



Progress Report—BC Floodplain Maps Action Plan

May 2016

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 2016.

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><u>Status:</u></p> <p>National Floodplain Mapping Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A technical working group continues to work on national floodplain mapping guidelines, to be published in 2016. <p>National Disaster Mitigation Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The program will see \$200 million distributed over five years, for cost-sharing for projects focused primarily on flood mitigation. Public Safety Canada announced the second intake on May 12, and provinces and territories have until June 30 to apply.
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"> A briefing on Phase 1 of the Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy will take place on May 30. Phase 1 consisted of a review of a range of flood scenarios that may threaten the Lower Mainland, as well as a regional analysis of flood vulnerabilities, protective works, policies and practices. Planning for Phase 2, which will focus on developing the Regional Flood Management Strategy and options for funding and implementation, has begun. An overview of the initiative is available at: www.fraserbasin.bc.ca/water_flood.html.

Category	Action
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> The federal government is consulting with Canadians about climate change. Submissions can be made here: www.letstalkclimateaction.ca/index.php?lang=en.</p>
Financial	<p>9. Review the Floodplain Mapping Funding Guidebook for BC Local Governments every year and update as required.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> The document was updated in April 2016: www.bcrea.bc.ca/docs/government-relations/floodplainmapguidebook.pdf.</p>
Aspirational	<p>11. Develop, and update every five years, floodplain mapping guidelines and specifications to reflect current technologies and realities, improve consistency, and build technical capacity to support utilization of a broader suite of technical tools.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> On May 12, 2016, the BC Government announced that it has awarded funding to the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC to aid the development of floodplain hazard mapping and modernize professional practice guidelines relating to flood assessments. News release: https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2016TRAN0093-000767.</p>