



## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN HEALTHCARE

A new **Emergency and Disaster Management Standard** is being implemented which outlines the responsibilities to reduce risk, be prepared to respond to, and recover from an emergency.

Health PEI has an [All Hazards Plan](#), [Emergency Communications Plan](#), and [Emergency Management Steering Committee](#). Many 24/7 facilities, including hospitals, mental health and addictions facilities and LTC facilities have local Emergency Management Committees and site specific All Hazards Plans.

### KEY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DEFINITIONS:

- **All Hazards Plan:** A site emergency plan which contains emergency/code plans and business continuity plans. This document should be reviewed by all staff at least annually.
- **Emergency Management Exercises:** A simulated emergency where participants carry out roles that would be expected in an emergency, e.g. live drills, tabletops, full scale, fanout tests, etc.
- **Fire Drill:** A practice drill where all staff participate. 24/7 facilities should perform drills quarterly for each shift, at minimum. Non 24/7 facilities should hold a drill annually, at minimum.
- **Prevention and Mitigation:** Prevention refers to measures taken to avoid/stop an emergency from occurring. Mitigation refers to actions taken to reduce the risk and impact of a hazard.
- **Partner Organizations:** Often include first responders (e.g. fire, police and EMS). Sites can align plans by including their roles and supports, sharing plans, participating in exercises and tours.
- **Incident Command System (ICS):** The incident management system used by Health PEI. Online and in-person training is offered by the provincial Emergency Measures Organization.
- **Business Continuity Plan:** Plans designed to respond to and recover from service or system losses, e.g. power failure plan, IT downtime, water loss plan and boil water order plan.
- **Debrief:** An opportunity for staff to discuss what went well and challenges after an incident.

Please contact the Emergency Management and Business Continuity Consultant, Denise Bustard, [dbustard@ihis.org](mailto:dbustard@ihis.org), for further information.