

Accessing Emergency Support Services During Evacuation

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First Nations Health and Wellness Conference

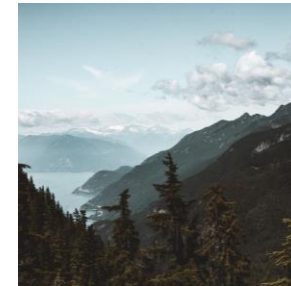
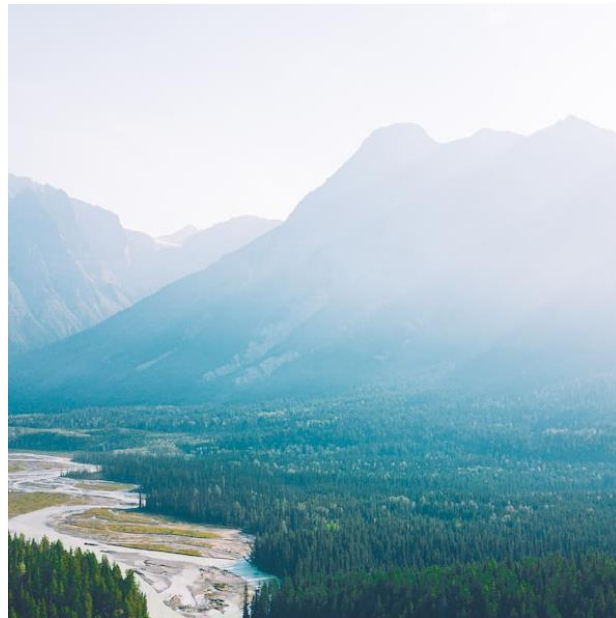
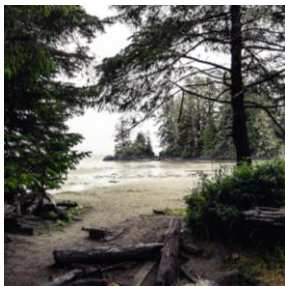
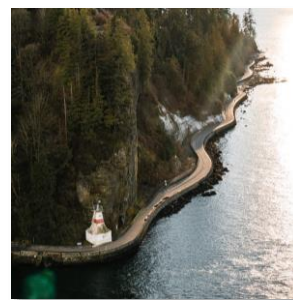
Wednesday, April 5 @ 2:45 – 4:00 pm



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Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge with gratitude the territories on which we live, learn and work on, and encourage you to reflect on the territory you are participating from today



Overview

PRESENTATION

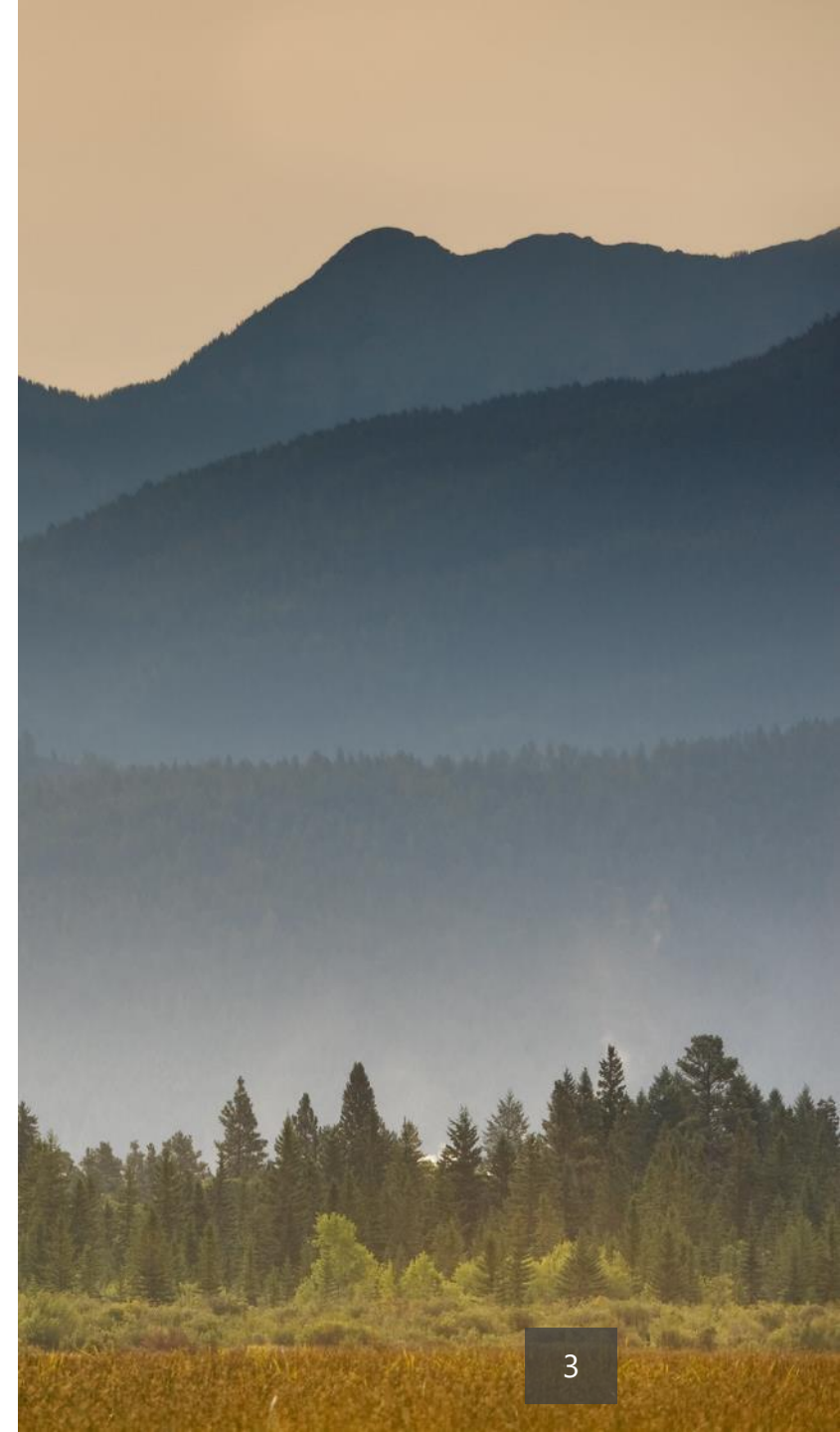
- Strategic context
- What is ESS?
- What is new with the ESS?
- Evacuee Registration and Assistance Tool (ERA)
- Key partnerships
- Policies
 - Community Navigators
 - Cultural Activity Locations

DIALOGUE

- 1-2-4-all



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Context for Change

- Changing Climate
- Increasing scope, scale and frequency of emergencies
 - Consecutive and overlapping floods/fires
- First Nations 'lived experiences'
 - Atmospheric River Events, Fires in Lytton



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EM Modernization in BC

- Prioritizing collaborative relationships with Indigenous partners and communities
 - 'All of Community' and 'Community Centered' approach
 - FNHA LoU partnership
- DRIPA Compliance



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ESS Vision Statement

Emergency Support Services (ESS) is a provincial program delivered by First Nation governments and local authorities that strives to meet the basic needs of British Columbians impacted by disasters by providing short-term support in a compassionate manner



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What does an ESS response look like?

- **Level 1** – localized event managed within First Nation Government or Local Authority's resources, like a single house fire
 - **Level 2** – requires full use of First Nation Government or Local Authority's resources, like a fire in an apartment complex
 - **Level 3** – exceeds a First Nation Government or Local Authority's capacity to respond and requires assistance from neighbouring jurisdictions or the Province
-
- Reception centres can be activated for level 2 and 3 events



ESS provides supports for...

- Needs Assessment
- Typically available for 72 hours and designed to cover:
 - ✓ Lodging
 - ✓ Food
 - ✓ Clothing
 - ✓ Incidentals like toothbrush, diapers, over the counter medication
- Traditionally a referral-based program that relied on paper form
- ERA – Evacuee Registration and Assistance Tool





Evacuee Registration and Assistance Tool (ERA)

- Less time filling out paperwork
- Interac® e-Transfer
- Online supplier portal
- Data enter paper files
- Remote extensions
- Remote mutual aid
- Virtual service

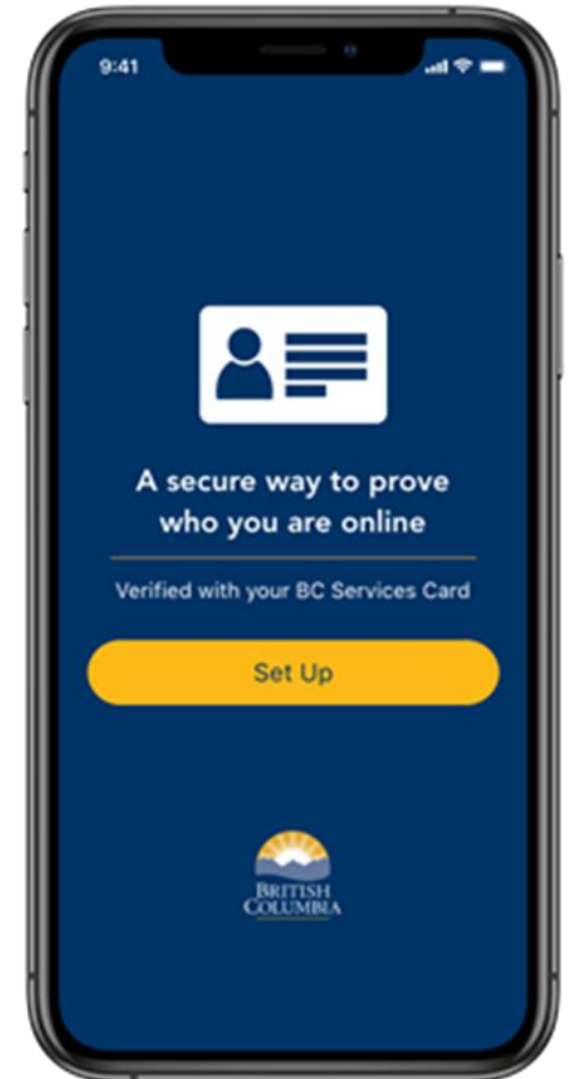


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ERA & Interac® e-Transfer

What is it	What it is NOT
Money sent to eligible evacuees by text message or email	NOT a direct deposit where bank account numbers are required
Can be used for food, clothing and incidental supports	CANNOT be used for lodging, transportation or billeting
An option to empower eligible evacuees to make decisions on how to best support themselves and their families	The only way to provide supports. Referrals will always be an option.

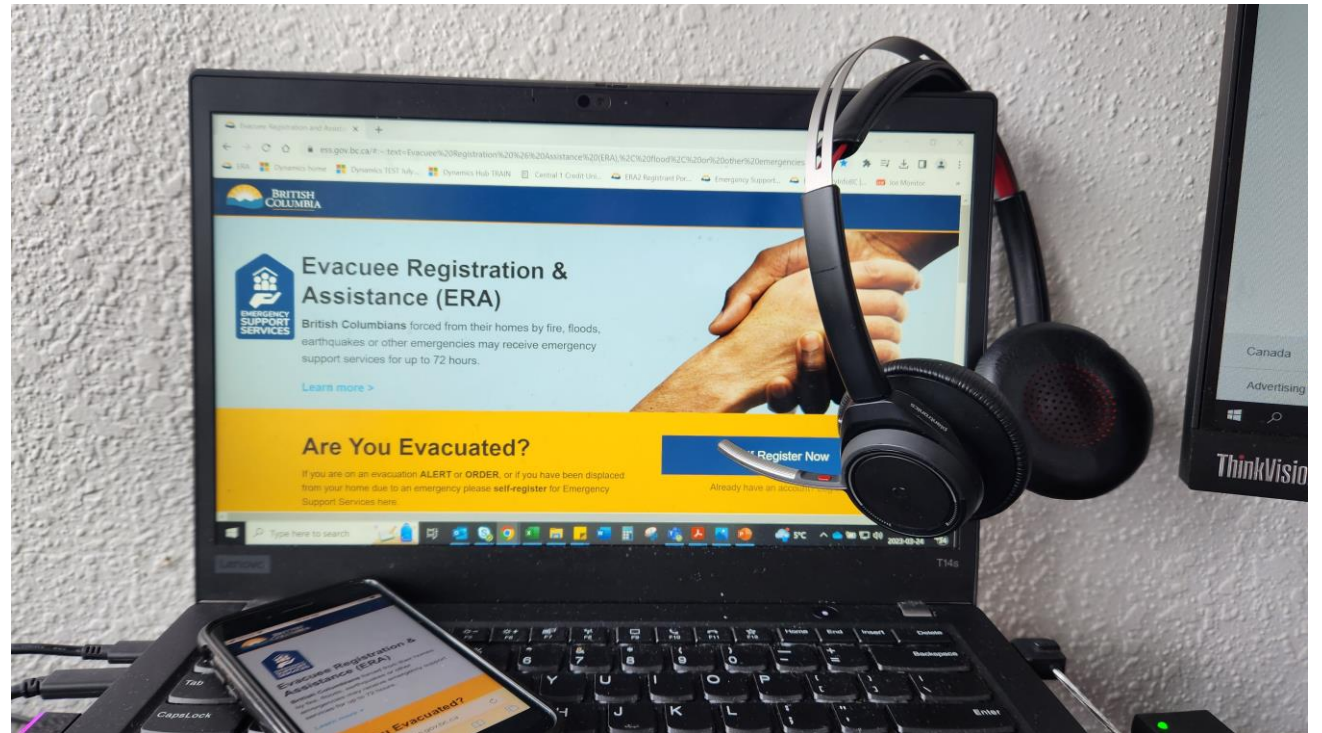


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How ERA is being used?

- 2021 Wildfire and Atmospheric River events
- Nanaimo fully virtual
- 2022 Hazard Season remote aid by EMCR staff
- 2022 apartment fire extensions



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How your community can prepare



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Traditional Foods, medicines and/or special needs

- Elders/community members with specific needs
- Activities for younger generation
- Pet care



Mutual Aid Agreements

- Preferred suppliers
- Specific service providers

Critical Community Ceremonial objects

- Cultural & Spiritual Care
- Cultural Activity Location Services

Unique skills, resources, resilience within each community

- Transportation
- Security
- Long houses for lodging



Songhees Wellness Centre

First Nations Community Navigators

- What are Community Navigators?
 - Main point of contact for communities
 - [Link to policy](#)
- Who can apply?
 - Evacuating community or Host community
- How to apply?
 - Through EMCR Regional Offices



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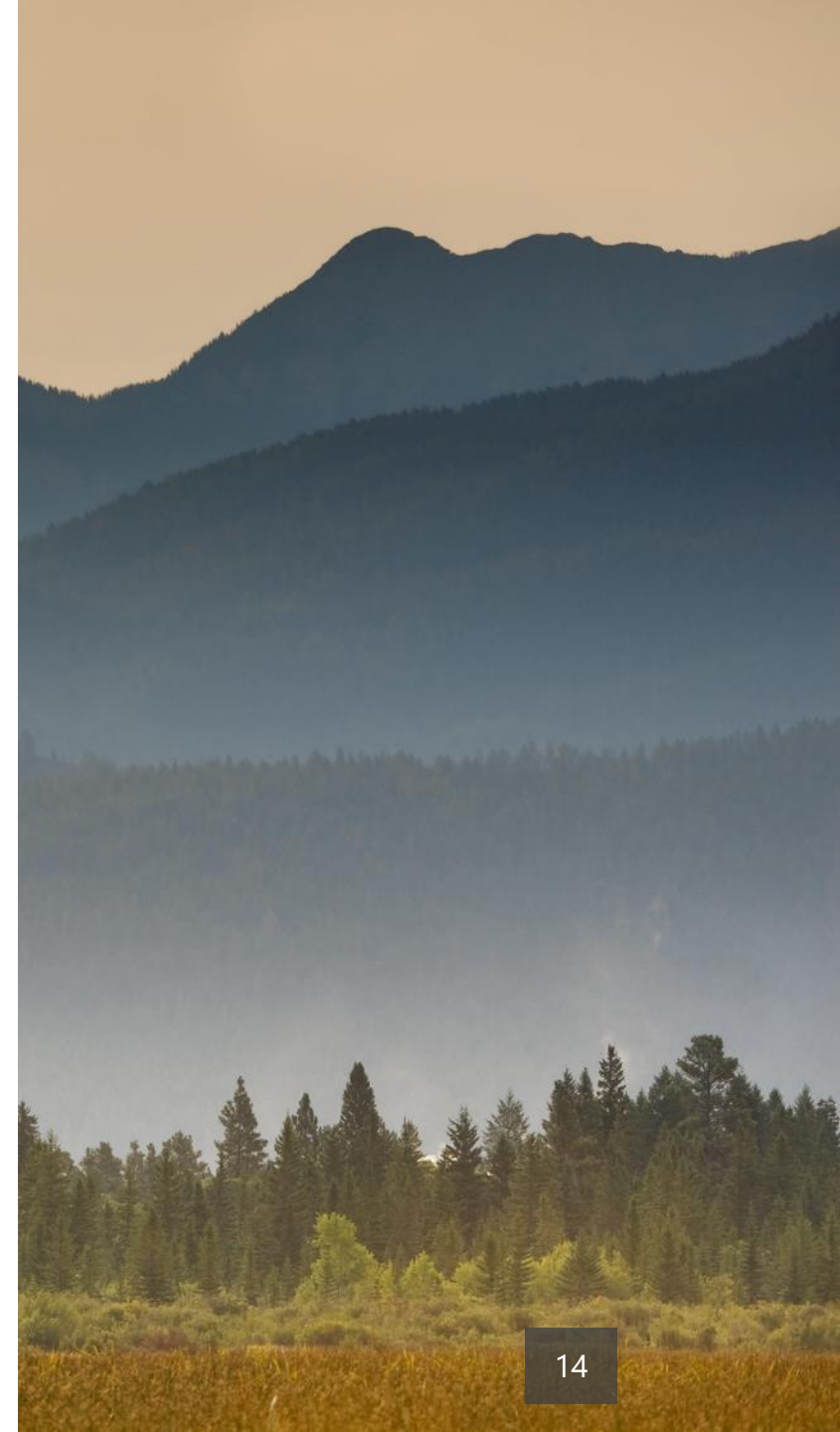


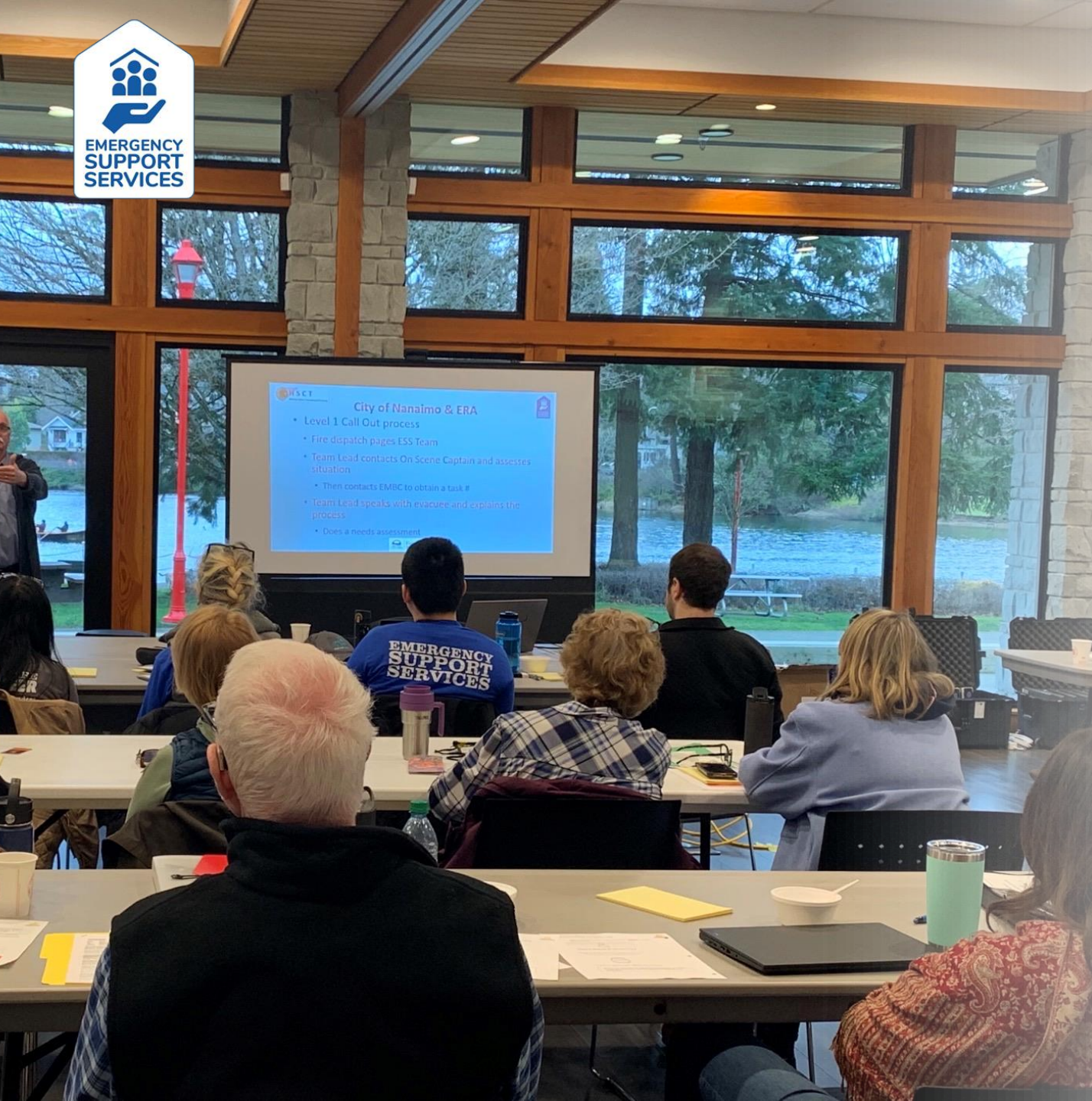
Cultural Activities Location Support

- Spaces for evacuees to gather
 - cultural, health and wellness support
- Spaces determined by communities
 - e.g. Friendship Centers
- Costs covered include venue rental
- [Link to policy](#)



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Helpful ESS links

- ESS ERA Homepage - <https://ess.gov.bc.ca/>
- [Responder Resources](#) -
 - ESS Forms,
 - Guides and Manuals,
 - Program foundation and team resources
- [Launch ESS and ERA Onboarding](#)
 - Starting an ESS team
 - Evacuee Registration & Assistance tool
 - Onboarding to the ERA tool
- [BC Services Card App](#) - Download the app
- [JIBC](#) – ESS training – online, hybrid and in-person training
- Modernization team
essmodernization@gov.bc.ca



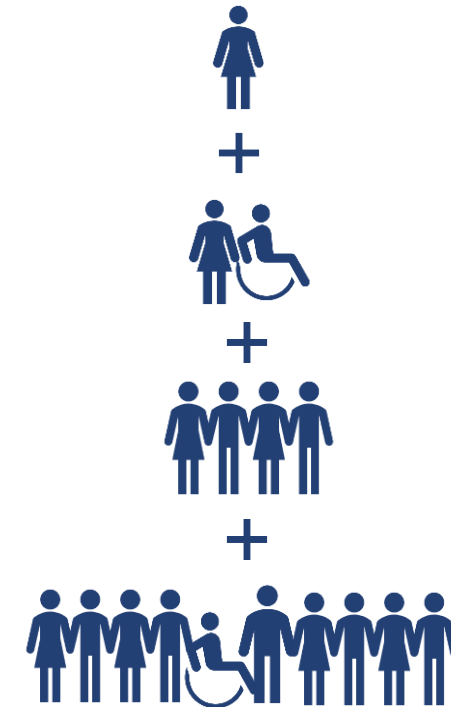
DIALOGUE

Drawing on our collective wisdom

DIALOGUE: 1 – 2 – 4 – ALL

- 1** – Silent reflection on the question by individuals (*2 mins*)
- 2** – Generate ideas in pairs, building on ideas from self-reflection (*4 mins*)
- 4** – Share and develop ideas from pairs in foursomes (*8 mins*)
- All** – Each group shares one idea that stood out in their conversation with the entire group (*10 mins*)

Question: What can be done to make Reception Centres and Group Lodgings more culturally safe for Indigenous people?



Thank You



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