Emergency Management Creston Work Plan 2026–2030

Program overview

Emergency Management Creston includes three portfolios: **Emergency Management, Climate, and FireSmart**. These programs support mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery while aligning with B.C.'s Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA).

Beyond legislative compliance, the program helps protect residents, infrastructure, municipal services, and the environment by mitigating impactful hazards before emergencies occur.

Emergency Management Creston Team

Director of Protective Services

- Leads the Emergency Management Organization on behalf of the Town during emergencies
- Supervises the Emergency Management & Climate Readiness Coordinator

Emergency Management & Climate Readiness Coordinator

- Maintains the Emergency Management Organization; implements action items and training
- Supervises the FireSmart Coordinator

FireSmart Coordinator

- Implements community wildfire preparedness and mitigation

Priority projects 2026–2030

The projects identified below are designed to reduce risk and strengthen community readiness and resilience in Creston. The implementation of specific action recommendations in individual plans are not identified in this Work Plan.

Emergency Management

Project	Purpose	Legislative Requirement (Y/N)	Funding Currently Available (Y/N)	Timeline
Hazard, Risk, and Vulnerability Assessment (HRVA)	To inform the Town's emergency management program, land use and infrastructure decisions, business continuity planning, risk reduction priorities, climate adaptation planning, and long-term community resilience.	Yes	Plan is developed; some funding is available for implementation such as critical infrastructure wildfire mitigation.	• Completed • Update every 5 years
Business Continuity Plan (BCP)	To ensure the continued delivery, during an emergency, of leadership and services necessary for the effective functioning of the Town of Creston.	Yes	No	• Begin in 2027 • Update every 5 years
Update Disaster Response Plan	Defines roles, resources required, training and exercise programs, mitigation measures, and promote cultural safety in emergency response.	Yes	Yes; currently in staff near term workplan.	• Begin in 2027 • Update every 7 years
Evacuation Route Plan	Defines safe evacuation routes needed for the movement of people, livestock, animals, and personal property from an area of imminent or actual threat.	Yes	Yes	• Begin in 2027 • Update every 5 years
Emergency Information Plan	Defines roles and approval processes and provide tools and methods for internal and external communications during an emergency.	No	Yes; currently in staff workplan.	• Completion target for 2026 • Update every 3-5 years
Critical Infrastructure Protection Plan	Identifies critical infrastructure and services in Creston including interdependency and vulnerabilities. Provides preparedness and response measures during an emergency.	No	No	• Begin in 2028 • Update every 3-5 years
Mitigation Plan	Considers structural measures, land-use planning, nature-based solutions, policy and regulatory tools, and	No	No	• Begin in 2028 • Update every 5 years

Project	Purpose	Legislative Requirement (Y/N)	Funding Currently Available (Y/N)	Timeline
	programs and incentives to mitigate hazards.			
Recovery Plan	Defines measures to be taken post-emergency to repair and restore community conditions to pre-emergency levels, or better.	No	No	• Begin in 2029 Update every 3-5 years
Damage Assessment Plan	Outlines the responsibilities and procedures for assessment and reporting of damage to public and private property resulting from a disaster.	No	No	• Begin in 2029 • Update every 3 years
Debris Management Plan	Provides organizational structure, guidance, standardized procedures and coordination of efforts for the clearance, removal, and disposal of debris caused by a major debris-generating event.	No	No	• Begin in 2030 • Update every 3-5 years
Rehabilitation Plan	Physical Rehabilitation: Provides guidance to repair and restore specific systems (e.g., restoring a localized power grid, fixing a specific roadway, providing immediate temporary housing) Psychosocial Rehabilitation: Provides guidance to repair and restore human and social systems (e.g., establishing crisis counseling hubs, deploying Psychological First Aid, providing targeted protection for vulnerable populations, and offering trauma support for first responders)	No	No	• Begin in 2030 • Update every 3-5 years
Exercises, Staff Training, After Action Reports	To continuously improve and enhance staff response capabilities and build redundancy in knowledge areas.	Yes	Yes; Staff funding is available through annual operational budget and from	Conduct two exercises annually. After-Action Report completed within 60 days. 90% of Town staff with designated emergency

Project	Purpose	Legislative Requirement (Y/N)	Funding Currently Available (Y/N)	Timeline
			an existing EOC grant	management responsibilities complete required training annually.

Climate

Project	Purpose	Legislative Requirement (Y/N)	Funding Currently Available (Y/N)	Timeline
Climate Adaptation Strategy	Integrates climate considerations into municipal processes and aims to strengthen community resilience through targeted adaptation actions.	No	Yes	• Begin 2026 • Update every 5 years
Tree Planting Guide	Provides guidance for selecting, planting, and maintaining climate-resilient tree species in Creston, supporting urban shade, biodiversity, heat mitigation, stormwater benefits, and long-term canopy health.	No	Yes	• 2026 Completion • Update as new information becomes available
Urban Tree Strategy	Provides a detailed tree inventory and analysis, combined with canopy assessment and growth modelling to provide data on canopy cover, species diversity, age structure, and risks related to climate change, pests, wildfire, and aging tree populations.	No	Yes	• Begin 2027 • Update every 5 years

FireSmart

Project	Purpose	Legislative Requirement (Y/N)	Funding Currently Available (Y/N)	Timeline
FireSmart Program (Community Resilience Initiative)	Provides the tools and education necessary to enable residents and the Town to increase wildfire resiliency; follows the seven disciplines of	No	Yes	• 2027 Completion

Project	Purpose	Legislative Requirement (Y/N)	Funding Currently Available (Y/N)	Timeline
	FireSmart as a holistic approach to reducing wildfire risk.			
Fuel Management	Describes treatment options for wildland fuels in Creston.	No	Partial; funding for fuel management at Dwight and Rosamond Moore Community Wetland provided through LGCAP	• Begin 2026 • Implement as funding becomes available
Creston Wildfire Resiliency Plan (CWRP)	Provides a local risk assessment and action plan to improve wildfire resiliency in Creston.	No	No	• Developed in 2023 • Update every 5 years (2028)

Resource gaps and limitations

Staff have identified resource gaps and limitations that may be a barrier in completing the above projects or recommended action items in individual projects. They are as follows:

- Staff capacity is the main constraint for plan completion, implementation, grant reporting, and exercises.
- Funding is uncertain and often project-based, which limits long-term program delivery, and often requires the redefining of priorities based on available funding.
- Operational demands are increasing due to more frequent and complex hazard events.
- Implementation will require coordination across municipal departments, regional partners, Indigenous governments, and external agencies.

Summary

Over the next five years, the work plan identifies priority projects and actions to strengthen emergency preparedness, climate readiness, wildfire resiliency, and legislative compliance in Creston. Successful implementation will depend on stable funding, sufficient staff capacity, and continued coordination with municipal departments, regional partners, Indigenous governments, and external agencies.