



## Progress Report—BC Floodplain Maps Action Plan

August 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 May 2016.

The complete Floodplain Maps Action Plan and previous progress reports are available online at: [www.bcrea.bc.ca/government-relations/flood-protection](http://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"> <li>Federal floodplain mapping guidelines are being developed through Natural Resources Canada. Originally intended to complete in 2016, the final product may be delayed until 2017.</li> </ul> <p>National Disaster Mitigation Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This program distributes \$200 million over five years (began in 2015), for cost-sharing for projects focused primarily on flood mitigation.</li> <li>The deadline for the current intake of applications from provinces and territories is October 31, 2016; to date, BCREA is unaware of whether Emergency Management BC will invite local governments to submit applications.</li> </ul>
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"> <li>A briefing on Phase 1 of the Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy took 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. Reports are available at <a href="http://www.floodstrategy.ca">www.floodstrategy.ca</a>.</li> <li>Phase 2, for which the BC Government contributed \$1 million, will include identifying priorities and defining cost-sharing and governance models.</li> </ul>

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: <a href="http://www.letstalkclimateaction.ca/index.php?lang=en">www.letstalkclimateaction.ca/index.php?lang=en</a>.</p> <p>Upcoming events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sep. 12-14, Livable Cities Forum (Halifax) – <a href="http://www.livablecitiesforum.com">www.livablecitiesforum.com</a> – session on paying for urban infrastructure adaptation</li> <li>• Sep. 26-29, Union of BC Municipalities Convention (Victoria) – sessions on climate change adaptation and drought (relates to flooding)</li> <li>• Oct. 25-26, BCWWA Climate Change Adaptation Conference (Vancouver) – <a href="https://bcwwa.org/component/bcwwa/?task=eventregister&amp;event=4096&amp;Itemid=3">https://bcwwa.org/component/bcwwa/?task=eventregister&amp;event=4096&amp;Itemid=3</a></li> <li>• Sep. 30-Oct. 1, Watersheds 2016 (Vancouver) – <a href="https://watersheds2016forum.wordpress.com">https://watersheds2016forum.wordpress.com</a> – session on drought (relates to flooding)</li> </ul>
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. Work is underway, and the review task force (which includes a wide variety of stakeholders, including BCREA) meets for the first time in mid-September.</p>