





and several other exercise and training events; Provincial All Hazards Plan in final stages of rewrite; New staffing including the addition of two Professional Engineers to the Recovery Office.

**NS** – Jason Mew reported that Director Andrew Lathem was retiring in just a few days and longtime IEMG contributor Terry Lynn Slaunwhite has promoted to the Dept. of Community Services; EMO participated in exercise Staunch Maple 17. This exercise is the annual Canadian Armed Forces exercise intended to practice and improve the ability to support other government departments and agencies, at all levels of jurisdiction, in response to domestic emergencies. Participation was a multi-national involving 3 levels of government, military, and critical infrastructure representatives. During the exercise, participating municipalities took appropriate steps to activate their EOC's, convene their unified command, and review/update pre-established disaster procedures in their EOPs, establish an IMT that can meet the initial and long term challenges, manage coordinated response efforts, and identify appropriate organization mandates; EMO continues to provide a variety of training and exercise opportunities; Continue to process the 2016 Sydney Flood event with approximately 1200 claims, with 80% of those claims have been completed. \$10 million in claim payments have been administered; The provincial 9-1-1 service is in the early stage of technology refresh (5 year upgrade cycle) and this process will incorporate updated mapping technology with the upgrade; EMO continues to work with broadcast partners to develop the functionality of public alerting with the province.

**MA** – Proxy Mike Russas reported that the jurisdiction had two full EOC activations, New England Patriots parade & 2017 Boston Marathon, and several partial activations; Several MEMA facilitated/supported/participation exercises and trainings during this reporting period with a major Mass Casualty exercises coming up; State mitigation and drought plans have been recently updated; MEMA led planning initiative to develop the capacity for the state to operate a Survivor and Family Assistance Center in the aftermath of a mass casualty or mass fatality event; Also led planning initiative to establish a Cyber Emergency Support Function (ESF) within the state EOC.

**PEI** – Proxy Tanya Mullally reported one activation for an extended power outage lasting 5 days and affecting 11000 customers in 10 municipalities. One of the communities in question did not have an emergency plan and had never activated an EOC before. Did not result in a disaster declaration; participated in Staunch Maple 17 activating the full EOC for training opportunity; Several ICS trainings and natural exercise trainings cycle; Working with PSC on regional resilience and rolled out hazard assessment tool for municipalities; Provided support to NB EOC operations center during recent ice storm.

**VT** – Director Bornemann reported that after newly elected Governor took office, the agency went through a reorganization including the former director Chris Herrick's promotion to Deputy Commissioner; VEM also lost its deputy director during this transition and is currently in the hiring process for that position; Beginning July 1, 2017, DEMHS became Vermont Emergency Management. The Homeland Security Section transferred to the Vermont State Police and several additional staff changes have resulted from this reorganization; VEM is in the process of a new Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) multi day exercise series beginning in September; Three partial EOC activations during this reporting period for 1 winter storm and 2 political events and no major flooding reported during the spring season; VEM is in the process of updating the State Plan as well as the State Mitigation Plan.

**RI** – (Via email report) Director Gaynor reported through Bruce Fitzgerald (ME) that Rhode Island had a moderate winter season which allowed the staff to concentrate on multiple planning initiatives, budgets, and grant issues as well as preparedness efforts; RIEMA is well underway with the Rhode Island EMAP accreditation initiative with a goal of completing by end of 2017; RIEMA has led the effort to establish new and revise existing Continuity of Operations plans for the state with 51 departments, divisions, and agencies currently participating in that effort. 75% have sufficiently completed their COOP plans; RIEMA is



developing and implementing a comprehensive, scalable and common set of Safety & Security protocols in every State owned or occupied building to ensure employees and the public remain safe. Process includes risk assessment, developing prevention strategies and emergency action plans that are specific to each facility, conduct awareness training, conduct proactive live drills (fire and lockdown drills), and formalize and sustain the program; RIEMA and the founding members (founding members: Citizens Bank, Raytheon, CVS Health, Amica, Fidelity Investments and Electric Boat/General Dynamics, and the RI Fusion Center, Commerce RI) officially launched “The Alliance” which is a self-governed public-private partnership focused on improving the resilience of Rhode Island businesses during emergencies; Several training and exercises; and preparing for the Annual meeting of the National Governors Association.

**NH** – Assistant Director Jennifer Harper (Proxy) reported there were several partial activations during this reporting period and awaiting possible presidential declaration for the March 14<sup>th</sup> Snowstorm which incurred \$2.2M+/- damages that was mostly debris; 17 exercises conducted and 25 training classes presented ranging all aspects of emergency management; coordinating June 8<sup>th</sup> Preparedness conference with an expected audience of 900+ attendees; NH has a new Governor with all new staff in that office; FEMA Program Administration by State (PAS) approved 12/5/16 and NH has approved 24 plans to-date; Center for Homeland Defense and Security facilitated a seminar with Governor and state leadership; currently updating the State Emergency Operations Plan, adding a Cyber ESF, working with Governor’s Office on COOP and COG Plans; NH is no longer in a drought situation; starting EMAP process that is expected to take a couple of years to get full accreditation.

**ME** – Director Fitzgerald reported that there were no new activations or declarations this reporting period. Still working 2015 blizzard and that event is almost closed out. There were 2 significant blizzards but handled response remotely; The February blizzard left record snowfall in several counties, however damage thresholds were not met to request a federal declaration. Maine is no longer in drought status; MEMA conducted its first real-world Cyber response, activating CSIRT advisory group for managing impacts of nationwide Dept of Labor software breach; President George H W Bush has returned to Maine for the summer season; Several exercises including areas such as Hazmat response, communication drills, active shooter, pet sheltering and drought response; Fire & Ice exercise series began with session 1 based on 1998 ice storm scenario response, session 2 will be recovery of ice storm, sessions, will be followed by Sessions 3 & 4 Solar Storm response and through the recovery phase; Massachusetts Director Kurt Schwartz spoke at annual preparedness conference, where there were 500+ participants; New legislation provides rules for recovery fund – no money but if there were, there are now rules for it.

**CT** – Director Hackett reported (via email) the State EOC had 2 activations since the last report. 1 partial activation for a winter storm and one full activation for a winter storm; Several exercise and training during this time including 2016 Governors Emergency Planning and Preparedness Exercise (Statewide Ice Storm Exercise) with a focus on unified command at the municipal level, make safe protocols, ESF 2 Communications and restoration and also several radiological exercises merging with an all hazards platform; Participation from 161 municipalities, 120 state agencies, WebEOC users and 203 unified command participants. Over 400 injects were delivered; WebEOC platform recently updated and 480 partners to date have been trained on the new product; Additional training and exercises with focus on cyber, search and rescue, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), School safety and security and Urban Search and Rescue; Deputy Commissioner William Shea left state service in January and State Emergency Management Director has assumed the role of Acting Deputy Commissioner along with maintaining his EMA Director position; CT continues to deal with budgetary issues including numerous staff vacancies.



**NL** – (Via email report) Director McCormack reported through Greg MacCallum (NB) Newfoundland Labrador had no provincial EOC activations during this reporting period but there was a major wind storm with category 1 winds in March resulting in wind damaged buildings, trees and utility infrastructure. Extended power outage for some areas lasted well into four days. Damage estimates from insurance industry per claim payouts will be in the \$45 million range; In May there was an ice jam build up causing the flooding and evacuation of a small isolated community of approx. 80 residents, some who were airlifted to nearby communities. Historic water levels experienced and some of the evacuated residents are still not cleared to return to homes and being housed in military accommodations; There were no provincial level exercises during this reporting period but the province did participate in municipal level events; Gander NL hosted hurricane exercise that coincided with start of the National Emergency Preparedness Week; Several senior management staffing changes.

**QC** – Adi Jakupovic (proxy) reported that in the last 6 months the provincial EMO has been very busy with winter storms, coastal erosion and flooding; there were 25 local states of emergency declarations but no provincial states of emergency declarations, although Quebec did formally request and receive the assistance of the Canadian Armed Forces in response to the massive impacts of the spring 2017 floods. The provincial EOC was in full activation for the event which occurred from the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of April to the last week of May affecting 5 regions in the western part of the province and 5 others in the central and eastern part. A presentation was given on the flooding which affected 261 municipalities, over 5300 homes, 4066 evacuees, 400 roads, 2 days of government office closures, and 2000+ soldiers activated. Reintegration has begun and some evacuees will not be able to return to their homes for quite some time; Adi reported it was also a record year for landslides with more than 170 being recorded since April; lost a dozen employees from Operations department in the last 6 months, most of who have not yet been replaced. Departure of some key elements and high quality personnel, which has left office with a gap in experienced personnel. Lost main training and exercise personnel as well; several retired staff members were called in to assist during recent events. Staff is preparing for forest fire season. A new deputy assistant minister has been named since mid-April, sends regrets.

**Federal Partners** – PSC – at moment the agency is not undergoing reorganization. PSC participates with regional exercises and participated in Staunch Maple 17; developed a Response and recovery working group. HEALTH CANADA – Lise Gauthier sends regrets; no activations during reporting period but support teams have been available especially for opioid response; Health Canada also participated in Staunch Maple exercise, several planning initiatives, engaging with world health organization, & ICS and EOC trainings. FEMA- Relatively unscathed with new administration, no new funds but no new cuts either. Funding opportunities were split between regions 1 & 2. FEMA has a new online training power point focusing on “you are the help until help arrives” that teaches individuals the skills needed. DHHS – US – continues to work on health plans (Ebola Plan) focusing on the regional approach. Created a quarterly call with regional jurisdictions and Public Health Canada. Working with the Canadian Consulate and upcoming consulate meeting scheduled in Boston (Meeting was on June 13, 2017).

- 8.0 Operations Manual:** The Operations Manual is available at [www.iemg-gigu-web.org](http://www.iemg-gigu-web.org). The document is now a mature document having been reviewed several times. Manual will be reviewed and updated as needed.
- 9.0 Bi-National Mutual Aid Interoperability Working Group Discussion:** Group is chaired by Aaron Campbell (PEI), Bruce Fitzgerald (ME) and Greg MacCallum (NB). There was discussion about the 3 Canada/US compacts (IEMAC, NEMAC, PNEMA). No one appeared interested in one single compact but will seek assistance with federal partners to move things along in way of more joint exercises and aligning calendars. Federal partners reported they feel it is worthwhile effort but the funding is just not there. Bruce





(ME) will discuss with John McGough (FEMA) about funding for a joint website with the other compacts. There have been several discussions over the years identifying specific assets to cross border, but may be time to move from general to specific. The spreadsheet that was recently created with assets by jurisdiction and what each jurisdiction would likely provide and request is a starting point and “what do we do now” and “how do we get it done” are the next questions. Aaron Campbell (PEI) will work with Mark Gillan (Center for Security Science) on how to frame this.

- 10.0 New England Governors Eastern Canadian Premiers Briefing:** Discussion regarding the NEG/ECP meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for August 27-28, 2017 and PEI will host. Aaron Campbell (PEI) may be part of panel with climate change focus and may have the opportunity to discuss the IEMG.
- 11.0 Resource Management:** 10 Common Resources and Functional capabilities. Spreadsheet was previously developed and discussed. Final Version of the spreadsheet will be added to the secured section of the website. (with disclaimer)
- 12.0 Annual Report:** The 2016 annual report was approved by the board on November 30, 2016. Report will be translated and placed on the website. Compilation began on the 2017 Annual Report which will be written by the co-chairs and presented in PEI summer 2017.
- 13.0 Presentations and Discussions:** All the presentations from the Fall 2016 meeting in New Hampshire that were available in electronic format were provided are now posted to the IEMG website in the members only section. Not all presentations were available electronically.

Naval Rear Admiral John Newton presented on the Role of Joint Task Force – Atlantic (JTFA) during Domestic Operations; Meeting host Greg MacCallum (NB) presented on NB Ice Storm Response; Greg Banner (US DHHS) presented on the Halifax Explosion; Jason Mew (NS) presented on Nova Scotia Drought and Water Distribution; Bruce Fitzgerald (ME) presented on the collaboration between Maine’s Aroostook County EMA and NB officials Spring Ice Out Flooding Facebook page; Amy MacFarlane & Andrew Carrothers from the University of PEI and Michelle Patterson from the Center for Health and Community Research UPEI presented on the Economic Loss Analysis – Loss of The Confederation Bridge.

Presentations noted above, if provided electronically, will be made available on the IEMAC website.

- 14.0 HazMat Update:** Mark Gillan presented update to the hazmat initiative. Indicates the project has been very well received especially in the Eastern Canadian Provinces. Indicates the project has been extended to include research and development and is winding down. There are 7 project deliverables and all 7 documents are currently available on the secured side of the IEMG website.
- 15.0 Bi-Annual Communication Exercise:** Changes to the communication exercise instruction form were requested and approved during the meeting. The form will be updated and provided to future host jurisdictions. This exercise was completed before the Spring 2017 meeting in New Brunswick. The host jurisdiction attempted contact with the 10 remaining jurisdictions both during regular working hours and off duty. 9 of 10 jurisdictions were properly connected during regular working hours and 8 of 10 were connected after hours and one of those 8 with a moderate delayed return call. Detailed report was provided to the board of directors.
- 16.0 Additional discussion:** Aaron Campbell (PEI) has assumed the role of the Canadian Co-Chair; Discussed the development of a Training and exercise distribution list. Maine will develop and suggestion of a board conference call mid to end of July to discuss.



## **17.0 Fall 2017 Meeting Dates & Agenda Items**

The Annual Fall Meeting will be held at the Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee, Vermont September 19-20, 2017. This is slated to be 1 and  $\frac{3}{4}$  days with a Monday travel day. Preceded by the NESEC meeting at the same location and ends with large scale exercise in Vermont at the Emergency Operations Center and the State Emergency Operations Center will be open to persons interested in watching.

Possible agenda items include: Inclusion of IEMG in the FEMA Hurricane Exercise in the spring of 2018; Change of US Co-Chair. Report out from the 2017 NEGECP meeting in PEI; The agenda for the spring meeting will be developed by the co-chairs and host jurisdiction in the coming months.

## **18.0 Appendix**

- Attendees list