



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

WHITEHORSE—Community Services Minister Elaine Taylor joins Public Safety Canada along with provincial and territorial emergency management organizations in recognizing Emergency Preparedness Week from May 6 to 12.

“Natural disasters like forest fires or floods may be beyond our control, but there are ways to reduce the risk and the impact of emergency events whether natural or human-caused,” Taylor said. “Emergency Preparedness Week serves as an annual reminder for all of us to be prepared to cope in an emergency. Individual preparedness goes a long way to help people during and after a major disaster.”

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 if you and your family know what to do.
- **Get an emergency kit:** During an emergency, we all need basic supplies and may need to get by without power or tap water. Be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours in an emergency.

This week, Yukon’s Emergency Measures Organization encourages Yukoners to take concrete actions to be better prepared.

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) or [www.getprepared.ca](http://www.getprepared.ca), and follow Yukon’s Emergency Measures Organization on Facebook and Twitter.

The public is invited to an open house at the Emergency Measures Organization on Friday, May 11 and Saturday, May 12 from 1 to 5 p.m. This is a great opportunity to learn more about emergency preparedness and find out about volunteer opportunities. Members of Yukon Amateur Radio Association and Whitehorse District Search and Rescue will be in attendance. EMO is located at 60 Norseman Road, immediately north of the airport.

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