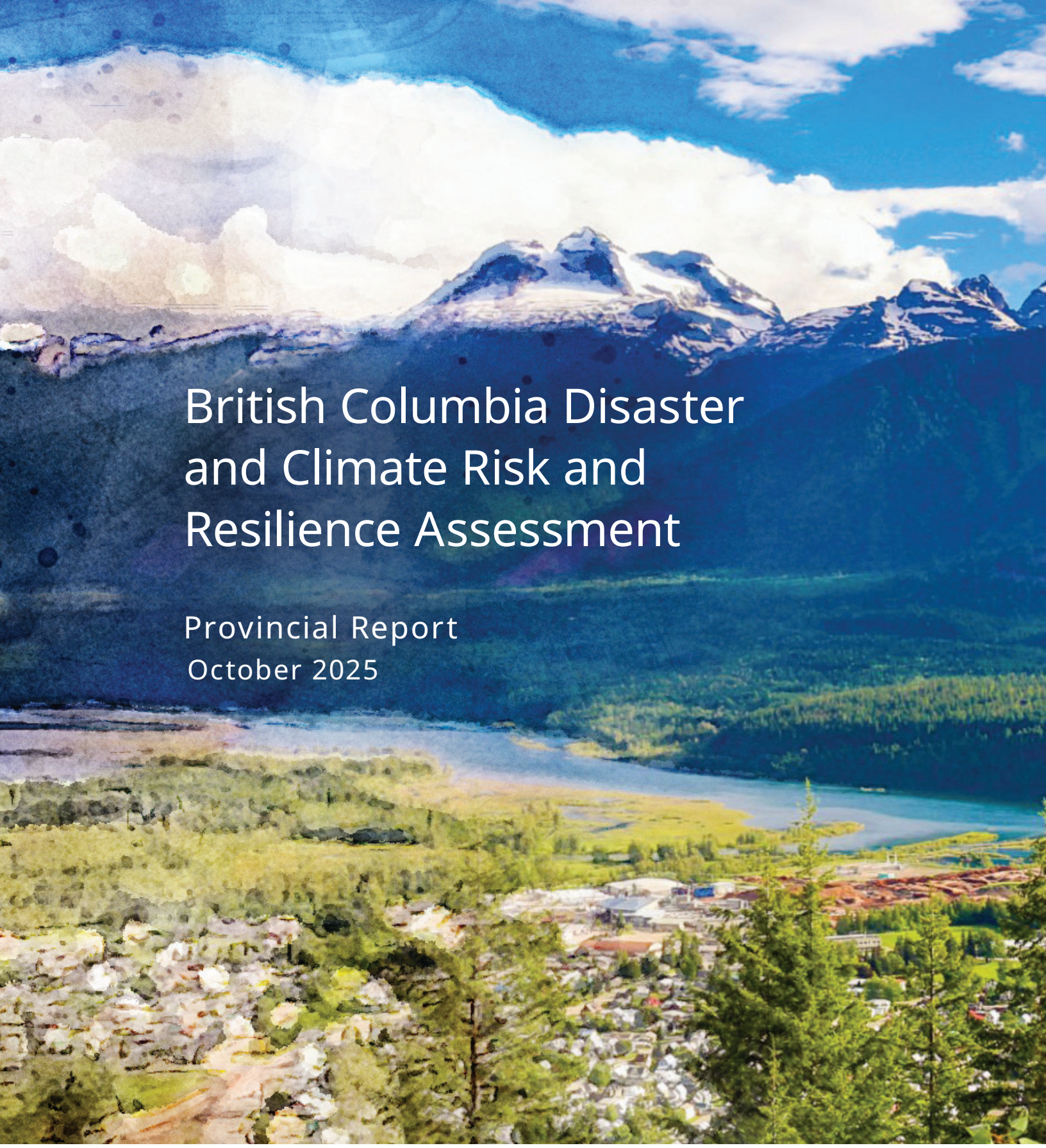

British Columbia Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment

Provincial Report

October 2025

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Land acknowledgement

The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) and the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions (ECS) gratefully recognize the First Nations territories across the province on which we collectively work toward a more resilient and sustainable future. We also respectfully acknowledge that the writing of this report took place on the territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən Peoples; the Songhees and Xwsepsum First Nations; the W̱SÁNEĆ Peoples, represented by the Tsawout, Pauquachin, Tsartlip and Tseycum and Malahat First Nations; and the Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh and Musqueam First Nations. This risk and resilience assessment has been informed by work from across over 200 First Nations, spanning seven different language families (Wakashan, Salishan, Tsimshianic, Athabaskan-Eyak-Tlingit/ Na-Dene, X̱aat Kil/X̱aayda Kil, Ktunaxa and Algonquian). Since time immemorial, these Nations have been stewards of the land and waters, and have protected their diverse cultures, traditional practices, teachings and oral histories.

We are grateful to the First Nations, Métis and Inuit living in B.C., and hold our hands up to the diversity of Indigenous expertise and the leadership they offer. First Nations Peoples are guided by the spirit and voice of the land and water, and their rights and responsibilities over generations to their territories. It is their deep knowledge and relationships with the land that position First Nations as leaders in disaster and climate risk reduction.

Through this work, we were reminded that First Nations, Métis and Inuit are disproportionately impacted by disaster and climate events due to a history of colonialism, the consequences of which continue to be felt by Indigenous Peoples and communities to this day. As we work to understand and address climate and disaster risk, we are committed to strengthening collaboration with First Nations to find more holistic and equitable solutions.

The First Nations Committee on Disaster and Climate Risk expresses respect for the active role of the land itself, and the Ancestors who shaped our world today and who continue to guide future generations. We, the First Nations Committee, centre the land to acknowledge Mother Earth's agency, voice and spirit, and our ongoing relationship of reciprocity with all of Creation.

Acknowledgements

B.C.'s Provincial Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment was made possible by the guidance, input and contributions from a wide range of participants, including knowledge holders, representatives from organizations and agencies, and Province of B.C. staff.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all members of the project committees and working groups for sharing their expertise, perspectives and experiences, including:

- Climate Change Advisory Group
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee
- First Nations Committee on Disaster and Climate Risk
- Geospatial Analysis Team
- Hazard Working Groups
- Value Working Groups

We would also like to recognize the support and collaboration of the many provincial ministries involved, in particular working group hosts.

Project Lead Ministries:

- Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness
- Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions (formerly Environment and Climate Change Strategy)

Hazard Lead Ministries:

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- Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness
- Ministry of Forests – B.C. Wildfire Service
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs
- Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

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SAGE ON EARTH CONSULTING

Geospatial Analysis:

- BGC Engineering
- GeoBC
- Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

First Nations Collaboration Support:

- Pinna Sustainability
- Sạnala Planning

Editing & Design:

- AHA Creative Strategies Inc.
- Illo Creative Alliance
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Cover Image: Canadian Rockies and Revelstoke, B.C. Shunyu Fan, undated.

Province of B.C. (2025), British Columbia Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment: Provincial Report. Report prepared for the Government of British Columbia, Victoria, B.C. Accessible at: http://climatereadybc.gov.bc.ca/pages/dcrra.

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Hílekw Sq'eq'ó
To get ready together

Halq̓eméylem – With permission from Tribal Chief Tyrone McNeil

Sechelt. Province of B.C., 2008

Executive summary

The Provincial Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment (DCRRA) is an important step in understanding and addressing the diverse disaster and climate risks that British Columbians face. This establishes a framework for approaching risk and resilience assessment across interconnected systems and provides foundational risk information, laying the groundwork for strategic risk reduction and resilience-building efforts. This executive summary highlights context, methodology and key findings detailed in the report.

Context and purpose: why this assessment is needed

British Columbia (B.C.) has a dynamic and diverse geography that exposes it to a range of hazards including floods, earthquakes, wildfires and extreme heat. Climate change further amplifies the frequency and severity of these events, resulting in unprecedented wildfire seasons, catastrophic flooding and extreme heat that have been experienced in recent years. Understanding those risks, how they change over time, and how they impact what we value is necessary for reducing disaster and climate risks and enhancing the resilience of communities across B.C.

In response to this need, in 2022, the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) and the Climate Action Secretariat (CAS)—then

under the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy—received a mandate to lead an integrated assessment of disaster and climate risk. CAS now operates within the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions (ECS). The Provincial Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment (DCRRA) project was created to assess risk and resilience at the provincial scale.

This report presents the results of the provincial phase of the DCRRA. It is the first provincial-scale disaster risk assessment in B.C. since 1997 and builds on the 2019 Preliminary Strategic Climate Risk Assessment for B.C. The Provincial DCRRA aligns with the United Nations' Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and reflects a commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion and collaboration with First Nations. It also reflects new requirements for risk assessments in the Emergency and Disaster Management Act. It meets the Climate Change Accountability Act requirement for the Province to assess and report on climate change risks every five years.

Emergency and Disaster Management Act

The Provincial DCRRA is happening in tandem with the implementation of the Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA, 2023). The EDMA includes risk assessment requirements for regulated entities, to be brought into force through regulation, as well as requirements for the Province of B.C. to publicly disclose information on hazards, risks and vulnerabilities. As per Section 51 of Bill 31, Emergency and Disaster Management Act:

Risk assessments must identify all reasonably foreseeable hazards and assess all of the following:

- The extent of the risk that each hazard presents (for example, likelihood and scale/scope)
- Consequences for persons or property, objects or sites of heritage value
- Special consideration given to individuals who experience intersectional disadvantage and vulnerable individuals, animals, places or things

Risk assessments must be based on:

- Studies and surveys
- Indigenous Knowledge and local knowledge, if available
- Changes in the local climate or extreme weather events that can reasonably be expected from climate change
- Consultation and co-operation with Indigenous Peoples
- Consultation and co-ordination with local authorities

Methodology and process: a holistic approach to risk and resilience assessment

The Provincial DCRRA employed a comprehensive approach to risk and resilience assessment, including:

Hazard and value overviews:

Gather and analyze foundational information on priority hazards at the provincial scale and their impacts on what we value

Extreme event scenarios:

Identify and analyze extreme events, by hazard, to understand hazards and their impacts when managing uncertainty

Climate change influence:

Evaluate the influence of climate change on hazard nature, frequency and severity using current and future climate models

Equity, diversity and inclusion:

Explore disproportionate impacts on equity-deserving groups and hazard-specific vulnerabilities

Geospatial analysis:

Utilize maps and data to examine hazard distribution and exposure at a provincial scale

The methodology was developed using existing risk and resilience assessment frameworks and includes foundational components transferable to assessments at different scales and with a range of purposes. It involved engagement with partners and experts from multiple disciplines to integrate a range of Indigenous Knowledge systems and experiences, and adopted a distinctions-based collaborative approach with First Nations, Treaty Nations and Indigenous organizations, recognizing rights and titles, in the development of the assessment process and products.

The Provincial DCRRA takes a values-based approach to assessment, guided by the question, "How do disaster or climate-related events impact what we value?" The framework identifies six interconnected value areas for considering contexts, risk, resilience and impacts. Risk statements were developed to identify what is at risk in each value area. These statements, along with a foundational analysis of hazards, risk drivers, climate change science and equity considerations, can help to inform and guide risk reduction and management actions.

Figure 1: The Provincial DCRRA value areas.

Methodological caveats

- Risk is relative and can vary widely across people and contexts, dependant on purpose and priorities. The Provincial DCRRA is a high-level assessment of key risks at the provincial scale and is intended to be built upon (see “next steps” below).
- Geospatial data that is province-wide and publicly available varies by hazard, asset and population. Data limitations are included in the geospatial annex.
- Some extreme event scenarios have a more robust evidence base than others. Confidence ratings are provided to indicate the relative strength of the evidence base for each scenario.

The Provincial DCRRA was developed in collaboration with over 200 internal and external subject matter experts, as well as the First Nations Committee on Disaster and Climate Risk. The internal project team worked with Sage On Earth Consulting and many sub-contractors to undertake the design, research, analysis and facilitation of the assessment. The following expert groups were convened:

- **Technical Working Groups:** A working group for each hazard and value, led by technical experts and government representatives
- **Climate Change Advisory Committee:** A technical committee with expertise in climate science and likelihood, chaired by the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium
- **Equity Advisory Committee:** A committee with expertise in equity, diversity and inclusion
- **Geospatial Analysis Team:** A team of sub-contractors and provincial staff with expertise in geospatial data and analysis, supported by GeoBC

Risk assessment as a values-based exercise

Worldviews, relationships and contexts influence values and what is perceived to be at risk. The Provincial DCRRA is a step towards bringing more diverse and holistic values into risk and resilience assessment. Future work will continue to explore how to better reflect diverse worldviews.

The First Nations Committee on Disaster and Climate Risk, supported by Pinna Consulting and Sanala Planning, collaborated on the assessment process and products. Local government subject matter experts and Indigenous organizations were engaged through the technical working groups, and broad First Nations and local government engagement took place in spring of 2024.

A short list of hazards for the provincial assessment was developed based on previous (prior to the start of this project) engagement. Six priority hazards, plus a multi-hazard scenario, were selected for analysis.

The Provincial DCRRA Hazards


Riverine flood
Coastal flood


Extreme heat


Wildfire


Earthquake


Water scarcity and drought


Multi-hazard

Key results

The following key points present the findings from the provincial assessment, including illustrative examples.

Climate change intensifies risks:

- The increasing frequency and severity of climate-related risks such as floods, wildfires and heatwaves underscore the urgency of proactive risk reduction
- Climate model projections over all future emissions scenarios, spanning the 2050s and beyond, identify robust changes in hazard drivers in B.C. as: warmer winters; hotter summers; longer dry spells in summer; increased precipitation in the fall, winter and spring; and increased severity in precipitation and storms
- The annual average surface temperature in B.C. is rising much faster than global trends. Since 1948, it has risen 1.7°C, with greatest warming in winter (+3.2 °C) and smallest in fall (+0.8 °C)

Critical infrastructure is at risk:

- Aging infrastructure in urban and rural areas exacerbates the impacts of extreme events
- Critical infrastructure is particularly at risk from riverine flooding, earthquakes, water scarcity and drought; key consequences include disruption of lifeline services, negative health outcomes, and impacts on social cohesion

Equity-deserving groups are disproportionately affected:

- Indigenous Peoples, low-income households, newcomers and other groups face heightened risks due to systemic inequities
- While it is important to consider disproportionate impacts and vulnerability, it is also critical to consider individual and community strengths, needs and adaptive capacity
- Equity-focused strategies can help to address intersectional disadvantages

Governance and co-ordination challenges persist:

- Effective disaster response and resilience planning require improved co-ordination across agencies and levels of government, strong relationships, ancestral knowledge, and respect of First Nations right to self-determination
- A key pathway to resilience is a shift in focus to long-term risk mitigation and proactive risk management

Local knowledge and action are key to resilience:

- Indigenous Knowledge and community-driven solutions are critical for building resilience that reflects local knowledge, priorities and contexts
- Communities have access to data, knowledge and networks—and jurisdiction to implement on-the-ground risk reduction solutions
- First Nations have deep knowledge and relationships with natural systems and this knowledge often ensures harmony with hazards and protection from impacts (for example, First Nations fire stewardship supports ecosystem diversity, can reduce fire risk by decreasing fuel loads, and improves food security)

Economic impacts are far-reaching:

- Disaster and climate risks disrupt key industries, strain public resources, and lead to significant economic losses province wide
- Riverine floods are among the costliest hazards in B.C. and a significant portion of B.C.'s

infrastructure, essential services, and food production and agricultural lands are in floodplains

- A single magnitude 9 earthquake has the potential for human and economic losses that exceed the combined losses from all disasters experienced in B.C. over the past 200 years (the total economic losses are valued at about $128 billion, with potential failure of Canada's property and casualty insurance industry, economic growth reduced to half, and 43,700 jobs lost over the following 10 years)

Ecosystem health is crucial for risk reduction:

- Preserving and restoring natural spaces like wetlands and forests enhances resilience by mitigating hazards and supporting cultural connection to the land
- Climate change and its influence on extreme drought and water scarcity have a particular impact on ecosystems and their services: 74 percent of old growth management areas (14,000 km2), 44 percent of parks and protected areas (48,000 km2), and 55 percent of species and ecosystems at risk (210,000 km2) are within areas that will be exposed to extreme drought conditions in the future due to climate change

Holistic and adaptive approaches are required across interconnected systems:

- Hazards and climate risks often trigger cascading effects across natural, social and economic systems, compounding vulnerabilities and inequities
- Addressing the complexity of risks demands integrated strategies that account for the interplay between climate, hazards and socioeconomic factors

Vision for a resilient future:

- The Provincial DCRRA envisions a resilient British Columbia where communities, ecosystems and economies can thrive, despite increasing disaster and climate risks
- Achieving this vision requires a "whole-of-society" approach that emphasizes collaboration, innovation and equity (by addressing systemic vulnerabilities and building on existing strengths, the Province can reduce risks and enhance the well-being of people and the environment)

Opportunities for response and action

This report brings together existing information and new analysis to support a comprehensive and shared understanding of how the assessed hazards impact the things we value. It also provides guidance to policy makers and practitioners in a wide range of roles on actions that can be taken to mitigate disaster and climate risks.

Summary Table 1 presents high-level findings from Chapter 2: Understanding hazards and exposure and Chapter 5: Risks from extreme events. Chapter 2 includes an analysis of strengths, gaps and uncertainties related to how we understand each hazard in B.C., and guides practitioners and decision makers on improving our knowledge of hazards by filling in gaps regarding data and information, and improving risk assessment methods specific to each hazard. Chapter 5 explores risks to what we care about through the use of extreme hazard scenarios.

Chapter 3: Understanding risks to what we value is summarized in Table 2. It presents a series of risk statements for each value area and examines the factors contributing to risk across hazards. It also assesses drivers of risk and proposes resilience pathways that provide policy makers with areas of focus to reduce disaster risk and improve resilience for each value area. Actions are wide-ranging and include ecosystem-based resilience strategies; adapting and strengthening infrastructure; inclusive and equity-informed planning and service design; enhancing capacity in the healthcare workforce to strengthen health system climate and disaster resilience; proactive investments in disaster mitigation and climate adaptation projects; and strengthening governance institutions and clarifying roles and responsibilities.

Future work and next steps

This assessment represents one phase of the Provincial DCRRA project and is a first step in understanding and managing risk and resilience in the province of B.C. Additional work is planned to build on this assessment, including:

Future risk and resilience assessments: The next phase of the Provincial DCRRA will include additional hazards and assessments of risk and resilience at a more granular scale. As EDMA is implemented, the assessments can support and complement risk assessments completed by regulated entities such as local authorities and provincial ministries.

Guidance for risk and resilience assessments: Building off the Provincial DCRRA, EMCR will develop guidance to support regulated entities in completing their risk assessments, and to support consistent and systematic approaches to understanding risk and resilience. Guidance can include assessment information, templates and examples.

Collaboration to integrate diverse worldviews: While a values-based approach is a first step towards more equitable risk and resilience assessments, further work is needed. This includes exploring and integrating diverse worldviews, relationships and contexts—influencing values and what is perceived as being at risk.

Direct engagement with people who experience disproportionate impacts: The Provincial DCRRA included equity, diversity and inclusion considerations that were informed by an advisory committee. Future work will explore ways to incorporate lived experience and to engage with disproportionately impacted people and communities, grounded in the concept of "nothing about us without us."

Systematic assessment of resilience: Future assessments will build on the strengths-based approach that was started in this provincial assessment, by continuing to explore traits that enhance resilience to disaster and climate risks.

Table 1: Chapter 2 and Chapter 5:
Understanding hazards and exposure—summary of findings.

Riverine Flood

High-level findings	Scenario
• Most frequent hazard, exacerbated by climate change, with significant impacts on infrastructure, ecosystems and communities. • Climate models, assuming that the "high-emissions scenario" projected annual precipitation increases by 9% (2050s) and 13% (2080s), and five-day maximum increases by 13% (2050s) and 26% (2080s). If the GWL (Global Warming Level) reaches 4.0°C, then the B.C. average and extreme precipitation are projected to increase by +12% and +19%, respectively. • Equity-deserving groups in flood-prone areas face heightened vulnerability due to systemic barriers to recovery resources. • A significant percentage of B.C.'s infrastructure, essential services, and food production and agricultural lands are in floodplain.	**Event:** severe spring riverine flood in the Fraser River watershed. **Likelihood:** current likelihood of 1 in 200 years; increases to 1 in 50 by mid-century with climate change. **Impacts include:** community inundation, widespread property damage, and disruption of critical infrastructure; prolonged evacuation of residential and commercial areas; mud, debris and pollutants induce health hazards and food and water insecurity; disruption to transportation, infrastructure and supply chains, with widespread economic impact.

Coastal Flood

High-level findings	Scenario
• Rising sea levels and storm surges increase the risk to coastal infrastructure, settlements and natural habitats, with significant economic and social consequences. B.C.'s coastline contains densely populated, flood-prone areas that are developed with infrastructure, such as major ports, airports and transportation corridors. • Due to a complex interplay of processes, sea level rise and risk of coastal flooding varies by location in B.C. At the mouth of the Fraser River, by 2050, a historical 100-year extreme sea level event is expected to occur every four to five years under all three emissions scenarios.	**Event:** a coastal flooding event combining the effects of storm surge, high tide and sea level rise. **Likelihood:** current likelihood of 1 in 200 years, increases to 1 in 10 by mid-century with climate change. **Impacts include:** evacuations, displacement and relocation of community members, lasting days to weeks; disruption in tourism, fisheries and shipping industries, major seaports and airports, and access to isolated coastal communities; implications for social cohesion and connectedness, access to resources, and services and ways of life.

Extreme Heat

High-level findings	Scenario
• Amplified by urban heat islands, posing severe health risks, disproportionately affecting seniors, low-income individuals, and those without access to cooling facilities. • Additional work needed to understand long-term impacts on health. • Modelling shows that extreme heat events become increasingly likely with global warming. By 4.0 degrees of warming (approximately the 2080s), extreme heat events become likely to almost certain over most of the province.	**Event:** summer heatwave in south and central British Columbia, with five days, four nights of extreme heat emergency. **Likelihood:** current likelihood of 1 in 200 years; increases to 1 in 10 to 1 in 50 years by mid-century with climate change. Local extreme heat events in southern B.C. valleys may be as frequent as 1 in 3 years by mid-century. **Impacts include:** heat-related deaths and increased morbidity rates for months; significant increased demand on healthcare system; dangerously high indoor temperatures; extensive mortality of intertidal species, terrestrial and nearshore species; risk of losses of crops and livestock.

Water Scarcity and Drought

High-level findings	Scenario
• Prolonged periods of low precipitation challenge water supply systems, agriculture and ecosystem health, with compounding impacts on economic and social systems. • 74% of old growth management areas (14,000 km2), 44% of parks and protected areas (48,000 km2), and 55% of species and ecosystems at risk (210,000 km2) are within areas exposed to extreme drought conditions in the future due to climate change.	**Event:** multi-year period of drought, characterized by reduced summer precipitation, winter snow and snowpack, and above-average temperature. **Likelihood:** current likelihood of a three-year snow drought in southern B.C. is 1 in 30 years, and is expected to increase to 1 in 10 by mid-century with climate change. **Impacts include:** direct impacts to households and communities in daily activities, including bathing and cooking, leisure, sport and health activities, religious observances and ceremonial practices; lower agricultural yield and reduced industrial production; decline in biodiversity.

Wildfire

High-level findings	Scenario
• Increasing in intensity and frequency, threatening health, ecosystems and property. • Models project extreme fire weather conditions to occur about 2.5 times as often by the end of the century (compared to the 1980s which average 11 days of extreme fire weather condition). • Populations in rural and remote communities face significant barriers to evacuation and recovery.	**Event:** wildland urban interface fire. **Likelihood:** current likelihood of about 1 in 20 years; increases by a factor of 1.6 by mid-century with climate change. **Impacts include:** residential and commercial buildings are destroyed and facilities need months to re-establish; injuries and fatalities, respiratory illness and eye irritation, infectious disease due to smoke, water and food supply disruptions; communications lines and facilities are damaged.

Earthquake

High-level findings	Scenario
• High-consequence events, particularly in southwestern B.C., pose severe risks to human safety, infrastructure and economic stability. • B.C. faces the largest financial risk of any province in Canada. A single magnitude 9 earthquake has the potential for human and economic losses that exceed the combined losses from all disasters experienced in B.C. over the past 200 years. Total economic losses are valued at about $128 billion, with potential failure of Canada's property and casualty insurance industry, economic growth reduced to half, and 43,700 jobs lost over the following 10 years. Direct economic loss from damage to buildings due to mainshock ground shaking is around $38 billion. • The changing climate increases the likelihood of an earthquake occurring during a climate event and the potential for secondary hazards such landslides, floods and fires.	**Event:** a Cascadia Megathrust M9 Earthquake offshore of Vancouver Island. **Likelihood:** current annual likelihood <1%, but likelihood of occurrence in the next 50 years is 10-20%. **Impacts include:** fatalities from the combined effects of the earthquake, tsunami, aftershock and cascading impacts; complete damage to 18,000 buildings; remote communities are particularly vulnerable.

Multi-Hazard

High-level findings	Scenario
• Highlight the cascading effects of combined hazards, such as earthquakes triggering landslides or wildfires exacerbating flood risks, and the complexity of managing interconnected risks.	**Event:** interior drought and heat with wildfire that exacerbates subsequent atmospheric river–induced floods and debris flows, followed by a moderate earthquake on the West Coast. **Impacts include:** long-term displacement and relocation, food and water insecurity, and high prices of essential goods enhance anxiety and stress for communities; widespread power and transportation disruptions, and highly increased stress on healthcare system; provincial GDP reduced significantly, with tourism, agriculture and outdoor industries highly impacted.

Table 2: Chapter 3 and Chapter 5: Understanding risks to what we value—summary of findings, risk drivers and resilience pathways.

Natural Environment

High-level findings	Key drivers of risk	Resilience pathways
• Ecosystems are both vulnerable to and critical for mitigating hazards. Wetlands, forests and coastal areas provide natural defences but are under increasing threat from climate impacts. • Key impacts include damage to ecosystems, biodiversity loss and reduced ecosystem services.	• Habitat loss and resource use • Pollution and contamination • Invasive species and biodiversity loss • Climate change and ecosystem resilience • Cultural and spiritual connections to land • Cumulative impacts on ecosystem services	• Implement ecosystem-based adaptation strategies to leverage natural systems, including conserving biodiversity. • Promote sustainable land and water management practices that increase the adaptive capacity of natural systems. • Adopt climate-smart agricultural practices and develop resilient food systems. • Develop preparedness and monitoring systems to detect and respond to climate-related impacts on natural systems. • Strengthen capacity to understand and use equity-driven, nature-based measures for risk reduction, climate adaptation and mitigation. • Integrate climate adaptation into policies and planning.

Built Environment

High-level findings	Key drivers of risk	Resilience pathways
• Infrastructure vulnerabilities, particularly in aging systems, exacerbate the impacts of hazards, particularly in urban areas and remote communities. • Urban areas face compounded risks from population growth and insufficient resilience planning.	• Urbanization and population growth • Land use and environmental changes • Building and infrastructure standards • Governance and policy limitations • Infrastructure interdependencies • Resource management and water control • Maintenance and adaptation of protective structures	• Infrastructure hardening, upgrading, redundancy and diversification to withstand extreme events. • Conduct regular risk assessments and integrate findings into emergency management plans. • Create real-time monitoring of assets and systems, and smart predictive analytics for early issue detection. • Enhance environmental performance and resilience by using sustainable resilience materials. • Consider adaptive design components that are reparable or replaceable and address multiple hazards. • Engage communities and partners to ensure that needs are reflected and to share information. • Ensure robust maintenance and inspection programs. • Develop policies and funding that prioritize a resilience-first approach.

Health and Wellbeing

High-level findings	Key drivers of risk	Resilience pathways
• Disaster and climate events exacerbate health inequities and increase mortality. • Marginalized populations experience disproportion-ate physical and mental health impacts.	• Physical health and exposure to hazards • Mental health and psychosocial wellbeing • Healthcare access and infrastructure • Systematic inequities	• Uphold Indigenous Knowledge systems, practices and self-determination. • Centre health in disaster and climate risk management action across sectors, ministries and all levels of government. • Invest in resilient infrastructure for healthcare facilities located in high-risk areas. • Support risk assessments, research and monitoring to understand impacts to health and health systems, and to ensure effective and equitable solutions.

Society, Cultures and Relationality

High-level findings	Key drivers of risk	Resilience pathways
• Social cohesion and culture are disrupted by displacement and recovery challenges. • Indigenous communities are disproportionately impacted and face unique cultural losses.	• Social support and connectedness • Access to reliable and equitable social services • Safe living environments and sense of place • Cultural continuity and heritage • Food security and environmental stewardship • Communication and accessibility • Recognition of Indigenous rights and self-determination	• Consider agency, inclusiveness, reconciliation, accessibility and non-discriminatory participation in risk management. • Address underlying conditions that result in disproportionate and compounding impacts to specific communities. • Bring an equity and human rights lens to programs and processes for emergency response services—no one-size-fits-all approaches.

Economy

High-level findings	Key drivers of risk	Resilience pathways
• Direct economic losses from disaster and climate events strain provincial resources and disrupt key industries like agriculture, food systems, forestry and tourism.	• Workforce vulnerabilities and resilience • Business preparedness and risk management • Insurance availability and affordability • Supply chain stability and infrastructure resilience • Financial system and economic interdependencies • Emerging trends and economic shifts	• Integrate climate and disaster risk into economic planning and policy. • Diversify the economy to reduce reliance on single industries, markets and supply chains. • Strengthen social protection systems to ensure that communities can withstand and recover from economic shocks. • Foster public-private partnerships. • Promote financial resilience and economic preparedness.

Governance

High-level findings	Key drivers of risk	Resilience pathways
• Effective response and recovery are hindered by co-ordination and resource allocation challenges, underscoring the need for integrated governance frameworks. A lack of focus on long-term risk mitigation can result in inadequate policy frameworks, insufficient resource allocation, and a reactive rather than proactive approach to risk management.	• Trust, collaboration and inclusion • Clarity of roles and accountability • Capacity and resource allocation • Fiscal resilience • Inclusive decision-making	• Invest in systems that foster strong, long-term relationships. • Recognize and respect the inherent authority of First Nations. • Engage communities in governance by seeking diverse voices and addressing power imbalances. • Collaborate and share knowledge with national and international partners. • Invest in building strong institutions with clear mandates, adequate resources and effective co-ordination. • Develop financial and other supports that meet the needs of diverse populations. • Build technical expertise to support risk assessment, planning and response efforts, and integrate diverse knowledge systems to enhance understanding and foster resilience. • Embed disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation across all levels of government and sectors.

Governance

High-level findings	Key drivers of risk	Resilience pathways
		• Invest in advanced and adaptive technological systems for reliable communication, data management and emergency response. • Establish mechanisms for regular monitoring, evaluation and updating of resilience strategies. • Establish forward-thinking stewardship of land, water and ecosystems, including valuation of the unique relationship that First Nations hold with land, water and ecosystems.