



FOR RELEASE  
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## **Yukon highlights Emergency Preparedness Week**

WHITEHORSE—Community Services Minister Elaine Taylor joins Public Safety Canada and Canada's provincial and territorial emergency management organizations in recognizing Emergency Preparedness Week May 5 to 11.

"Natural disasters like forest fires or floods may be beyond our control, but we can reduce the risk and the impact of emergency events," Taylor said. "Emergency Preparedness Week serves as an annual reminder for all of us to be prepared to cope on our own for at least the first 72 hours of an emergency while rescue workers help those in urgent need."

Every year Yukon experiences wildfires, floods, avalanches, extreme weather conditions and other emergency events. By taking a few simple steps, you and your family can become better prepared to face a range of emergencies—anytime, anywhere.

- Know the risks—although the consequences of disasters can be similar, knowing the risks specific to our community and our region can help you better prepare.
- Make a plan—it will help you and your family, know what to do.
- Prepare an emergency kit—during an emergency, we will all need basic supplies. We may not have access to electricity or tap water. Be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours in an emergency.

This week, the Emergency Measures Organization encourages Yukoners to take concrete actions to be better prepared. Individual preparedness goes a long way to help people during and after a major disaster.

For more information on 72 hour preparedness kits and other tips, visit [community.gov.yk.ca/emo/planning.html](http://community.gov.yk.ca/emo/planning.html). Find Yukon's Emergency Measures Organization on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @YukonAlerts or visit [www.getprepared.ca](http://www.getprepared.ca) for more information.

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