

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Approval Authority	President
Responsible Executive	Vice-President Administration
Related Policies / Legislation	Board Policy Direction on Risk Management (BPD-220)

PURPOSE

This policy is to establish the standards and necessary elements of the University of the Fraser Valley's (UFV) Emergency Management Program.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all University of the Fraser Valley departments, faculty, staff, and students at all its campuses.

DEFINITIONS

All-Hazards: An approach to emergency management which increases response efficiency by recognizing and integrating common emergency management elements across all hazard types, and then supplementing these common elements with hazard specific sub-components to fill gaps only as required.

BC Emergency Management System (BCEMS): A comprehensive response management framework based on the Incident Command System (ICS) that ensures a coordinated and organized response to emergencies and disasters. BCEMS is standard practice for all provincial government ministries and Crown corporations, and is recommended as best practice for local governments and other emergency management stakeholders in B.C.

Emergency Management: Organized, risk-based activities undertaken to prevent/mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from actual or potential emergencies.

Incident Command System (ICS): A framework and system designed to improve coordination efforts in response to any type of emergency. ICS is flexible, scalable, provides a clear hierarchy of leadership, employs a common frame of reference and language, and helps establish common objectives and action plans to achieve goals.

Preparedness: Activities taken prior to an event in order to be ready to respond to a disaster and manage its consequences (e.g. emergency response plans, training and exercise programs, and public awareness activities). Together with *Prevention/Mitigation*, this is also known as *Readiness*.

Prevention/Mitigation: Activities taken prior to an emergency or disaster to reduce the impacts from hazards and threats. Prevention/mitigation includes structural measures (e.g., seismic

retrofitting of buildings) and non-structural measures (e.g. building codes, insurance). Together with *Preparedness*, this is also known as *Readiness*.

Recovery: Activities taken after the immediate response to an emergency disaster to repair or restore conditions to an acceptable level (e.g., return of evacuees, reconstruction, and financial assistance). Long-term sustainable recovery programs undertaken with a view towards reducing disaster risks provide a valuable opportunity to develop and implement measures to strengthen resilience and build back better.

Resiliency: Resilience is the capacity of a system, community, or society to cope with, respond to, and recover from disturbances resulting from emergencies and disasters to reach and maintain an acceptable level of functioning. Resilience minimizes vulnerability and susceptibility to hazards and threats by creating or strengthening social and physical capacity in the human and built- environment.

Response: The phase during which actions are taken in response to an imminent or occurring emergency/disaster in order to manage its consequences (e.g., emergency communication, search and rescue, and evacuation).

POLICY

UFV is committed to protecting the well-being of its community members, safeguarding its intellectual property and facilities, and ensuring continuity of operations during an emergency. UFV is committed to creating safer, more resilient campuses with the ability to prevent/mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters.

As per this policy, the University of the Fraser Valley's Emergency Management Program will:

- Use an all-hazards approach to emergency management.
- Use the principles of the British Columbia Emergency Management System (BCEMS) and Incident Command System (ICS).
- Include response and recovery plans, and other plans as required.
- Provide a framework for enhancing UFV's operations during emergencies or disasters.
- Prepare, train, and exercise response team members to ensure they are able to respond effectively to emergencies.
- Inform and educate the UFV community on emergency procedures.
- Acquire and maintain the equipment necessary to ensure an appropriate response.
- Review and update this policy and associated plans as required.

REGULATIONS

This policy is implemented under the guidance of the:

Emergency Program Act

University Act

Fire Services Act

Workers Compensation Act

Occupational Health and Safety Regulation

UFV's Emergency Management Plan and all associated programs and standard operating procedures are maintained and stored by the Safety & Security Department.