

EXTREME COLD WEATHER PLAN

For the City of Quesnel

May 15, 2026



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction.....	2
Health Effects of Extreme Cold	3
Who is Most at Risk from Extreme Cold?.....	3
Types of Shelter Supports for People during Extreme Cold	5
Current State of Sheltering in Quesnel.....	6
2. Objective and Scope	8
3. Partnerships and Coordination	9
Potential Locations.....	10
4. Working towards Developing and Implementing a Plan	11
Pre-season Planning.....	11
Trigger Criteria & Emergency Response	12
5. Implementation – Emergency Warming Centres	16
Staffing and Operation	16
Resource Allocation	16
6. Appendix A: Communications Strategy	18
Key Objectives of the Communications Strategy.....	18
Communications Associated with the Plan and its Implementation	18
7. Appendix B: Responsibilities of Key Partners	22
8. Appendix C: Environmental Scan	26
9. Appendix D: Community Assets	29
10. Appendix E: Eligible Response Costs – from Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness	30
11. References.....	38

1. INTRODUCTION

Quesnel, BC, located in the Cariboo region of Northern BC on the traditional and unceded territory of the Lhtako Dené, Nazko, Lhoosk'uz Dené, and ʔEsdilagh Nations, is no stranger to the challenges posed by extreme weather conditions. On the main route through BC to the Yukon, the region often experiences severe cold during the winter months.

Quesnel faces several interconnected challenges that significantly impact extreme cold weather planning. Although it remains a relatively affordable community by BC standards, many residents still struggle with housing affordability, and homelessness is a pressing issue. These vulnerabilities are compounded by a rapidly aging population, a growing number of individuals using illicit substances, and a shortage of emergency and long-term shelter space.

The combination of long winters, heavy snowfall, and prolonged below-freezing temperatures heightens the risks for these vulnerable groups and there is an urgent need for a coordinated, accessible cold weather response plan that prioritizes shelter for the most vulnerable, transportation support, and community partnerships.

Between the 2020/21 and 2024/25 seasons, from November through March, the community recorded an average of 81 days/season with minimum temperatures below –5°C, and an average of 41 days per season falling below –10°C. January and February consistently see the highest number of cold days, while March typically shows a steady decrease in cold weather as winter transitions to spring. While cold spells are common throughout the winter months, the most severe conditions are concentrated in mid-winter, and the number of extreme cold days in Quesnel can vary significantly from year to year.

With climate change, average winter temperatures in the region are projected to increase over time, and fewer frost days (days where the minimum temperature is below 0°C) are expected.^{i,ii} In recent years there have been relatively warmer winter temperatures in Quesnel, which can provide more energy for winter storms, making them more powerful and unpredictable.ⁱⁱⁱ All this climate data should be seen in the context of social factors that put more people at risk of vulnerability in the face of poor weather.

This report outlines the next steps required to action an Extreme Cold Weather Plan for the City of Quesnel - with the aim of protecting the city's most vulnerable citizens from the impacts of extreme cold weather.

This report is the culmination of almost a year's worth of work done to understand the needs of the City of Quesnel and community partners and develop a response to support people during extreme cold conditions. Our team worked with City staff to:

- Identify and review relevant background policies and resources (including legislation);
- Research the ways to proactively mitigate negative health impacts of extreme cold among vulnerable community members;

- Examine and learn from the work of other municipalities across Canada, especially from small, northern cities; and,
- Engaged with 50 people in Quesnel (in person and virtually) through focus groups, interviews and community outreach.

Health Effects of Extreme Cold

The two major health risks of extreme cold are [frost bite](#) and [hypothermia](#). Cold weather (both moderate and extreme) has also been linked to higher rates of [premature death and hospitalization](#) from [several causes](#) such as increased spread of infection, and mechanisms that lead to cardiovascular and respiratory events. These causes have been shown to have [a delayed effect](#), occurring several days and up to several weeks after cold weather exposure. There are also indirect health impacts when individuals spend more time indoors that may thereby increase [their exposure to indoor health hazards](#).

A normal body temperature is approximately 37°C (98.6°F). When core body temperature drops by 1 or 2°C (1.8 or 3.6°F), or the body is exposed to severe cold, there is increased risk of cold-related injury. The most common cold-related injuries are hypothermia and frostbite.

When the ambient temperature falls below 10°C (50°F) and a person is exposed to cold air for long periods, their body temperature can drop and cause hypothermia. In some instances, hypothermia can even occur at temperatures warmer than 10°C (50°F) when combined with exposure to wet and windy weather.

Who is Most at Risk from Extreme Cold?

While anyone can be at risk, some people are [more vulnerable than others](#), including those people^{iv}:

- [Experiencing homelessness](#) (people who are unsheltered, unhoused, or living in places not intended for permanent habitation),
- Who use substances, including alcohol, that change their ability to feel the effects of cold exposure or to respond to cold conditions,
- Who spend long periods of time outdoors for work or recreation,
- [Living in housing without adequate insulation or without the ability to generate enough heat](#) (also known as [energy poverty](#)),
- With disabilities, limited mobility, certain medical conditions such as diabetes, peripheral neuropathy (muscle weakness, tingling, numbness), and diseases affecting the blood vessels,
- Taking certain medications, including beta-blockers, and
- Over 60 years of age, infants, and young children.

From community engagement, we learned that the people who are using shelter space in Quesnel to stay warm during extreme cold are mostly people who are unhoused, but not exclusively. Preparing for extreme cold conditions is not just about supporting individuals

without housing. There are vulnerable people in the community who may be hidden until circumstances (like extreme cold) push them to a point of needing to seek support.

Some households may lose heat during winter storms, while others living in marginal or energy-poor housing may be unable to maintain safe indoor temperatures due to the inability to pay for adequate heating. People who rely on space heaters in older homes, or “who are one crisis away from being unhoused”, were also identified as at-risk.

“[It’s] not just about homeless people – we don’t know how many people are living in inadequate housing who may all of a sudden need access to warming shelters.”

In 2020, the average poverty rate in Quesnel (based on the [Market Basket Measure](#)), was 9.3%, 0.5% less than the provincial average. However, poverty rates among the 18-24 and 55-64 age categories were significantly higher than the provincial average.^v

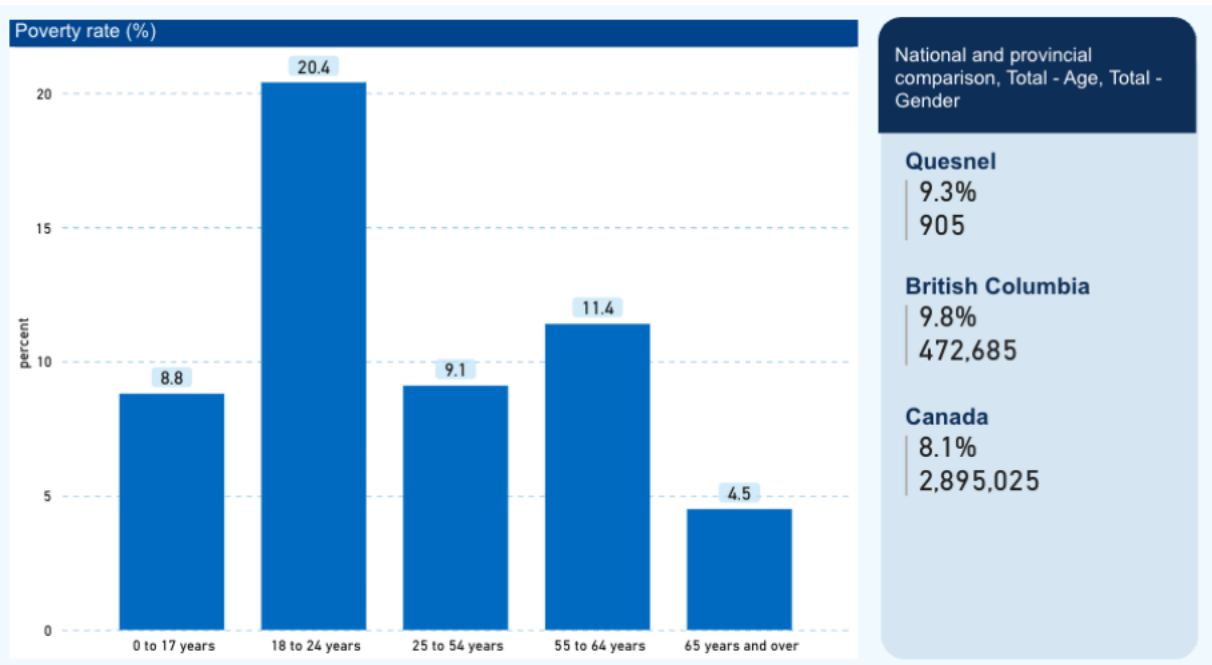


Figure 1: Quesnel Poverty Status by Age. Statistics Canada. Individual Market Basket Measure poverty status, 2020. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/71-607-x/71-607-x2023025-eng.htm>

Given the population trends across Canada, we can assume that the poverty rate since 2020 has increased, as it has elsewhere. Because of the income support programs put in place to help Canadians affected by workplace shutdowns due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the poverty rate fell in 2020. It has since increased each year, as support programs have ended and inflation has increased.

The current unemployment rate in Quesnel is at 10.9%, which is 4.6% higher than the provincial average.^{vi}

The [2025 Homeless Count for Quesnel](#) provides an estimate Point-in-Time count of people experiencing homelessness. We know that there are many individuals experiencing homelessness and this count represents the minimum number on a given day in the community. This most recent count has identified 131 individuals living in Quesnel that are experiencing homelessness. That number is likely underestimated.

Types of Shelter Supports for People during Extreme Cold

There are several types of centres that set up to protect and support people during emergencies, including extreme cold. It is important to note the distinctions among these types of services, in part because they are funded by different organizations.

BC Housing supports emergency shelters serving people experiencing homelessness. Year-round shelters are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week throughout the year, regardless of the weather, and provide services and meals to guests. [Temporary winter shelters](#) are open every night from October/November to March/April, and many operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with meals provided.

At this point, the only year-round shelter in Quesnel is Seasons House Emergency Shelter, operated by the [Quesnel Shelter & Support Society](#). They offer emergency shelter beds, transitional housing units, referrals to support and recovery, and a homelessness prevention program.

Outside the purview of BC Housing, **emergency warming centres** are emergency response locations set up by local governments and/or First Nations to temporarily support people during a cold weather event. These centres are typically operated only during the day and there is potential for incremental cost recovery through the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR). Emergency warming centres are not intended to be permanent shelters. The table below offers a quick summary of the differences between year-round shelters, temporary winter shelters and emergency warming centres.

Table 1: Types of Shelter Supports Offered during Extreme Cold

Character- istic	Year- Round Shelters	Temporary Winter Shelters	Emergency Warming Centres
Lead organization	Non-profit organizations in the community	Non-profit organizations in the community	Local government and/or First Nation
Operating hours	Open every night, year-round	Open every night, October 1 - April 30	Daytime Open when an extreme weather alert has been issued

Character- istic	Year- Round Shelters	Temporary Winter Shelters	Emergency Warming Centres
Funding	BC Housing	BC Housing	Ministry of Emergency Management & Climate Readiness (through cost recovery)

Financial Assistance to Operate Emergency Warming Centres during Extreme Weather

Communities can request reimbursement from the EMCR for some expenses related to emergency warming centres. Reimbursement is available when:

- Environment and Climate Change Canada issues an extreme weather alert (such as Warnings, Watches, Advisories, and Special Weather Statements), or
- The thresholds for action outlined in the community’s cold weather response plan are met.

Reimbursement is only approved when the upcoming weather event is outside the region’s normal range of weather. See the explanation above about EMCR Policy

5.14 and the [Eligibility Assessment for Extreme Weather Emergencies](#) document. The table in Appendix E offers a high-level overview of eligible expenses; please confirm all information with the more detailed documents from EMCR.

EMCR suggests that local governments submit an Expense Authorization Form (EAF) to them for approval. The EAF provides the details of the expenditure, its rationale, and an estimate of the total expense for the response activity.

Current State of Sheltering in Quesnel

“Can’t just take down tents and put out fires when there’s nowhere to go.”

A common theme that arose from engagement was temporary sheltering measures people are taking in Quesnel during cold weather periods. Due to a lack of appropriate and available indoor sheltering spaces, individuals are sheltering in spaces that are not safe and are putting themselves (and others) at risk.

Engagement participants noted that people are setting up tents near service facilities (e.g., Echen, Green Hope, the Overdose Prevention Site), camping along the river or in bushes, or sleeping in vehicles or abandoned homes. Participants also noted that unhoused or precariously housed folks, desperate for shelter, are putting themselves in vulnerable situations, staying with individuals who might take advantage of them. Youth have no options for overnight shelter in the city, and engagement participants recognized that for their safety, should likely be housed apart from older men and people with mental health or substance use issues.

Sheltering in building alcoves, dumpsters, and under awnings such as bank terminals or public washrooms when they're open also happens during cold weather. In extreme cold, community organizations have felt pressured to use other spaces for ad hoc overnight space for vulnerable residents, including spaces on the floor.

Inadequate Space to Meet Needs during Extreme Cold

“Seems like an almost impossible task. Need a space, staff, a non-profit to run, etc.”

The city is dealing with an aging housing stock, and limited affordable housing options for the middle class, leaving even fewer options for physical buildings to be repurposed, rezoned, or leased seasonally. In addition, the sporadic nature of emergency warming centre activation means that space is not needed consistently throughout the year, or even through the winter, and landlords are reluctant to lease space for a few months, when they can find year-round tenants. Due to a general lack of space, there is also competition for the spaces and buildings that could be converted for shelter use.

Finding an existing location that provides enough space in Quesnel, that is readily available when needed, that is accessible to vulnerable populations, and that includes the amenities to support a warming centre response is proving to be a difficult task.

When engagement participants were asked to suggest where a daytime warming centre could be located in the city, few could name new options beyond what has already been used in previous years – the Native Friendship Centre (unavailable consistently or for the 2025/26 season due to renovations), Echen Hall (often rented out for events), and CSUN (no longer running).

2. OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE

The key objective of this project was to develop an Extreme Cold Weather Plan that supports the City of Quesnel, as a regulated local authority under the Emergency and Disaster Management Act, to lead and/or participate in a coordinated response to extreme cold events during winter.

That Plan aimed to provide guidance and tools during extreme cold weather to support:

- Provision of access to daytime emergency warming centres, including transportation;
- Coordination of emergency response between the City and community partners;
- Provision of targeted support to vulnerable populations;
- Ongoing risk and safety communication with the public, including recommendations to stay safe during cold weather events; and,
- Recovery of eligible expenses, through the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR).

It was also meant to guide the implementation of emergency response actions for extreme cold by City staff, complementing the City's other emergency planning and emergency management work, including plans to open and implement Emergency Operation Centres, as needed. That Plan is consistent with [current guidance from the EMCR](#) that recommends that local governments and First Nations create cold weather response plans that outline how they will respond to cold weather conditions. It also adheres to the new [Emergency and Disaster Management Act](#) that replaced the Emergency Program Act in 2023.

However, we found we could not accomplish that essential goal. The development of a comprehensive Extreme Cold Weather Plan assumes that there are locations available in the community to act as emergency warming centres, and that staffing and other resources are available to run centres during extreme weather. As described above, those locations do not exist in Quesnel, at least consistently. Therefore, we have organized the rest of this report as a guide for what could be possible, when and if locations for emergency warming centres can be identified in Quesnel.

At this stage, our focus needs to be on identifying the issues pertaining to the support of vulnerable people in the community and working towards a solid plan to provide needed supports, regardless of the weather conditions.

To meet that challenge, the City of Quesnel will need to work with the provincial government, community organizations, First Nations and other partners to find permanent housing solutions for vulnerable people in the community.

“Don’t want to be panicky every year, we need a long-term plan for cold weather planning.”

3. PARTNERSHIPS AND COORDINATION

Community partnerships play an essential role in the successful implementation of the Extreme Cold Weather Plan in the City of Quesnel. The local knowledge and connections of partner agencies and service providers help ensure that information and resources reach a wide public audience, including the people who will be most impacted by extreme cold. By collaborating with local community service providers, Indigenous organizations, and health services, community partners enhance the capacity to monitor conditions, deliver timely and consistent messaging, and provide feedback to improve response strategies based on identified needs. This collective approach strengthens the overall resilience of the community during extreme weather events, helping to safeguard public health and safety.

There are community partnerships in Quesnel that are already strong and well established, with the small number of community and service providers demonstrating a clear understanding of one another's roles, capacities, and areas of responsibility. This collaborative culture enables organizations to coordinate efficiently during periods of extreme cold, reducing duplication and ensuring that support reaches those who need it most.

A key mechanism that enables this coordination is the **Good Neighbour Meeting**, a regular convening space where local agencies, City staff, and community partners come together to share updates, identify emerging challenges, and align their approaches. This structure provides a solid foundation for implementing the Extreme Cold Weather Plan, facilitating timely information-sharing, collective problem-solving, and a unified community response during severe cold weather events.

To identify locations that could serve as an emergency warming centre, and that could work in conjunction with other support services, including shelters, we recommend the following actions, to be done collaboratively with First Nations and local community organizations:

- In Summer 2026, bring together community partners to make decisions for the coming winter;
 - Debrief the operation (application, implementation, closing) of the temporary winter shelter that was open in early 2026, funded by BC Housing. What can be learned from that experience?
 - Use a mapping exercise to identify future sites for shelter and support services, including an emergency warming centre;
 - Identify one site that could be used for the 2026/27 Winter season, and outline what needs to happen to facilitate the use of that space in extreme cold conditions.
- Develop a short-term plan for next winter, including a space use agreement, identification of staff, purchase of supplies needed, plan for transportation to and from the space, etc.
- As part of a longer-term plan, investigate possible funding opportunities for a new building to offer support services for vulnerable community members.

- Provide staffing for the planning phase, ideally staff from community organizations that already have relationships with vulnerable community members;
- Clarify with EMCR about what expenses will be funded.

Potential Locations

When determining the location of an emergency warming centre the following considerations, that came from engagement with community partners, should be taken into account:

- Choose a consistent location for the season, so that vulnerable people know where to go;
- The warming centre should be in the downtown area, where those most impacted can be found;
- Choose a location that will offer appropriate amenities for comfort – washrooms, showers, sitting areas, a kitchen area for hot meal or beverage preparation, boot/glove dryers, etc.
- Offer privacy and safety measures – lockers for valuables, security staff, etc.

As an initial step, the following spaces have been identified as potential locations for an emergency warming centre in Quesnel. Please note that many of these locations have yet to be confirmed; in some cases, conversations with those organizations are ongoing.

- ECHEN Healing Society – 324 Hoy St. N
- North Star Church – 301 North Star Road
- Two Rivers Church – 214 Anderson Drive
- Quesnel Seniors Centre – 461 Carson Ave.
- Quesnel & District Arts and Recreation Centre – 500 North Star Road
- Quesnel Tillicum Society Native Friendship Centre – 319 North Fraser Dr.

Additional potential locations for warming centres will be added to this list as planning continues. Some potential locations (e.g. Quesnel Seniors Centre) could be considered for one population only (e.g. for seniors/Elders), rather than open to all populations. In addition, the use of these locations depends on strong relationships and formal agreements with external partners, which should be documented and updated on an ongoing basis.

While the above list relies heavily on partnership with local non-profit organizations, it is important that the City examine its potential role to offer warming centre services within its own properties. As noted in our environmental scan, many other communities have set up emergency warming centres in City-owned buildings, including recreation centres and libraries.

4. WORKING TOWARDS DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING A PLAN

Once a set of potential locations for shelters and emergency warming centres have been established in the community, the following process could guide the use of those centres during extreme cold conditions.

Early warning and activation protocols are key to having a coordinated extreme cold weather response and the following section provides a framework for the City to lead that response in Quesnel. The extreme cold weather response will require working with partners across the City and community partners (described in further detail in the Partnerships and Coordination section above), monitoring weather forecasts and alerts from Environment Canada, and issuing timely warnings when temperatures approach dangerous levels.

The following **response priorities** align with the BC Emergency Management System priorities and are intended to guide the City and community partners in responding to extreme cold situations:

- Protect the health and safety of responders, staff and volunteers
- Protect the health and safety of the public
- Protect critical infrastructure
- Support vulnerable populations
- Increase community wellness
- Reduce economic, social, and property losses
- Protect and limit damage to the environment

Pre-season Planning

Preparing and assessing the readiness of the community for the upcoming cold weather season and extreme cold events is an essential step in cold weather planning. It is an opportunity to assess the current need for cold weather supports in the community, resources available, and to address gaps or learnings from previous year(s).

The key actions during of pre-season planning include:

- Director of Emergency Services (or designate) will coordinate 1-2 pre-season planning meetings (suggested to be in June and October) with key interested and affected internal and external representatives. This should include key City staff/departments, community organizations, etc. who support the logistics of the cold weather plan. The role of the City is to act as a convener of essential community partnerships.
- Pre-season planning meetings should involve:
 - Review of the strengths/gaps of previous cold weather season
 - Review of previous, existing, and possible emergency warming centre locations;
 - Review of the most current eligibility criteria for EMCR funding and cost recovery;
 - Review of trigger temperature guidelines;
 - Maintain community partnerships and community supports;

- Discuss the City response actions and any changes in responsibilities/roles for City staff; and,
- Discuss community partner actions and any changes in responsibilities/roles.

Trigger Criteria & Emergency Response

The BC Health Effects of Anomalous Temperatures Coordinating Committee (BC HEAT Committee) recommends activating cold weather response plans when the daily low temperature is forecast to be 0°C or colder. Plans should also be activated at higher temperatures when the forecast includes wet, snowy, and/or windy conditions.

If extreme cold weather is forecast, provincial legislation requires that actions must be taken when the event is considered an “emergency.”

The following Extreme Cold Weather Response Summary Table outlines three stages of cold weather activation responses. While temperature is a key indicator for a cold weather response, it is also important to look at additional weather conditions such as wetness, wind, and snow, as described in the trigger criteria column.

Table 2: Quesnel Extreme Cold Weather Response Summary Table

Stage	Trigger Criteria	Response
Arrival of Winter Weather	Temperatures at 0°C or colder for a period of two or more consecutive weeks.	Public safety communication regarding winter safety/preparedness and community services. Let people know about temporary winter shelter (Oct-April), if it is open
Extreme Cold Emergency	Initiated when an extreme cold warning is issued by Environment Canada OR temperatures or windchills of -10°C or colder for two or more consecutive days and the forecast indicates that daily highs will substantially decrease day-over-day for three or more consecutive days. *Temperature may be higher if weather conditions are wet, snowy, or windy.	Open emergency warming centres, as needed. Public communication about: -activation of response, community assets - decreasing temperatures -temporary winter shelter (if open) Consider increasing hours of civic facilities Outreach to vulnerable populations and provide transportation to warming centres.
Deactivation	When information provided by Environment Canada that the period of extreme weather will be ending	Contact community partners to deactivate emergency warming centres Communicate deactivation to media, social media, City’s website

The release of a Cold Weather Notification will occur during periods where temperatures are forecasted to reach a threshold of 0°C or colder for a period of two or more consecutive weeks. Priority response actions include:

- Monitoring Environment Canada forecasts and keeping the community informed about temperatures – sign up for their [EC Alert emails](#).
- The distribution of public health communication regarding health and safety measures during cold weather.
- Communication to the public about community assets and services that are available
- Informing the public about the temporary winter shelter (and whether it is open). Clarifying opening dates, site hours, and location.

Roles and Responsibilities

- City of Quesnel Emergency Services department will lead the monitoring of Environment Canada forecasts and implement the appropriate response.
- City of Quesnel Communications department will lead the public awareness campaign (see Communication Strategy for more detailed information).

Extreme Cold Emergency

An Extreme Cold Emergency will be initiated when a [weather alert is issued by Environment Canada](#) OR at temperatures or windchills -10°C or colder for two or more consecutive days, and the forecast indicates that daily highs will substantially decrease day-over-day for three or more consecutive days. This stage might also include the activation of the City's Emergency Operations Centre.

**Please note that our consultation with community partners confirmed that people are at risk at warmer temperatures than -10°C, especially when the weather includes wind, rain or snow.*

Priority actions at this stage include:

- Communication to the public of lowering temperatures
- Open emergency warming centres, as needed and available. Ensure that those spaces are prepared to open with sufficient staffing and resources.
- Communication of overnight availability and information regarding temporary winter shelter funded through BC Housing.
- Distribution of information about community assets and available resources
- Consider increasing operating hours for civic facilities.
- Ensure that people who remain outside or do not wish to use warming centres have access to essential winter supplies like blankets, warm clothing, and food
- Provide a clear plan for potential transportation services to and from warming centres for those without access to private vehicles.

- Establish a point of contact for individuals in need of urgent help due to extreme cold conditions.
- Continue to communicate emergency cold weather assets and resources available to the public and community partners.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Designated City of Quesnel staff will lead the opening of the emergency warming centre(s).
- Community partners will open and operate emergency warming centres.
- Designated City authority will contact EMCR to request a Task Number. See the Ministry's [Policy 5.14 about Task Number Eligibility](#).
- Community Services and Development departments lead the coordination of supporting vulnerable community members who do not wish to use warming centres, in partnership with Northern Health, first responders, and community partners.
- Established City contact to lead the coordination of support to individuals/community partners who are reaching out.
- Communications department to lead the communications of additional resources available to the community and ways to stay safe in extreme cold (see Appendix A: Communication Strategy for more detailed information)

Deactivation

The City will deactivate a cold weather alert and corresponding response when the temperature and weather conditions improve so as they no longer reach pre-determined threshold temperatures or upon cancelation of extreme weather notification from Environment Canada. The deactivation process is influenced by the following factors:

- Temperatures are forecasted to rise above cold/extreme cold trigger criteria thresholds
- Actual temperatures for 3 days do not reach threshold AND are also not forecasted to reach threshold
- Decision aligns with Environment Canada weather criteria

Priority actions of the deactivation phase include:

- Contact locations to confirm deactivation readiness based on improved weather condition information from Environment Canada.
- Notify the public - Update the website, social media channels, and email service providers, shelter operators, and community partners/groups to notify the public that cold weather alert/emergency is no longer in effect - See communication strategy.
- Ongoing services -remind residents of ongoing community support services (e.g. meal programs and shelters) that remain available even after the extreme cold event ends.

Roles and Responsibilities

- The Director of Emergency Services will deactivate an extreme cold weather alert and response and begin the process to apply for reimbursement from EMCR for costs incurred.
- The Emergency Services department, in partnership with the Community Services and Development departments, will confirm shelter status.
- The Communications department will communicate the deactivation to the public and community partners.
- The Communications department will continue to provide the public with information about on-going community support services available, even after the cold weather event ends.
- Community partners (e.g., Northern Health, non-profit organizations) will continue to identify vulnerable community members and offer supports as needed.

Debrief and Evaluation

A structured debrief process following an activation and deactivation cycle of an extreme cold weather response is essential to strengthening the community's overall preparedness and resilience. Debriefs provide an opportunity for all coordinating entities (including City staff, community partners, shelter operators, emergency responders, and service providers) to reflect on what worked well, identify operational gaps, and document challenges encountered during the event. This evaluation process helps ensure that lessons learned translate into concrete improvements for future activations, such as refining communication protocols, enhancing coordination mechanisms, strengthening resource allocation, and adapting to emerging community needs. By committing to consistent post-event reviews and ongoing evaluation, the City can continuously improve the Extreme Cold Weather Plan and better protect residents during future periods of severe winter weather.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Director of Emergency Services to host/coordinate a post-event review meeting with internal departments and community partners.
- City staff to do on-going monitoring and planning of cold weather vulnerabilities (e.g., power outages, water disruptions).
- Use Good Neighbour meetings to discuss long-term considerations for preparedness and awareness in the community.
- Continue to advocate for a permanent warming centre/temporary winter shelter for use in future cold weather events.

5. IMPLEMENTATION – EMERGENCY WARMING CENTRES

Emergency warming centres are heated spaces within the community in which community members can spend time to warm up and/or dry off, as well as access warm drinks, snacks and other supplies. They are also places where people can receive compassionate support and companionship, while learning about other community supports available, as needed.

Ideally, and especially during extreme cold emergencies, more than one warming centre will be open in Quesnel. Those centres could be in different parts of the community (e.g. one warming centre in the west side and another closer to downtown) and/or they could target different population groups (e.g. a warming centre specific for youth and another for seniors). Finally, if there was a significant storm or extended cold snap, City-owned and operated services (e.g. recreation, library, City Hall) could be opened extended hours, to offer support for people in the community whose homes have lost power or whose home heating systems are inadequate.

Warming centres will be activated based on forecasted temperatures (see staged process above), operational needs, space availability, and staff/volunteer resource availability. Schedules may vary and will be established on an event-by-event basis.

Staffing and Operation

The staffing for each warming centre location will depend on the community partner who owns or operates that location. In some cases, the warming centre will be run by professional staff (e.g. City staff, staff from Quesnel Shelter & Support Society, community partner staff). Other locations might rely more fully on volunteers.

To ensure safety, there should be staff onsite who hold training in First Aid, de-escalation, trauma-informed care, and harm reduction. It is vital that safety protocols are prepared and followed diligently. For example, Safe Stay Shelter policies are available (see [BC Housing: Emergency Shelter Program – Sample Policies and Procedures for Emergency Shelters](#)) that could provide a place to start.

Resource Allocation

The Province of BC, through EMCR, will provide financial support to the City, when incurring costs that arise from responding to extreme cold weather. Before opening an emergency warming centre, City staff should request a Task Number from EMCR. This will be used by the Province to compile and monitor applicable costs and ensures that, when the City submits an [Expense Authorization Form](#) for approval, it can be matched against that Task Number.

The following list is a quick summary of the range of costs covered by EMCR. More information can be found on the [EMCR website](#) and in this Plan in Appendix E. Eligible costs include:

- Rental of a facility that is not owned by the City;
- Rental of heating devices within the warming centre;
- Transportation to and from emergency warming centres;

- Staffing: incremental overtime for staff of community partner organizations keeping warming centres open outside of normal operating hours, incremental overtime for wellness checks, community navigator supports to connect community members with First Nations Health Authority and/or other Cultural services and organizations
- Incremental security, janitorial, and utilities costs;
- Basic snacks and beverages;
- Warming kits – socks, gloves, toques, handwarmers, blankets/sleeping bags

6. APPENDIX A: COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

Clear and effective communication from the City of Quesnel during extreme cold weather events is essential for public health and safety. Timely information ensures that residents, businesses, vulnerable populations, local agencies, and the media are aware of risks, available resources, and recommended actions. By tailoring messages to reach a variety of audiences and using a variety of communication mediums, the City can promote preparedness, coordinate community response, and help mitigate the impact of extreme cold weather on all segments of the population.

Key Objectives of the Communications Strategy

- Promote the Extreme Cold Weather Plan, educate about activation/deactivation within the plan and associated actions for the City and members of the public
- Promote public safety and general preparedness related to extreme cold weather in Quesnel
- Establish a trusted source of information, recognizable cold weather alert graphics/branding, and ensure consistent, timely, and accurate information dissemination during extreme cold weather events
- Coordinate communication with local partners and agencies
- Reach vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations quickly

Communications Associated with the Plan and its Implementation

Launch of the Extreme Cold Weather Plan

Goal of communications: Publicly introduce the Quesnel Extreme Cold Weather Plan

Table 3: Communications related to Launch of the Extreme Cold Weather Plan

Communication Required	Communication Channels	Designate(s)
Publicly introduce the Plan - Outline its purpose and importance for community safety - Familiarize the public with the language of the plan and what each activation and deactivation mean - Encourage partner orgs to follow City channels to support timely info sharing during emergencies	Internal - Tailored launch email to cold weather service partners	Director, Development Services
	External - News release – media (digital) - WEB: Establish dedicated web page for Extreme Cold Weather Plan (under Emergency Preparedness) - Updated project information on Let's Connect page - Promotional campaign to reinforce the need for the plan, the importance of public safety (web, social media, digital screens, utility bill inserts, etc.)	City Communications Team, with guidance from the Director, Development Services

Seasonal Cold Weather Communication

Goal of communications: Provide general cold weather safety and preparedness tips, promote awareness of cold weather health risks, and highlight community services available.

Table 4: Seasonal Cold Weather Communications Required

Communication Required	Communication Channels	Designate(s)
Pre-event cold weather preparedness campaign - Preparing your home for extreme cold - Personal cold weather health and safety (e.g. preventing frostbite, hypothermia) - Safety tips for heating your home during extreme cold - Cold weather animal safety for pets and livestock *Much of this information is readily available through trusted partners (see resources below)	External - WEB: Add information and resource links to the Cold Weather Response Plan web page - Social media – Share trusted partner information, create posts for City Facebook page - Digital screens - Posters/flyers - o Physical posters in City facilities, health service buildings, temporary winter shelter, and on community info boards - o Digital posters distributed to cold weather service partners via email	City Communications Team

Extreme Cold Warning

Goal of communications: announce Extreme Cold Warning, communicate emergency warming centre location and hours, and share public safety information other resources available.

Table 5: Extreme Cold Warning Communications Required

Communication required	Communication channels	Designate(s)
- Notify public and partners of Extreme Cold Warning - Announce opening of emergency warming centres; location(s), hours of operation, services on site	Internal - Activation notification to designated community partners	Director, Emergency Services
	External - Information Bulletin – Media (print, radio, digital) - WEB: Add banner to City of Quesnel web home page	City Communications Team

Communication required	Communication channels	Designate(s)
- Capacity alerts – Provide timely alerts and updates when warming spaces have reached capacity - Share cold weather health and safety information	- Social media – Share trusted partner information, create posts for City Facebook page - Digital screens – Cold Weather Warning and EWC locations/hours	

Extreme Cold Emergency

Goal of communications: Announce activation of Extreme Cold Emergency, share location(s) and hours of daytime warming centres, distribute safety guidance, and coordinate messaging with partners.

Table 6: Extreme Cold Emergency Communications Required

Communication Required	Communication Channels	Designate(s)
During event updates and advisories - Notify public and partners of Extreme Cold Emergency - Announce opening of emergency warming centres – share location(s), hours of operation, services on site. - Capacity alerts – Provide timely alerts and updates when warming spaces have reached capacity - Share cold weather health and safety information e.g. signs of frostbite	Internal - Activation of EOC communications – designation of Information Officer for communications - Activation or escalation notification to designated staff and community partners	Director, Emergency Services
	External - Information bulletin – media (print, radio, digital) - WEB: Add Cold Weather banner to City of Quesnel web home page - Social media – Facebook post - Digital signage – digital map of warming centre location(s)	City Communications Team – at the direction of the EOC Information Officer

Deactivation

Goal of communications: Communicate deactivation of emergency measures, share recovery resources, thank community partners, and gather feedback.

Table 7: Deactivation Communications Required

Communication Required	Communication Channels	Designate(s)
- Internal coordination of deactivation - Notification of key community partners	Internal - Deactivation of EOC communications - Deactivation notification to designated community partners (email)	Director, Emergency Services
- Notify public that the Extreme Cold Warning or Extreme Cold Emergency has ended - Announce closure of the emergency warming centres - Share information about other resources and indoor public places that will remain available	External - WEB – Share deactivation in web banner/remove web banner - Social media – Share post that Extreme Cold has ended, share resources still available for people - Digital signage – graphic/info	City Communications Team, at the direction of the EOC Information Officer

Key Resources for the Public:

Winter preparedness

[Extreme cold – Get prepared](#) – Government of Canada

[Get prepared for storms and severe weather](#) – Prepared BC

[Severe winter weather and storm preparedness guide](#) - Prepared BC

[Winter weather and storm preparedness social media package](#) – Prepared BC

[Preparing for Winter Weather](#) – First Nations Health Authority

[Extreme cold and winter storms](#) – Climate Ready BC

Cold weather and health

[Winter wellness and safety guide](#) – Northern Health

[Cold-related emergencies](#) – Canadian Red Cross

[Cold environments: Health effects and first aid](#) - Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety

[Protect your pet against harmful winter conditions](#) – BC SPCA

7. APPENDIX B: RESPONSIBILITIES OF KEY PARTNERS

The following tables outline **recommended** roles and responsibilities for specific positions and departments at the City of Quesnel, and possible roles for community partners.

City of Quesnel Internal Partners

The successful execution of the actions associated with the Extreme Cold Weather Plan requires input and participation from a variety of departments and positions within the City of Quesnel.

Table 8: City Staff and Elected Officials – Key Responsibilities

Department, Position	Roles and Responsibilities
Mayor and Council	Initial approval of the Plan, support for City staff with the implementation of the Plan, including acting as a signatory for actions taken under the Emergency and Disaster Management Act
City Manager	Supports the Emergency Services leadership with the implementation of this plan, allocating resources
Director of Emergency Services	Leads and coordinates the Extreme Cold Weather Plan
Director of Development Services	Supports the coordination of planning and development actions and assets associated with the Plan, such as bylaw enforcement, zoning, land use, etc.
Facilities Manager, Recreation Manager	Coordinates the delivery of in-person emergency warming centres in City owned and operated facilities. Ensure that City-run Emergency Warming Centre locations meet criteria for capacity, fire code, insurance, staffing, etc.
Finance	Facilitates the collection and submission of required information for approved EMCR warming centre cost recovery (invoices, receipts, reports, etc.)
Communications	Leads the development and distribution of communications for residents of Quesnel, including public safety and community services information, extreme cold weather notifications, and public education about the Plan
Community Services	Supports the coordination of planning and development actions and assets associated with the Plan, such as civic building maintenance, public transit, etc.

External Supports

Several external supports play a key supporting role in the Extreme Cold Weather Plan and serve as essential connection points to vulnerable populations in the community.

Table 9: External Supports – Agency and Role

Agency	Role
BC Emergency Health Services	Provides BC ambulance services and other medical support and transport to patients experiencing health concerns due to extreme cold and share information with vulnerable clients during active extreme cold events.
BC Housing	Provide guidance and funding for implementation of Temporary Winter Shelters (TWS) and help ensure coordination between TWS and EWCs.
Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness	Provides guidance and funding assistance to the City of Quesnel (and partner agencies) for the delivery of the Extreme Cold Weather Plan and its actions.
Northern Health	Operate emergency and non-emergency health care service delivery to patients experiencing health concerns due to extreme temperatures and share information with vulnerable clients during active extreme cold events.
Quesnel Volunteer Fire Department	Provide updates on cold weather-related issues (outdoor fires, safe home heating, etc.) Provide expertise in fire safety and extreme cold weather health risks. Share information with vulnerable clients during active extreme cold events.
RCMP	Support the safety of visitors and the public at Emergency Warming Centre locations and share information with vulnerable clients during active extreme cold events. Assist with wellness checks and transportation to and from warming centres, as needed and appropriate.

Community Partners

The City may coordinate with community partners, particularly those with resources and shared interest, in the planning of cold weather response, the communication of information related to cold weather events, and the delivery of emergency warming centres (EWCs).

Table 10: Potential Roles of Community Partners

Organization	Role
Cariboo Regional District	Share extreme cold weather communications from the City and related information through their communication channels Offer District facilities for alternative EWC use (if needed)
Lhoosk'uz Dené Nation	Share extreme cold weather communications from the City and related information through their communication channels
Lhtako Dene Nation	Share extreme cold weather communications from the City and related information through their communication channels
Nazko Band	Share extreme cold weather communications from the City and related information through their communication channels
?Esdilagh Nation	Share extreme cold weather communications from the City and related information through their communication channels
ECHEN Healing Society	Potential location for EWC Share extreme cold weather communications from the City and related information through their communication channels
Nourish Food Bank	Help with resourcing food/drink supplies for EWCs Share extreme cold weather communications from the City and related information through their communication channels
Quesnel and District Senior's Society	Potential location for EWC (for Seniors) Share extreme cold weather communications from the City and related information through their communication channels
Quesnel Green Hope Society	Help with resourcing food/drink supplies for EWCs

Organization	Role
	Share extreme cold weather communications from the City and related information through their communication channels
Quesnel Shelter and Support Society	Support staffing of EWCs and provide link to Peers Help ensure coordination between the QSSS-run TWS and EWCs Share extreme cold weather communications from the City and related information through their communication channels and in their facilities
Quesnel Tillicum Society	Potential location for EWC (once construction completed) Share extreme cold weather communications from the City and related information through their communication channels
Quesnel Women's Resource Centre	Share extreme cold weather communications from the City and related information through their communication channels
North Star Church	Potential location for an EWC
Two Rivers Church	Potential location for an EWC

8. APPENDIX C: ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

Municipality	Warming Centre Locations	Implementation Details	Do they have a Cold Weather Plan or Policy?	Resource Links
Prince George	Various (7) operated by non-profit community groups	3 Levels of cold warnings	Yes	Prince George Updated Extreme Weather Response Plan Extreme Weather Response
Saskatoon	9 Daytime warming locations, 5 Evening warming locations, and 3 overnight warming locations.	2 levels of Cold warnings Saskatoon Transit offers the Safe Bus program		Saskatoon Winter Emergency Response Plan WARMING LOCATIONS Saskatoon Winter Emergency Response Plan SAS Activation Levels
Fort St John	Community facilities open during normal operating hours.	Local non-profits supporting those needing Warming Centres.		
Kitimat		Roles of community partners outlined well 4 phased response plan	Yes	Joint District of Kitimat & Haisla Nation Extreme Temperatures Emergency Response Plan
Williams Lake		Temperature threshold based on Environment Canada Warnings Winter hats, gloves, etc. provided	No	
Sidney	Warming Centre in Library, will be operated by Beacon Community Services	Warm area with chairs to nap in, access to bathrooms and warm drinks and snacks.		Overnight warming centre approved for Sidney

Municipality	Warming Centre Locations	Implementation Details	Do they have a Cold Weather Plan or Policy?	Resource Links
Smithers	Building permit application from Bulkley Valley Harm Reduction Society for temporary emergency warming shelter. Max occupancy of 10 people.	Low-barrier warming space 24/7 from Nov 2025 – Mar 2026		Smithers Winter Shelter
Terrace		Staffing provided by non-profit organizations	No. Warming Centre overview and FAQ sheet prepped for media and public.	
Prince Rupert	Warming centre operated by North Coast Transition Society - staff dependent.	Salvation Army and churches open ad hoc during extreme weather as well.	No	
Mackenzie	Recreation Centre	Warming centre staffed by recreation centre staff Temperature threshold = -20C	No. They use EMCR policies. In progress of drafting a policy for warming centres.	
Vanderhoof		They usually use -10.	No	
Dawson Creek	Operated by Nawican Friendship Centre Open 24/7 upon activation of EMCR task number. Capacity to host up to 30 individuals	-10 for over 24 hours. Use both Weather Network and Weather Canada Provision of bottled water and other drinks , snacks, warmth, and general respite.	No	

Municipality	Warming Centre Locations	Implementation Details	Do they have a Cold Weather Plan or Policy?	Resource Links
		Promote free/low barrier indoor City facilities available to the public through their Facebook page.		
100 Mile House	Municipal office and arena. CRD library. Interior Health homeless outreach worker comes to check on their one homeless person occasionally.		No. Working on emergency management plan and review of policy manual	
Town of Gibsons	Cold weather shelter open nightly,	10 beds available, hot meals, breakfast and a bagged lunch, showers, laundry, compassionate support staff on-site		Cold Weather Shelters
Whistler	Shelter will be open from 6pm – 8am NIGHTLY if conditions are met	Uses data from Environment Canada to determine open hours Temperatures are -10 degrees Celsius or below, OR Temperatures are 0 degrees Celsius WITH an adverse weather alert		Extreme Weather Shelter

9. APPENDIX D: COMMUNITY ASSETS

Organization	Contact Information
Seasons House Emergency Shelter	146 Carson Ave, Quesnel, BC V2J2A8 https://www.qsss.ca/ (250) 991-0222
Amata Transition House	http://www.amata.ca/ (250) 992-7321
Bridges Supportive Housing	146 Carson Avenue Quesnel, BC, V2J 2M1
Quesnel Tillicum Society Native Friendship Centre	219 North Fraser Drive Quesnel BC, V2J 1Y9 Telephone: 250 992 8347
Big Brothers Big Sisters	336 Front St, Quesnel BC V2J 2K3 http://www.bigbrothersbigsistersofquesnel.ca (250) 992-7257
Dakelh & Quesnel Community Housing Society	100-109 Bowron Ave, Quesnel, BC V2J0E1 https://www.dqchs.org/ (250) 992-3306
Quesnel Women's Resource Centre	690 McLean St, Quesnel, BC V2J 2P6
Youth Lounge	365 Kinchant St, Quesnel BC V2J 2R5 www.reformationhouse.ca (778) 414-2728
Quesnel and District Seniors' Society	461 Carson Avenue Quesnel BC V2J 2B6 https://www.quesnelseniorcentre.com/contactus.php mainhall@telus.net (250) 992-3991
Nourish Food Bank	138 McLean Street Quesnel, BC, V2J 1G3 Telephone: 250 991 0481
Green Hope Society	170 Front St. Quesnel, BC V2J 1Y8
Two Rivers Church	214 Anderson Drive, Quesnel BC V2J 1G1 https://www.tworiversquesnel.ca/ 250-255-6708
North Star Church	301 North Star Road, Quesnel BC V2J 5K2 https://www.northstarchurch.ca/ 250-992-8830
ECHEN Healing Society	324 Hoy Street Quesnel, BC V2J2H9 https://www.echenhealing.ca/ Telephone: 250-991-6791

10. APPENDIX E: ELIGIBLE RESPONSE COSTS – FROM MINISTRY OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CLIMATE READINESS

The following information outlines the costs that will be covered by EMCR, under [Policy 5.14](#), when triggers have been met according to the City's extreme weather plan. More information can be found on [EMCR's website](#).

Policy 5.14 - Addendum - Financial assistance for emergency response and recovery costs –Eligibility assessment for extreme weather emergencies

Task numbers may be requested when Environment and Climate Change Canada issues an Extreme Weather Alert (such as Warnings, Watches, Advisories, and Special Weather Statements) in support of a community's response or when triggers are met as outlined in an Indigenous governing bodies and Local Authorities extreme weather plan. The best way to ensure the eligibility of your expense is to submit an Expense Authorization Form (EAF) to EMCR for approval. The EAF provides the details of the expenditure, its rationale, and an estimate of the total expense for the response activity. Incremental costs will be considered for an extreme weather emergency, where actions are taken as outlined in the BC Provincial Heat Alert and Response System (HARS) or the BC Public Alerting System.

Costs will not be reimbursed if otherwise covered by the BC Housing Extreme Weather Response program

General coverage for all events			
Expense Item	Response Item	Eligible	Not Eligible
Staff Overtime	Wages and Overtime	- Incremental overtime for current staff to keep civic facilities open as warming/cooling centres outside of normal operating hours. - Incremental costs for the wages of temporary auxiliary staff hired under contract specifically to support a designated warming/cooling centre facility.	- Overtime wages that cannot be attributed to the event. - Regular wages and benefits of employees. - Base operating costs, such as salaries or regular wages of employees, Compensatory Time Off (CTO), or banked overtime. - Excessive overtime and benefit rate payments.

Expense Item	Response Item	Eligible	Not Eligible
Transportation to and from warming/cooling Centres	Emergency Response Measures Community Partner incremental costs need to be run through contracting Local Government or First Nation.	- Commercial transportation of community members to and from warming/cooling centers as needed in communities where no reliable public transportation exists or is deemed to be not appropriate by a First Nation or Local Authority. - Mileage reimbursement for vehicles operated by a First Nation and local authority for the transportation of community to and from warming/cooling centres where no reliable transportation exists. - Use of Taxis will be considered on a case-by-case basis.	Transportation costs where other reasonable alternatives exist.
Community Partner organizations requested by a First Nation or Local Government to operate warming/cooling centers	Wages or overtime for organizations contracted by First Nations and Local Governments. <i>*Costs should be run through contracting Local Government or First Nation.</i>	- Incremental overtime for Community Partner organization staff keeping facilities open as warming/cooling centres outside of normal operating hours. - Incremental security, janitorial and utilities costs.	- Regular salaries or straight time for current staff; benefits and taxes; and the incremental payroll expenses. - Existing security, janitorial and utilities costs.

Expense Item	Response Item	Eligible	Not Eligible
Cultural Supports	Community Navigator	Incremental costs for Community Navigator(s) connecting the public with support provided by First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), First Nations Emergency Services Society (FNESS), Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), and/or other Cultural organizations.	
Cultural Supports	Cultural Activity Locations Support (CALS)	Incremental costs for activities aimed at providing culturally appropriate services at warming/cooling centres.	Rental of a community-owned facility or loss of use charges.
Basic snacks and beverages at day and night facilities	Materials	- Snacks/beverages for the general public at community warming/cooling centre facilities. - For example, fresh fruit and vegetables, muffins, yogurt, or comfort snacks such as donuts, popcorn. - Culturally appropriate snacks as determined by a First Nation or Local Authority.	- Food purchased for distribution to private residences. - Meals provided at day and night facilities.

Emergency Services	Fire Services	- Incremental costs to fire services responding to increased heat or cold related medical calls, specifically, operational response to assist with supporting medical emergencies. - For this category, the response claim must clearly demonstrate the increase in event specific medical calls.	Routine operations supporting medical response.
Expense Item	Response Item	Eligible	Not Eligible
Messaging	Emergency Response Measures	Print, radio, and social media messages to the local population amplifying ECCC and/or HEMBC messaging.	Messaging unrelated to heat wave response and/or unapproved by ECCC and/or HEMBC.
Support for wellness checks	Materials, wages, or overtime	- Incremental overtime for Local and First Nations Government staff to provide “Just in Time” training for wellness checks - Incremental costs for Local and First Nations Governments to provide additional materials, additional transport costs, or tools to do wellness checks (e.g., thermometers and bottles of water). - Incremental costs associated with staff or NGO, when working at the request of FN/LG to conduct wellness checks	- Training that can be planned in advance of a heatwave. - Incremental wages for the purpose of messaging that does not include additional response actions

Extreme cold coverage			
Expense Item	Response Item	Eligible	Not Eligible
Day and night facility for use as Emergency Warming Centre (Warming Centres are not Group Lodging Facilities)	Facility Rental	- Rental of a non-local authority or First Nation facility for the provision of an emergency warming centre. - Incremental janitorial and utilities costs. - Incremental security costs.	- Rental of community-owned facility or loss of use charges. - Facility upgrades/repairs required to adapt a facility into a warming centre.
Heating device rental for Warming Centres		- Cost of heating device rentals for community warming center. - Incremental utility expenses.	- Heating device costs submitted in the absence of a prior approved EAF. - Warming device rental for private residences.
Basic Snacks	Materials	- Basic Snacks/Warmed liquids/Water made available at community warming centre facilities. - Beverages distributed during health and wellness checks.	Tea/Coffee/Warmed Water purchased for distribution to private residences or locations that have water/warm beverages readily available.

Expense Item	Response Item	Eligible	Not Eligible
Warming Kits Intended to provide short-term relief from cold weather	Materials	- Incremental costs associated with distribution of warming kits at community warming centre facilities. - Incremental costs associated with distribution of warming kits during health and wellness checks. - Warming kits may include, but are not limited to; - Socks - Gloves - Toques - Handwarmers - Disposable blanket/sleeping bag Note: Purchase of warming kits may be considered where no other programs or options exist (e.g., Non-Governmental Organization supply).	Warming kits purchased for distribution to private residences.

11. REFERENCES

- ⁱ Climate Atlas of Canada. https://climateatlas.ca/data/city/389/minus30_2030_85/line
- ⁱⁱ [ClimateData.ca](https://climateatlas.ca) - a collaboration between the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium (PCIC), Ouranos Inc., the Prairie Climate Centre (PCC), Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and Centre de Recherche Informatique de Montréal (CRIM). Data Source: Sobie, S. R., Ouali, D., Curry, C. L. et Zwiers, F. W. (2024). Multivariate Canadian Downscaled Climate Scenarios for CMIP6 (CanDCS-M6). Geoscience Data Journal 11: 806-824. <https://doi.org/10.1002/gdj3.257>
- ⁱⁱⁱ Canadian Climate Institute (2025). Fact Sheet: Climate Change and Storms. <https://climateinstitute.ca/news/fact-sheet-climate-change-and-storms/>
- ^{iv} BC Centre for Disease Control (no date). Preparing for Cold Weather Events. <https://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/prevention-public-health/preparing-for-cold-weather-events>
- ^v Source: Statistics Canada. Individual Market Basket Measure poverty status, 2020. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/71-607-x/71-607-x2023025-eng.htm>
- ^{vi} 2021 Census of Population. Focus on Geography Series, Quesnel. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/as-sa/fogs-spg/page.cfm?topic=7&lang=e&dguid=2021S0504952>