

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN

INFORMATION RELEASE

APRIL 18, 2018 1:00 pm

Province Authorizes Disaster Financial Assistance

MESSAGE FROM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BC: Major flooding and debris flows in the Okanagan Region that began on March 22, 2018 have caused property and content damages. As a result of the damages sustained from this event, provincial Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) has been authorized for qualifying claimants, such as home owners, residential tenants, small business owners, farmers, charitable organizations, and local government bodies, who were unable to obtain insurance to cover these disaster-related losses.

Disaster Financial Assistance has been authorized for the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen, including all electoral areas, municipalities, and first nation communities within the geographic boundaries.

All applicants should first check with their insurance agent to determine if their current insurance policy provides coverage for the resulting damage. As part of the DFA qualification process, the applicant's insurer will be asked to provide a letter indicating that the applicant could not have purchased insurance to cover these disaster-related losses.

Information about Disaster Financial Assistance is available on the DFA web site at <http://www.gov.bc.ca/disasterfinancialassistance>. There you will find the DFA Application Form, 'Disaster Financial Assistance Guidelines for Private Sector', information bulletins about DFA and insurance and 'One Step at a time – A Guide to Disaster Recovery'.

Affected residents are encouraged to submit their application as soon as possible so the damage assessment can be completed promptly. The deadline for EMBC to receive this form is July 19, 2018. Email the completed application to DFA@gov.bc.ca or fax: 250-952-5542). As applications are received, EMBC contracted evaluators will contact the applicants to explain the DFA program requirements and schedule an onsite visit.

For after-hours emergencies, please call the **Provincial Emergency Program at 1-800-663-3456**.

For more information, go to: www.rdos.bc.ca, and on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/RegionalDistrictOfOkanaganSimilkameen/>

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