

BRC CONFERENCE TRAINING DAY – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2025

3 streams to choose from (trainee stays in the stream for the full day):

	Emergency Operations Centre Practical Training	Wellness Centred Emergency Management Training	Business Continuity Training
AM	EOC Practical Skills and Tools Choose from one of five am focus sessions: - EOC Planning Section (with Steve Newton) - EOC Operations Section (with Kevin Skrepnek) - EOC Finance & Logistics (with Sandy Miller) - EOC Director (with Greg Solecki) - EOC Information & Liaison (with Ben Morgan) (Further Descriptions below).	Cultivating Safe Spaces: Wellness Centred Emergency Management Facilitators: Kayla Pepper, and Ian Foss Session Description: Introduces participants to the transformative Cultivating Safe Spaces (CSS) Framework developed by Naqsmist Storytellers Inc. This trauma-informed, transformational leadership framework equips emergency management professionals with practical tools to foster emotional safety, connection, and stress resilience—both within emergency programs and among those they serve. wellness. This session bridges the gap between traditional emergency management approaches and innovative, wellness-centred strategies—transforming how we lead ourselves and others through emergencies of any scale.	Building Resilience: Business Continuity Planning for Local Governments Facilitator: Clive Lunn, president and owner of Acredo Consulting Inc. Session Description: This full-day workshop will give you access to essential materials to assist you in developing a tailored business continuity program for your local government. You will learn how to measure impact and plan for a crisis as well as being guided to create an operational roadmap for continuity.
PM	Team Exercise EOC morning participants are placed into five cohorts to run through a scenario exercise, providing them with a safe and fun space to practice with the tools and insights of the morning focus sessions.	Re-Energizing an Exhausted EOC Team and Reducing Burnout Facilitator: Sybille Sanderson Session Description: Exhaustion and burnout are both physical and mental. Ideally we come into the EOC prepared for the long hours, challenging circumstances and decision-making. With climate change, we often do not get time to ramp up or recover. EOC responses and recovery operations can turn into weeks, months and maybe even years. What can we do to reduce burnout and re-energize ourselves and our EOC teams? This workshop demonstrates a variety of techniques for re-energizing our mental and physical systems and dealing with challenging issues in the moment to learn and experience practical ways to deal with the struggles of long hours dealing with challenging situations. The workshop will combine Emotional Freedom Techniques (EFT Tapping) and Donna Eden Energy Medicine exercises. Participants will experience at least 5 different techniques to re-energize and process challenging issues to encourage better decision-making.	

EOC Practical Skills and Tools – Session Descriptions

1. EOC Planning Section (with Steve Newton)

Steve Newton will deliver this comprehensive workshop on the EOC Planning Section. Steve has worked in the various functional elements of the Planning function at both the tactical and strategic levels. A major component of this workshop will address the Planning Sections' role to coordinate EOC management by objectives, he will present on the use of status reports and the EOC Action Plan. Steve will introduce the use of the ICS concept of PPOST (Priorities, Problems, Objectives, Strategies and Tactics) in the context of an EOC's transition from response to recovery planning and operations. Other emphasis will be Steve's discussion regarding pre-planning and re-entry planning for evacuations and the implementation of Declarations of State of Local Emergency under the Emergency Disaster Management Act to acquire extraordinary authority in crises. Steve will present additional workshop topics including critical infrastructure assurance, components of a good situation map, the Situation Unit and documentation management best practices.

2. EOC Operations Section (with Kevin Skrepnek)

This course explores the essential functions and responsibilities of the Operations Section during an emergency response in an EOC. Learners will explore how to translate evolving intelligence into actionable plans, coordinate tactical requests, and facilitate effective evacuation and re-entry processes.

With a strong focus on the connection between field activity and planning intelligence, participants will look at damage assessment processes and challenges, the integration of impact data into recovery strategies, and the integration of Emergency Support Services (ESS) into operational decisions.

This course emphasizes coordination across agencies and disciplines—including responder intel, on-the-ground verification (ground truthing), and situational complexities that affect planning and operations.

Key topics include:

- Defining the role and responsibilities of Operations in the BC EOC context*
- Managing evacuations, from strategic objectives to tactical execution*
- Integrating the ESS branch into operations effectively*
- Conducting and integrating damage / impact assessments into re-entry and recovery planning*
- Coordinating on-scene responder intel and ground truthing to validate operational decisions*
- Navigating multi-source, real-time information to support decision-making in complex emergencies*

3. EOC Finance & Logistics (with Sandy Miller)

Explore the complex landscape of resource requests, cost tracking, and resource coordination during emergency operations. Participants will examine the full cycle of Resource Requests (RR) and Emergency Authorization Forms (EAF), including lessons learned from systemic challenges. Learners will gain proficiency in monitoring burn rates across single and multi-jurisdictional EOCs, ensuring transparency and fiscal accountability.

Key topics include:

- *Understanding and managing internal, external, and provincial resource requests*
- *Deconstructing the RR ↔ EAF loop and avoiding bureaucratic pitfalls*
- *Tracking burn rates and operational costs in real time*
- *Securing compensation for volunteer tactical operations*
- *Implementing robust daily cost reporting practices to meet EMCR standards in multijurisdictional events*

Whether you're working in a local EOC or coordinating across provincial lines, this course helps demystify financial processes to keep operations running smoothly and responsibly.

4. EOC Director (with Greg Solecki)

In today's complex disaster environments—it's about people, communication, and cultural accountability. This course empowers emergency management leaders to build and sustain high-performing response teams in high-pressure settings while navigating the critical interface with Elected Officials. Participants will develop strategies to manage sensitive information across response, recovery, and reconciliation phases, with an emphasis on transparency and intergovernmental trust. The course explores the mental health and wellness of Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) personnel, emphasizing sustainable leadership and team cohesion during prolonged events. Learners will also examine the evolving role of Elected Officials within the Incident Command System (ICS), including guidance on working with or without a State of Local Emergency (SOLE). Grounded in global and Indigenous frameworks—from the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)—this course equips participants with tools to incorporate inclusive emergency governance.

Key topics include:

- *Leading resilient, high-functioning teams under crisis conditions*
- *Managing information flow and expectations with Elected Officials*
- *Promoting mental health and wellness in the EOC environment*
- *Understanding ICS integration for elected leadership*
- *Applying the Sendai Framework and UNDRIP in operational planning*
- *Operating effectively with or without a declared SOLE*

5. EOC Information & Liaison (with Ben Morgan)

In emergencies, how we communicate can be as critical as what we do. This course offers emergency management professionals the tools and insights to communicate clearly, confidently, and compassionately under pressure. Grounded in neuroscience, participants will explore how the human brain processes information during high-stress events—and how to use that understanding to craft messages that resonate with diverse audiences, including elected officials, response partners, and Indigenous communities.

Participants will learn the art of Message Mapping—a simple yet powerful framework for concise, structured messaging. The course also emphasizes the collaborative power of the "Team Behind the Message".

This course explores the distinctions between Information and Liaison roles in an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and includes Indigenous Engagement principles and actionable guidance for respectful, rights-based collaboration during crisis situations. Whether you're in the field or briefing in the EOC, this course equips you with the science and strategy to communicate with clarity, empathy, and impact.

Key topics include:

- *Applying neuroscience to high-stress communication*
- *Using Message Mapping to navigate public concern*
- *Building and empowering the messaging team*
- *Clarifying Information vs Liaison functions in the EOC*
- *Practicing meaningful Indigenous engagement during emergencies*