment Canada at **6:00am, Saturday April 9, 2022**. The next scheduled forecast will be issued at **11:30 am**.*

- South Coast, Newfoundland and Vicinity:
 - Rainfall: Rain has ended, approximately 65mm total accumulation
 - Southerly wind: subsided now at 40km/h gusting to 60km/h over open area. Temp 4C.
 - Storm surge warning has ended.



Simulation # 5

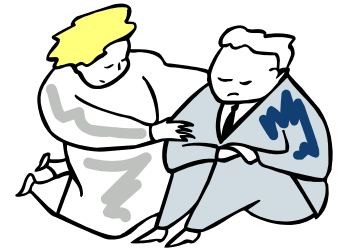
Storm Surge has Ended, and Water Levels Have Receded in Flooded Areas.



Discussion Points

Now that the rainfall & storm surge has ended, and water levels are receding, what are the next steps?

- Evacuation: order needs to be rescinded, by whom?
- Who determines if homes are safe to return to?
- What public safety factors must be dealt with before residents return home?
- Will the EOC remain in place to help coordinate residents returning home to their community?
- What, if any, health considerations should be made? (counselling, asthma, etc).
- Who determines when “State of Emergency” is over? Who deactivates the order?





Discussion Points (Cont'd)

Recovery is a key component of a disaster event:

- What are some of the recovery efforts that should take place pertaining to the impacts of the flood event? (clean up, rebuilding and repairing infrastructure, psychosocial).
- Who would let these efforts?
- Would the EOC remain active during the recovery stage? If so, would it be fully operational, or continue on an adhoc basis?
- After the flood event, would a debriefing be scheduled? Who would be invited to participate?



DEBRIEFING





Exercise Conclusion

- Emergency Planning is a continuous process and is an investment that often is not realized until an incident happens.
- Departments/agencies must work together to share skill sets.
- There is only one thing more difficult than planning for an emergency – and that is having to explain why you didn't.





Questions????

- Are there any other issues that you have identified that should be addressed?





Exercise Debriefing

- Rules:
 - Be nice
 - Don't throw pens or sharp objects
 - Be open and honest
 - Be brief



Thank – You!!

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