

7.2a-1

DATE: April 16, 2009

SUBJECT: **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEEK - MAY 3 TO 9, 2009.**

FROM: Norma Trim, Acting Chief Financial Officer
and Commissioner of Corporate Services

RECOMMENDATION

That the week of May 3-9, 2009 be proclaimed “Emergency Preparedness Week” in the Regional Municipality of Peel.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The week of May 3-9, 2009 has been declared Emergency Preparedness Week by Public Safety Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services.
- The Region of Peel is planning on participating in activities in Brampton, Caledon, and Mississauga.
- In addition, the Region of Peel will be hosting a series of events to assist staff in developing personal and family emergency preparedness plans as well as vehicle emergency kits.

DISCUSSION

1. Background

Emergency Preparedness Week was introduced in 1995 by Public Safety Canada to build public awareness of emergency preparedness principles and systems. This objective is achieved through the common and collaborative efforts of all levels of government and other organizations in the broader emergency management community.

Since 1995 Emergency Preparedness Week has garnered widespread support as the premier event related to individual, community, provincial, and national preparedness for emergencies and disasters. The Region has participated in Emergency Preparedness Week displays and activities for several years along with other first responders and community stakeholders.

a) Education and Outreach

As part of its mandate, Peel Regional Emergency Program (PREP) is responsible for the on going education of citizens and Regional staff regarding Emergency preparedness. In 2008, PREP facilitated 39 presentations [e.g. Canada Revenue Agency, Regional long-term care centres, the 2824 Army Cadets – Cadet Organization Police School (COPS) and various private companies] reaching approximately 4,800 citizens and staff.

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PREP also developed unique public education campaigns, including a quarterly Vehicle Emergency Kit poster campaign.

The main objective of the quarterly vehicle Emergency Kit poster campaign was to easily facilitate the creation of season appropriate emergency kits, with each poster identifying items to be included in the kit.

PREP also developed the Emergency Food Plan (in collaboration with Public Health) and the Master Supply Checklist, in order to assist citizens and in developing seven day personal and family emergency preparedness kits.

2. Proposed Direction

The theme for the 2008 Emergency Preparedness (E.P.) Week is, "Is Your Family Prepared? Develop Your Personal and Family Emergency Preparedness Kit." This will serve as the focus for Regional activities during E.P. Week.

- i) The Peel Region Emergency Program will be supporting the official Emergency Preparedness Week launch, facilitated by the City of Mississauga this year. The launch will be held at Sheridan Mall on Tuesday May 5, 2009. Regional staff, including Emergency Management staff, will be on site to answer questions and interact with visitors of all ages. First responders and response vehicles will also be present at the event.
- ii) The Region will also support the City of Brampton events. Key events will include a formal launch event at City Hall as well as displays and presentations at various community centres.
- iii) The Region will also support the Town of Caledon official launch at Town Hall.
- iv) The Peel Region Emergency Program will also set-up a static display for Emergency Preparedness Week in the main lobby of 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A. PREP will also be delivering a series of Lunch and Learn sessions to staff and posting awareness-building information and articles on the Region of Peel website.

CONCLUSION

Through a cooperative approach with our community partners including the Cities of Brampton and Mississauga, and the Town of Caledon, Canadian Red Cross, Emergency Management Ontario, Peel Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES), and Peel Regional Police; the Region of Peel will help local citizens of all ages learn how to prepared their families for any type of emergency. These events will assist PREP in meeting our mandate to increase public awareness of emergency preparedness and further strengthening Peel's reputation as a disaster resilient community.

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Norma Trim
Acting Chief Financial Officer
and Commissioner of Corporate Services

Approved for Submission:



D. Szwarc, Chief Administrative Officer



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c. Legislative Services

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Proclamation

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEEK

May 3 to 9, 2009

WHEREAS each year thousands of Canadians are affected by emergencies;

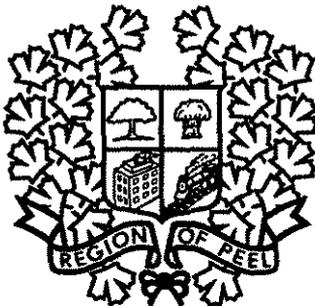
AND WHEREAS, these situations have abnormal impact on life, health and property;

AND WHEREAS, people are often not adequately prepared for such events;

AND WHEREAS, the Region of Peel and its area municipalities have established emergency management programs in accordance with the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* to plan for, mitigate, respond to and recover from emergencies or disasters that may affect the safety and well-being of the residents of the Region of Peel;

AND WHEREAS a vital part of an emergency management program is to inform and educate the public about emergencies and how to prepare for them;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the week of May 3 to 9, 2009 be proclaimed **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEEK** in the Regional Municipality of Peel.



Emil Kolb
Regional Chair