



Progress Report—BC Floodplain Maps Action Plan June 2017

In March 2013, with financial support from the Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia, the British Columbia Real Estate Association (BCREA) hosted a workshop in Vancouver, to examine the state of floodplain maps in BC. The Floodplain Maps Action Plan was the key output of the workshop, and this report summarizes progress made since February 2017.

The complete Floodplain Maps Action Plan and previous progress reports are available online at: www.bcrea.bc.ca/government-relations/flood-protection.

Category	Action
Technical	<p>1. Monitor provincial and federal responses to the Public Safety Canada National Floodplain Mapping Assessment, and implementation of the National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP).</p> <p>Status: The National Floodplain Mapping Assessment process is approximately halfway complete, with three more documents to be released. As part of this project, two useful guides have already been published:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal Floodplain Mapping Framework: http://ftp.maps.canada.ca/pub/nrcan_mcan/publications/ess_sst/299/299806/gjp_112_e.pdf. Risk-based Land Use Guide: Safe Use of Land Based on Hazard Risk Assessment: http://hazuscanada.ca/content/risk-based-land-use-guide-now-available.
	<p>2. Monitor and report on how GeoBC and other organizations are exploring ways to improve data-sharing protocols and procedures related to overcoming proprietary interests and data management requirements.</p> <p>Status: GeoBC has collected new floodplain primary data sets, and Emergency Management BC (EMBC) is now the lead agency working on this provincially. The primary data sets, which consist of LiDAR (light detection and ranging) derived elevation data and orthoimagery, will be shared with all flood management/response agencies in BC (provincial, local government, federal and NGOs like the Fraser Basin Council) by the end of this summer.</p>
	<p>4. Undertake a technical project to compile case studies of current BC floodplain mapping practices based on significant flood scenarios (e.g., riparian flooding from freshet, pluvial and rain-on-snow events, debris flooding) around the province. Compile the best practices and minimum standards for floodplain mapping BC, including data requirements, engineering standards and methodologies, and integrating climate change into planning.</p> <p>Status: The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (APEGBC) has published professional practice guidelines for floodplain mapping, available online at www.apeg.bc.ca/getmedia/8748e1cf-3a80-458d-8f73-94d6460f310f/APEGBC-Guidelines-for-Flood-Mapping-in-BC.pdf.aspx.</p>

Category	Action
Political	<p>6. Communicate the progress and outcomes of the Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy to enable opportunities to advance flood hazard mapping provincially.</p> <p><u>Status:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Fraser Basin Council received approval through the NDMP to develop a modeling and mapping tool to improve knowledge of flood extent and depth in floodplain areas. The tool will use LiDAR and will be able to simulate various flooding scenarios, in addition to being a useful communications tool. An advisory committee will finetune the scope and approach of this tool, which will help inform regional priorities and evaluate flood mitigation measures. Opportunities will also be explored to share the LiDAR and the use of the modelling and mapping tool with others in the region.
Political	<p>7. Through a structured communications approach, engage key public and private organizations and associations to raise awareness among decision makers and stakeholders, and strengthen political support; e.g., facilitate opportunities to bring together municipalities for peer-to-peer discussions, host one or more sessions at local government conferences, develop a set of visual tools to improve understanding about the importance of floodplain mapping / flood hazard management, and to support the allocation of the necessary resources.</p> <p><u>Status:</u></p> <p>Emergency Management BC produced a brochure for consumers on flood protection, which is available online at https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-recovery/embc/preparedbc/preparedbc_flood_information_for_homeowners_and_home_buyers_web.pdf.</p> <p>The Insurance Bureau of Canada has found that about 40% of homes in BC have purchased residential overland flood insurance since it began to be offered two years ago. Most homeowners in BC can purchase it for less than \$300 per year, though roughly 7% of BC households are likely at too high a risk of flood for insurance to be affordable or readily available.</p> <p><u>Upcoming events:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 8, The Octopus's Garden: Planning for Sea Level Rise (Vancouver): www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-octopuss-garden-planning-for-sea-level-rise-tickets-34336125275