

Questionnaire

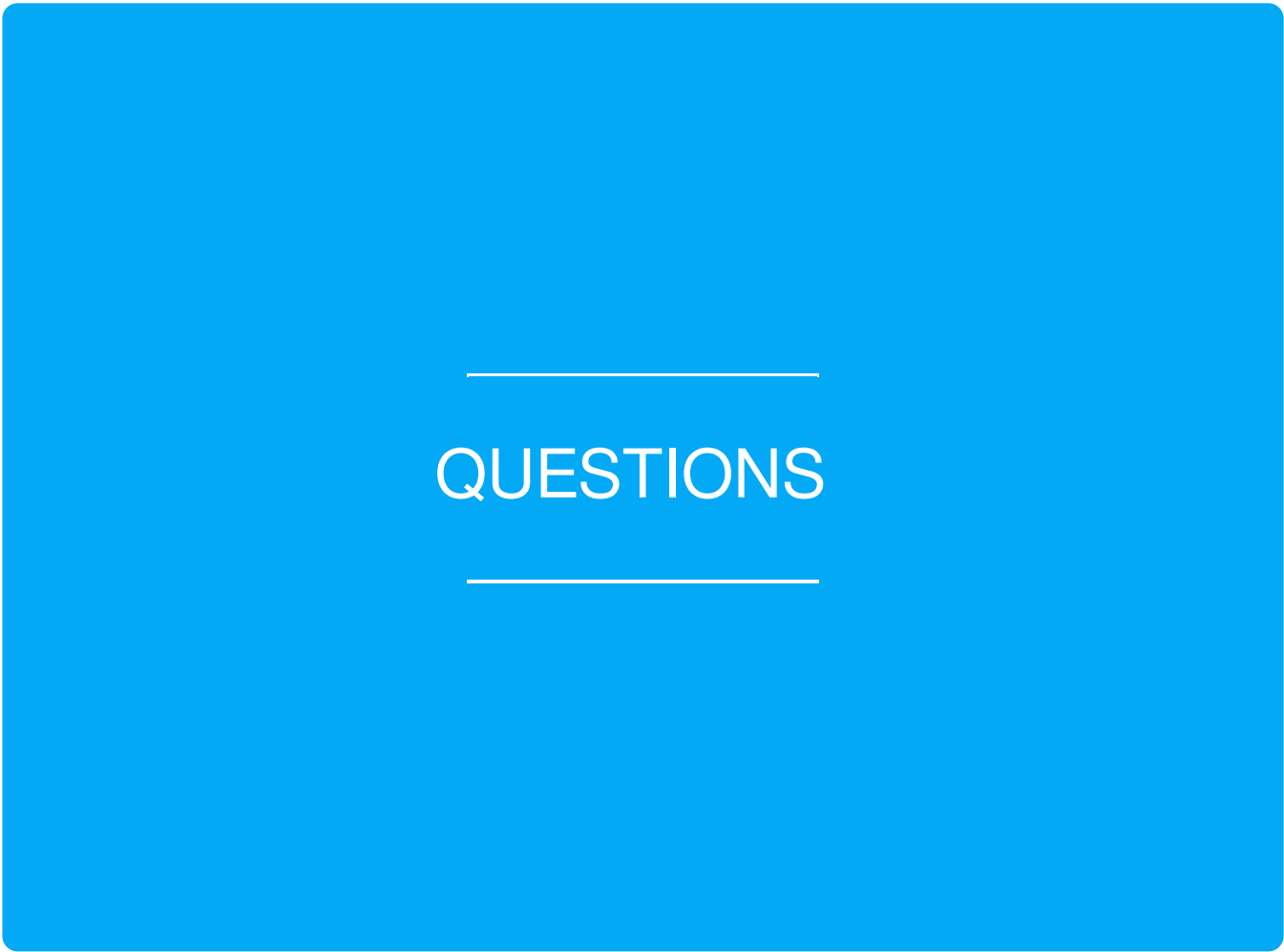
QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE REPORT

15 April 2024 - 31 May 2024

PROJECT NAME:

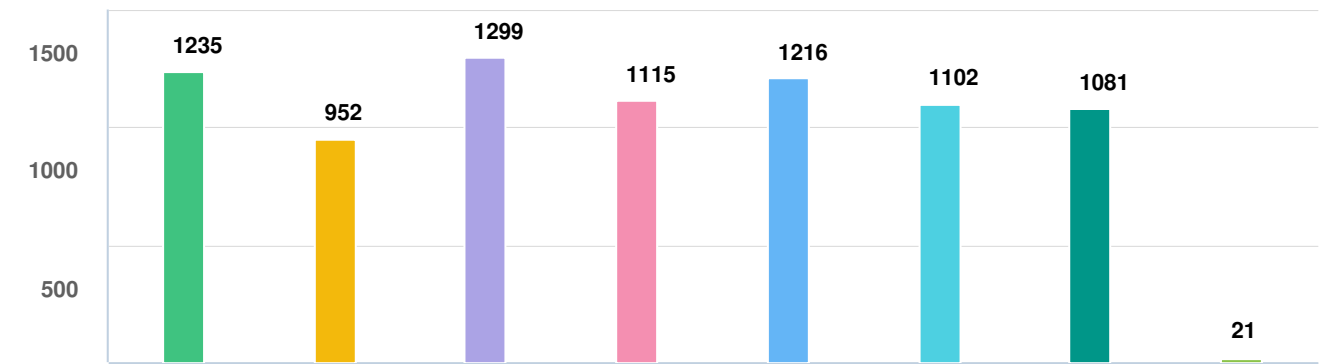
Community Readiness Public Engagement
Emergency Preparedness Questionnaire





QUESTIONS

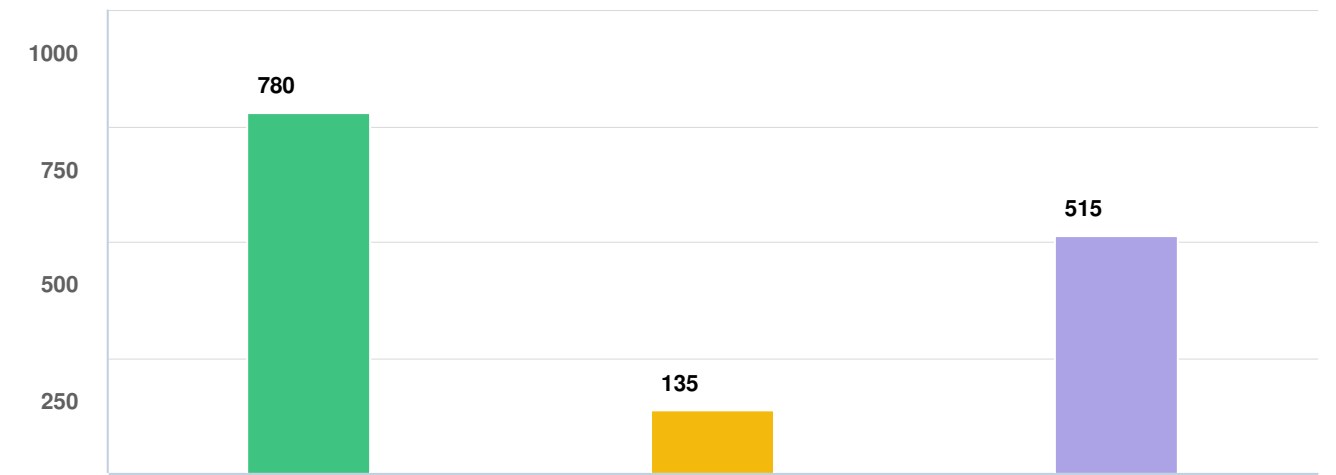
Q1 | What does emergency preparedness for disasters and emergencies mean to you? (Select what applies to you).



- Question options**
- Having the right emergency supplies
 - Everyone has a role to play in emergency preparedness
 - Knowing what to do during an emergency
 - Discussing plans in case of emergencies
 - Being able to react to an unplanned event
 - Acting before an emergency occurs
 - Preventing harm to family, neighbours and friends
 - Other (please specify)

Mandatory Question (1464 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

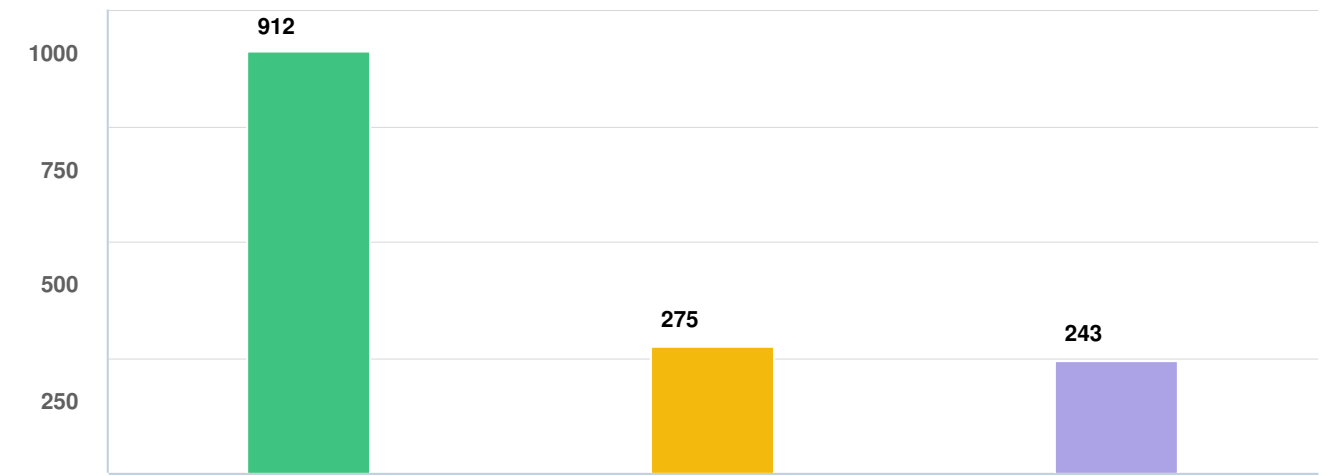
Q2 | Do you have emergency plans in place?



- Question options**
- Yes
 - No
 - I've been thinking about it

Mandatory Question (1464 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q3 Have you talked about your emergency plans with your family and/or friends?

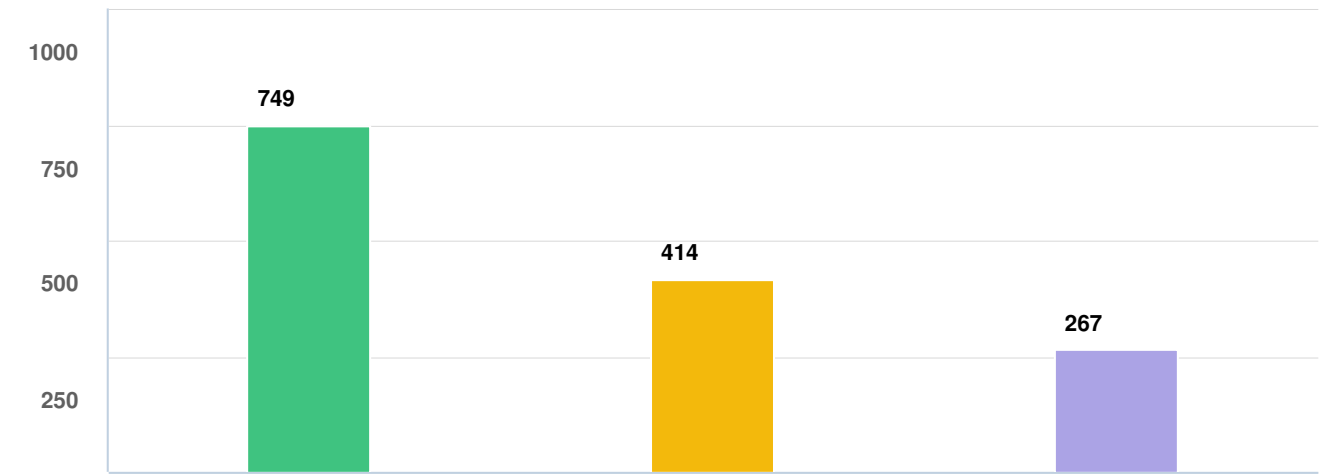


Question options

Yes No I've been thinking about it

Mandatory Question (1464 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q4 Do you have the necessary supplies to carry out your emergency plans?

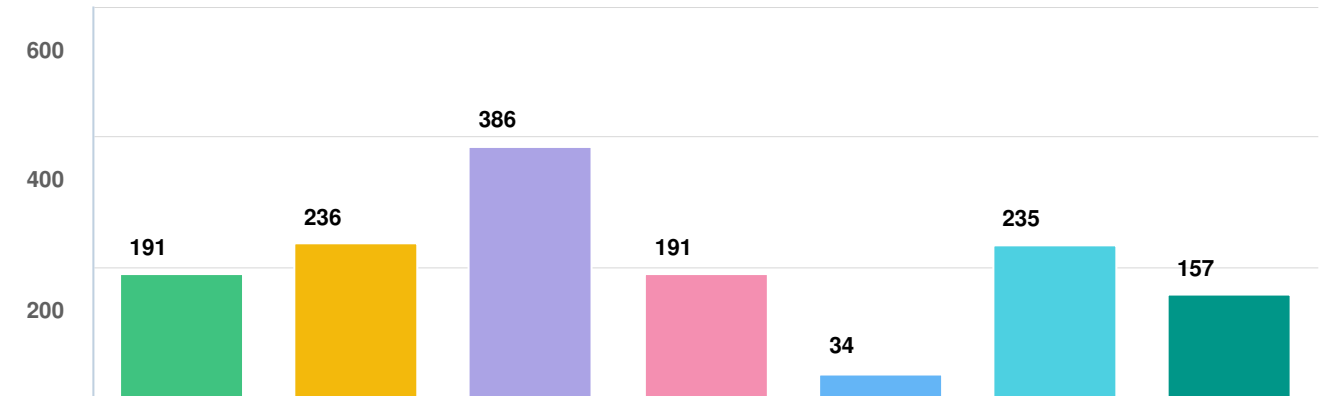


Question options

Yes No I don't know what I need

Mandatory Question (1464 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

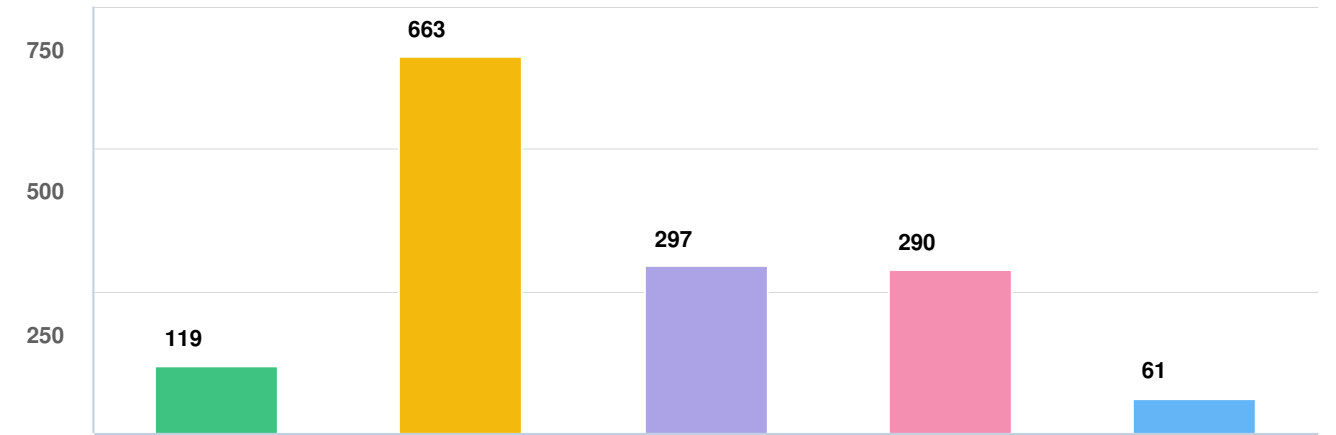
Q5 What would encourage to prepare for emergencies at your home or your business?



- Question options**
- Nothing, I am already prepared
 - Personal experience with disasters or emergencies
 - Recognize it will make a difference if I'm prepared
 - Increased likelihood of local disaster or emergencies
 - Information about consequences (losses)
 - Discounts to buy basic supplies
 - Additional grants to FireSmart your property

Mandatory Question (1464 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

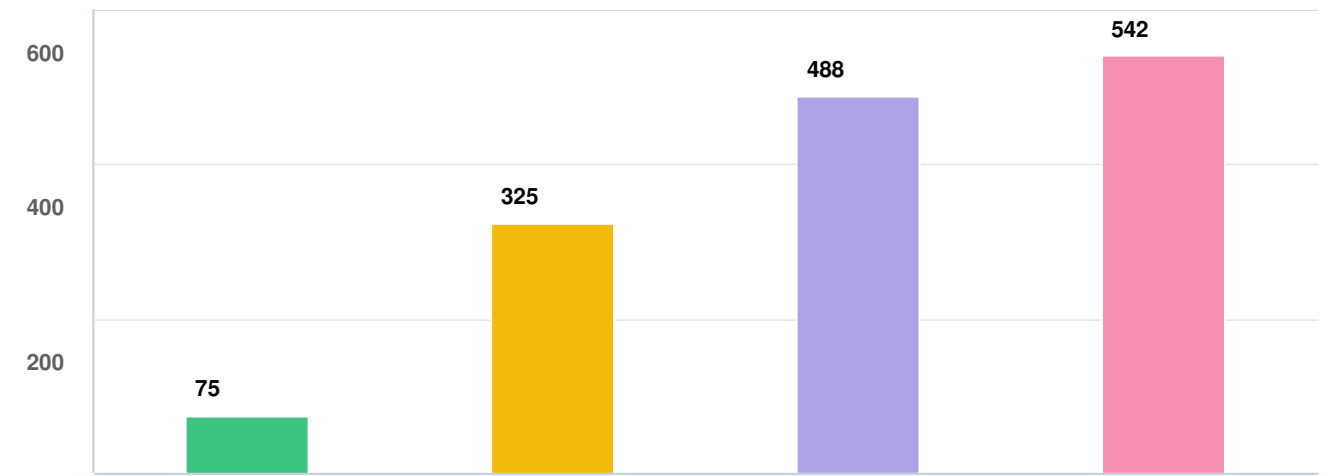
Q6 What is a barrier for you to prepare for emergencies?



- Question options**
- Talking to my family about it is hard
 - Planning for the unknown is confusing
 - I don't know where to begin or what to do
 - I can't afford to buy supplies
 - I don't think it is important where I live

Mandatory Question (1464 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

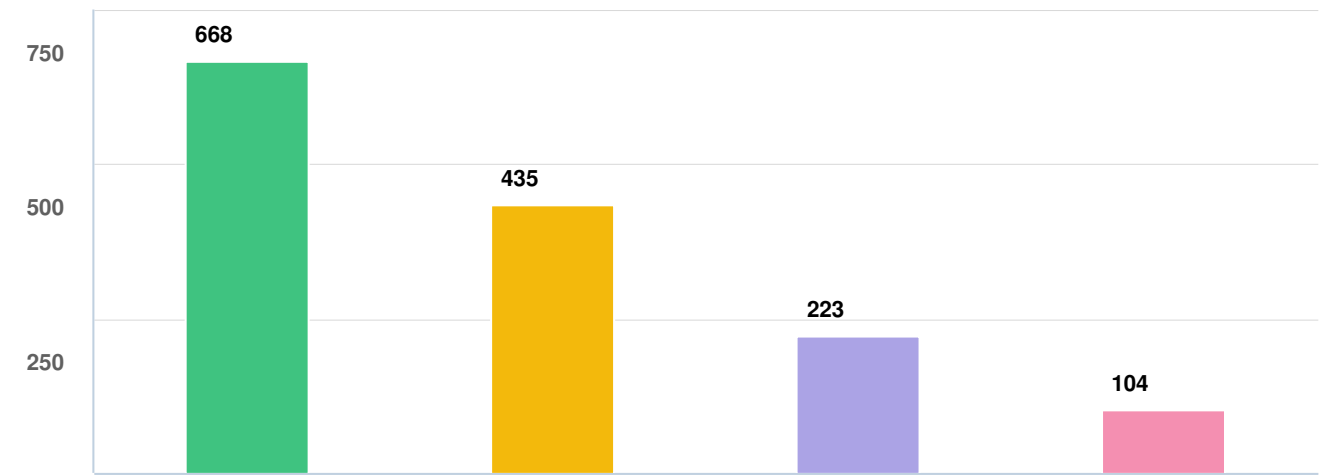
Q7 How long have you lived in your neighbourhood?



Question options
Less than 1 year 1 - 3 years 4 - 10 years 11+ years

Mandatory Question (1464 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

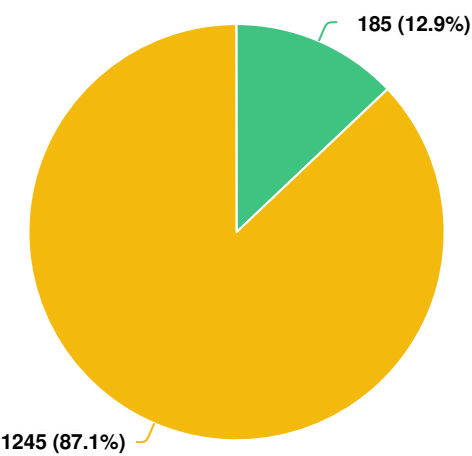
Q8 If you need help during an emergency, how comfortable do you feel asking your neighbours?



Question options
Very comfortable Somewhat comfortable Somewhat uncomfortable Very uncomfortable

Mandatory Question (1464 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q9 | Are you a business owner or senior manager?

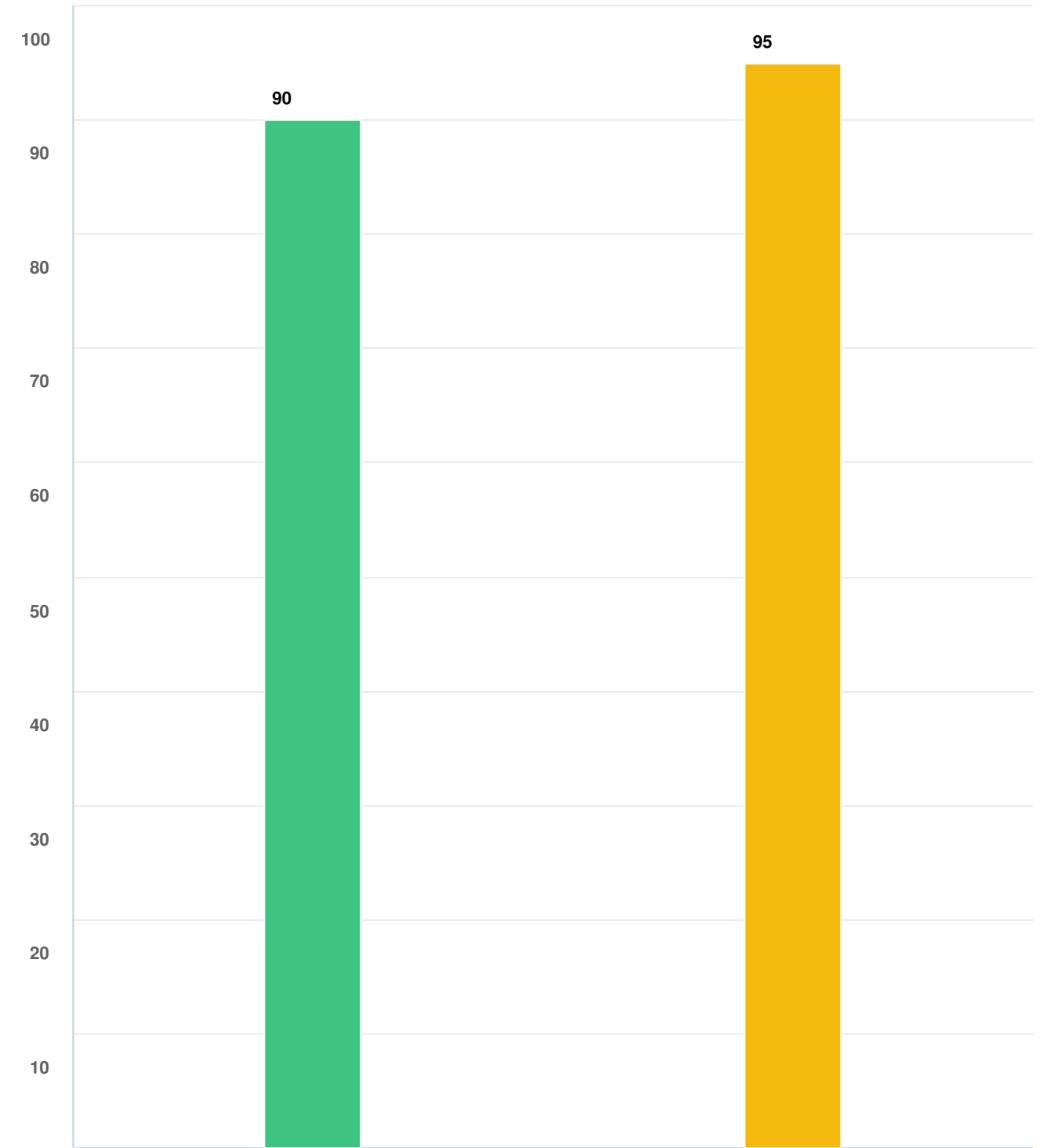


Question options

- Yes
- No

Mandatory Question (1464 response(s))
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q10 Does your business have employees?



Question options

Yes No

Mandatory Question (190 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q11 | How many employees do you have?

Anonymous 8

4/15/2024 10:27 AM

Anonymous 9

4/15/2024 10:32 AM

Anonymous 50

4/15/2024 10:48 AM

Anonymous 10

4/15/2024 11:06 AM

Anonymous 15

4/15/2024 11:20 AM

Anonymous 5

4/15/2024 11:31 AM

Anonymous 1

4/15/2024 12:12 PM

Anonymous 1

4/15/2024 12:21 PM

Anonymous 14

4/15/2024 12:46 PM

Anonymous 18

4/15/2024 12:56 PM

Anonymous Many

4/15/2024 01:04 PM

Anonymous 3

4/15/2024 01:06 PM

Anonymous 35

4/15/2024 01:07 PM

Anonymous 130
4/15/2024 01:08 PM

Anonymous 4
4/15/2024 02:01 PM

LR 3
4/15/2024 04:15 PM

Anonymous
4/15/2024 05:26 PM

I work at Save On Foods and have 40 Grocery delivery drivers and 14 refrigerated vans between Salmon Arm and Penticton. Last year during the fires we delivered beverages and snacks to the barricades in Lake Country.

Anonymous 6
4/15/2024 06:10 PM

Anonymous 12
4/15/2024 09:10 PM

Anonymous 12
4/15/2024 11:13 PM

Anonymous 2
4/16/2024 06:12 AM

Anonymous 3
4/16/2024 06:39 AM

Anonymous 40
4/16/2024 07:00 AM

Anonymous 12
4/16/2024 07:41 AM

Anonymous 25
4/16/2024 09:11 AM

Anonymous 12
4/16/2024 09:12 AM

Anonymous 25
4/16/2024 09:43 AM

Anonymous 5
4/16/2024 01:03 PM

Anonymous 15
4/18/2024 10:01 PM

Anonymous 9
4/19/2024 10:43 AM

Anonymous 2
4/20/2024 07:54 AM

Anonymous 9
4/20/2024 10:31 AM

Anonymous 75
4/23/2024 10:05 PM

Anonymous 2
4/26/2024 01:31 PM

Anonymous 35
4/26/2024 03:17 PM

Anonymous 58
5/02/2024 09:39 AM

Anonymous 5
5/06/2024 11:42 AM

Anonymous 10
5/06/2024 11:52 AM

Anonymous 4 FTE + contractor support
5/06/2024 11:59 AM

Anonymous 50 in the summertime/high season

5/06/2024 12:09 PM	
Anonymous	15
5/06/2024 12:11 PM	
Anonymous	2
5/06/2024 12:19 PM	
Anonymous	1
5/06/2024 12:32 PM	
Anonymous	2
5/06/2024 12:34 PM	
Anonymous	10
5/06/2024 12:40 PM	
Anonymous	1
5/06/2024 03:26 PM	
Anonymous	10
5/06/2024 07:48 PM	
Anonymous	12
5/06/2024 08:39 PM	
Anonymous	14
5/06/2024 10:11 PM	
Anonymous	20 part time and seasonal
5/07/2024 11:54 AM	
Anonymous	3
5/07/2024 10:54 PM	
Anonymous	2
5/10/2024 02:46 PM	
Anonymous	12
5/10/2024 02:56 PM	

Anonymous

1

5/10/2024 02:58 PM

Anonymous

8

5/10/2024 03:05 PM

Anonymous

35

5/10/2024 03:41 PM

Anonymous

20

5/10/2024 04:20 PM

Anonymous

6

5/10/2024 04:20 PM

Anonymous

I manage 6 staff at UBCO

5/10/2024 04:50 PM

Anonymous

3

5/10/2024 07:29 PM

Anonymous

4

5/10/2024 09:20 PM

Anonymous

1

5/10/2024 10:01 PM

Anonymous

1

5/10/2024 10:02 PM

Anonymous

45

5/11/2024 10:16 AM

Anonymous

25

5/11/2024 12:37 PM

Anonymous

25

5/11/2024 12:42 PM

Anonymous

17

5/11/2024 02:08 PM

Anonymous 6
5/11/2024 02:52 PM

Anonymous 4
5/11/2024 03:18 PM

Anonymous 32
5/11/2024 03:34 PM

Anonymous 3
5/11/2024 03:54 PM

Anonymous 15
5/11/2024 04:16 PM

Anonymous 20
5/11/2024 04:24 PM

Anonymous 50+
5/11/2024 05:08 PM

Anonymous 5
5/11/2024 05:21 PM

Anonymous 9
5/11/2024 06:26 PM

Anonymous 2
5/11/2024 07:34 PM

Anonymous 35+
5/11/2024 10:02 PM

Anonymous 10
5/12/2024 12:07 AM

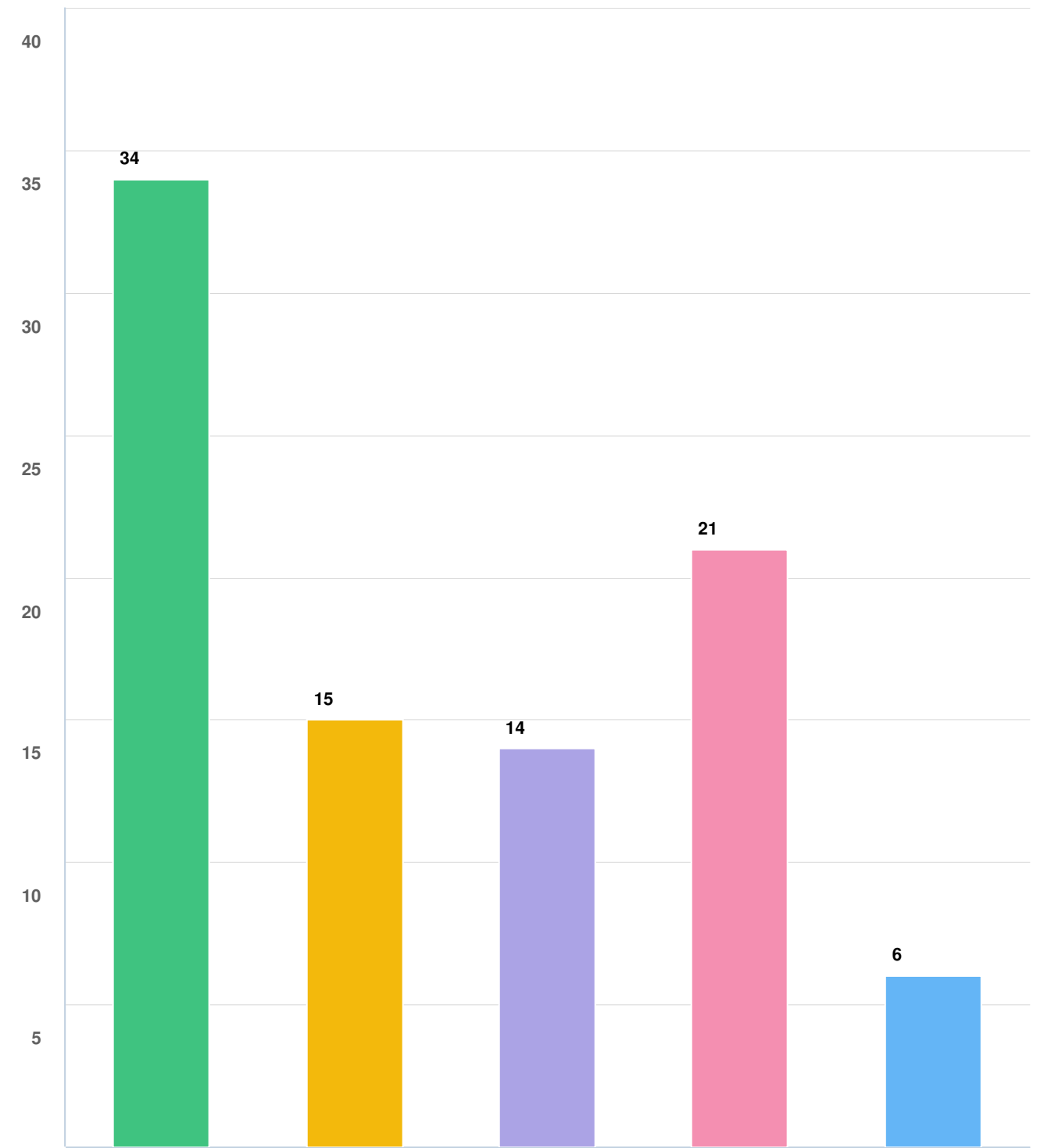
Anonymous two
5/13/2024 09:47 AM

Anonymous 9
5/13/2024 03:00 PM

Anonymous	230
5/13/2024 03:26 PM	
Anonymous	35
5/13/2024 04:27 PM	
Anonymous	3
5/15/2024 06:26 AM	
Anonymous	2
5/15/2024 04:55 PM	
Anonymous	3
5/15/2024 08:15 PM	
Anonymous	50-100
5/18/2024 09:26 AM	
Anonymous	200 plus
5/28/2024 11:05 AM	
Anonymous	8
5/28/2024 12:01 PM	
Anonymous	30
5/29/2024 12:08 AM	

Optional question (90 response(s), 1374 skipped)
Question type: Single Line Question

Q12 | Do you have or are considering a business continuity plan to support you during an emergency (i.e. cyberattack, natural disaster, epidemic)?

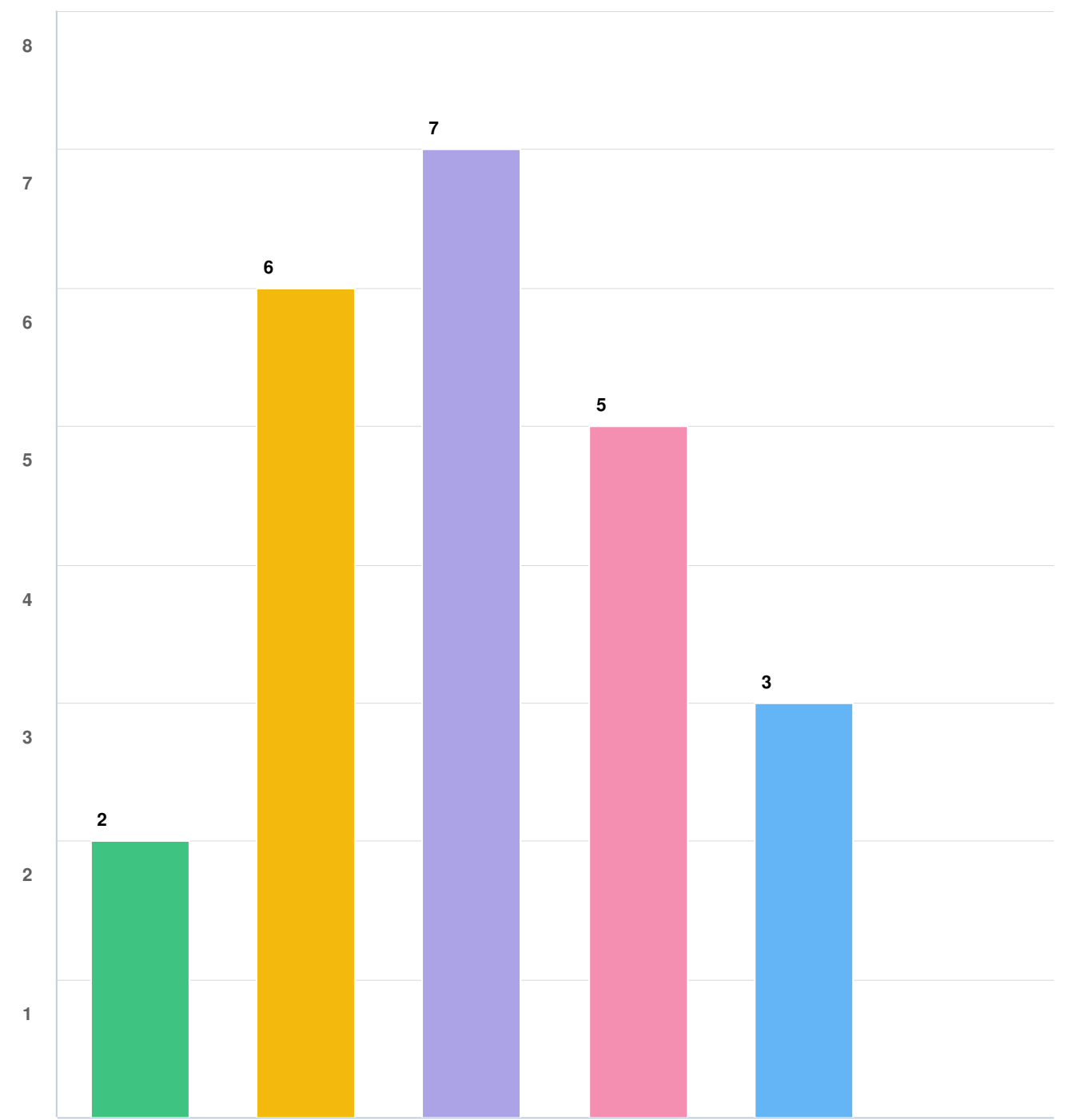


Question options

Yes, I have a plan It's in progress I'm considering it No, I don't have a plan Other (please specify)

Mandatory Question (90 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q13 If you answered no, what stops you from completing one?



Question options

- Planning for the unknown is confusing
- I don't know where to begin or what to do
- I don't have the resources (financial, human, time, etc.)
- I don't think it is needed for my business
- Other (please specify)
- I don't think it is important where I live

Optional question (20 response(s), 1444 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q14 What would help you develop a business continuity plan? (Training, resources, etc.)

Anonymous
4/15/2024 02:01 PM

money

Jeannine
4/15/2024 05:26 PM

we just help where we can

Anonymous
4/15/2024 11:13 PM

Resources

Anonymous
4/16/2024 01:03 PM

Training & resources

Anonymous
5/10/2024 02:46 PM

scenario planning

Anonymous
5/11/2024 05:08 PM

Resources/ templates to help know what to consider

Anonymous
5/12/2024 12:07 AM

Traijing

Anonymous
5/13/2024 09:47 AM

resources

Anonymous
5/13/2024 03:26 PM

training, resources, funding

Anonymous
5/15/2024 06:26 AM

Training and Resources

Anonymous
5/15/2024 04:55 PM

Training

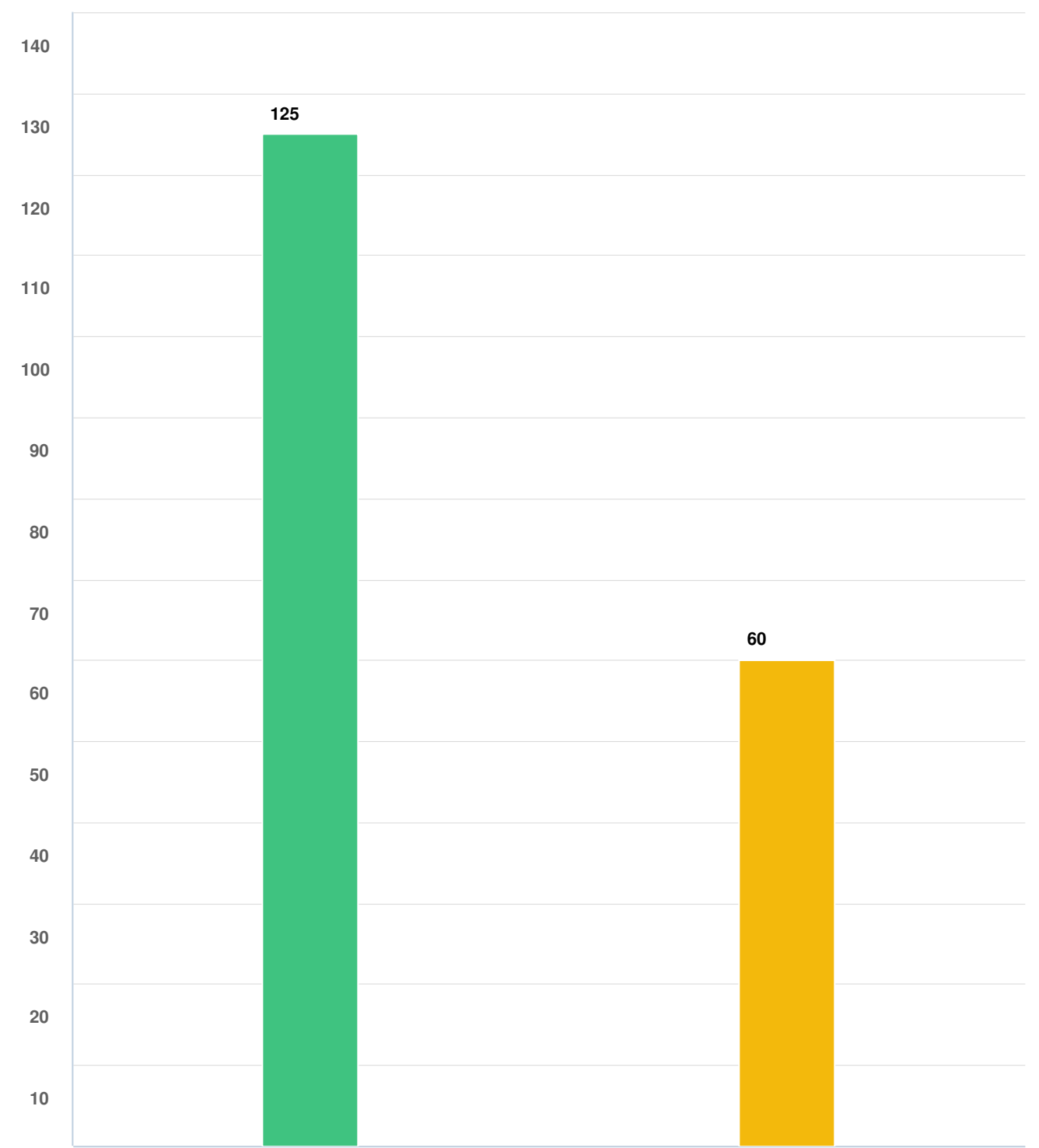
Anonymous
5/15/2024 08:15 PM

well as a small business it costs money to add to our operations and it is challenging already

Optional question (12 response(s), 1452 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q15 Does your business have a physical location?

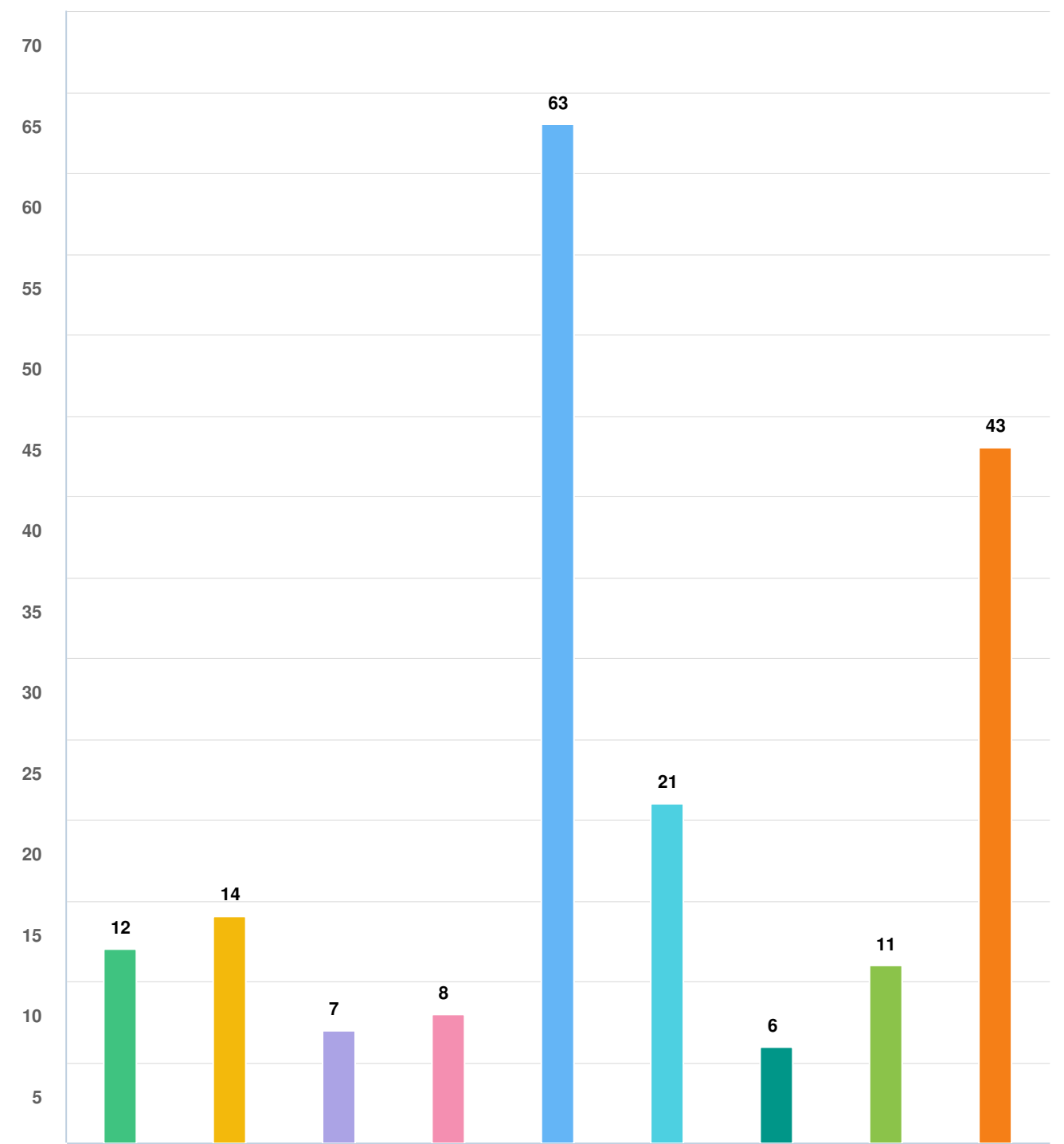


Question options

☒ Yes ☐ No

Mandatory Question (190 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q16 | What industry best describes your business?

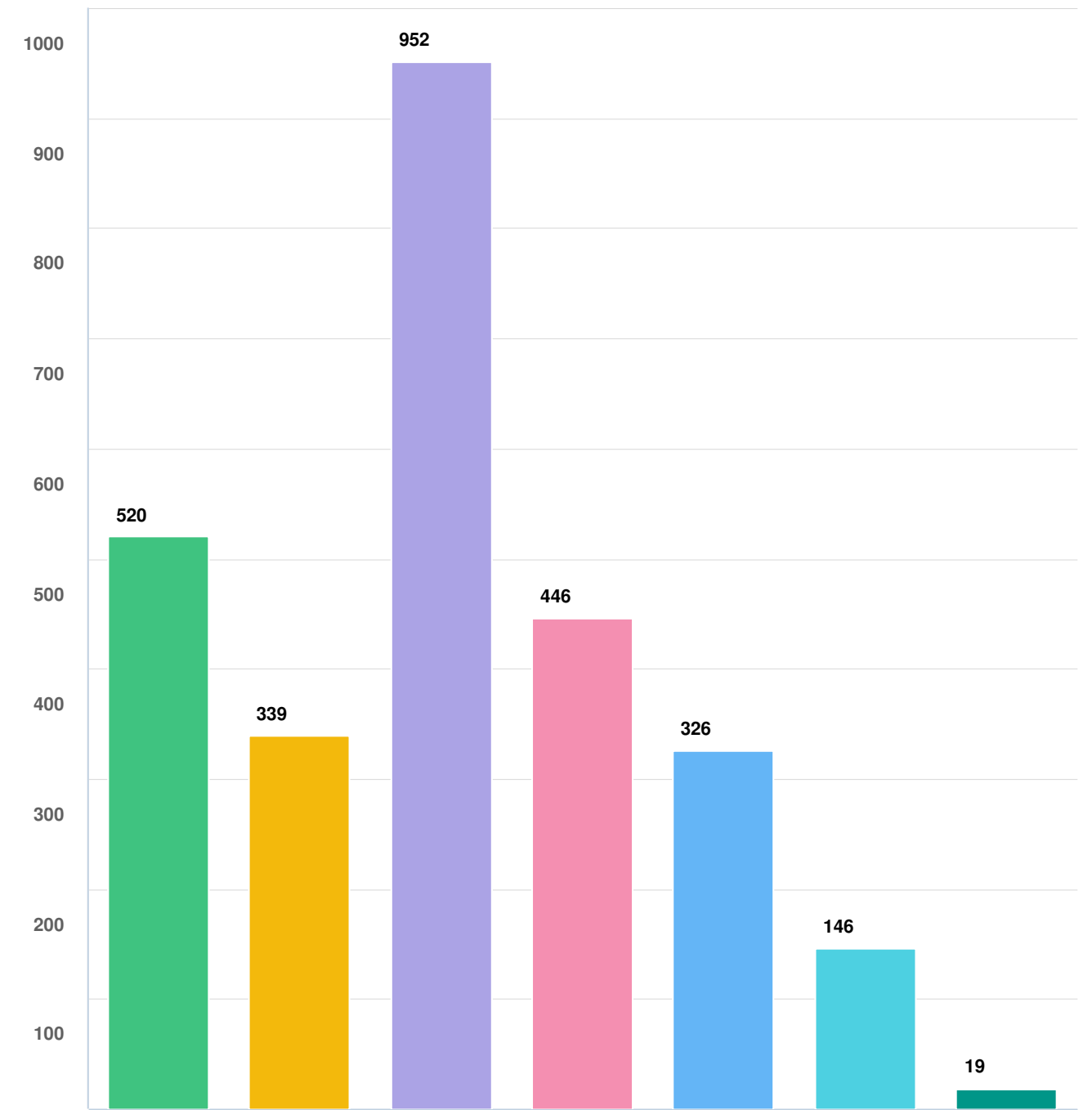


Question options

- Agriculture Construction Retail Accommodation & Food Services Professional Services
Health Care and Social Assistance Manufacturing Technology Other (please specify)

Mandatory Question (190 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q17 Where do you find or look for news during a local emergency? (Select up to 2)

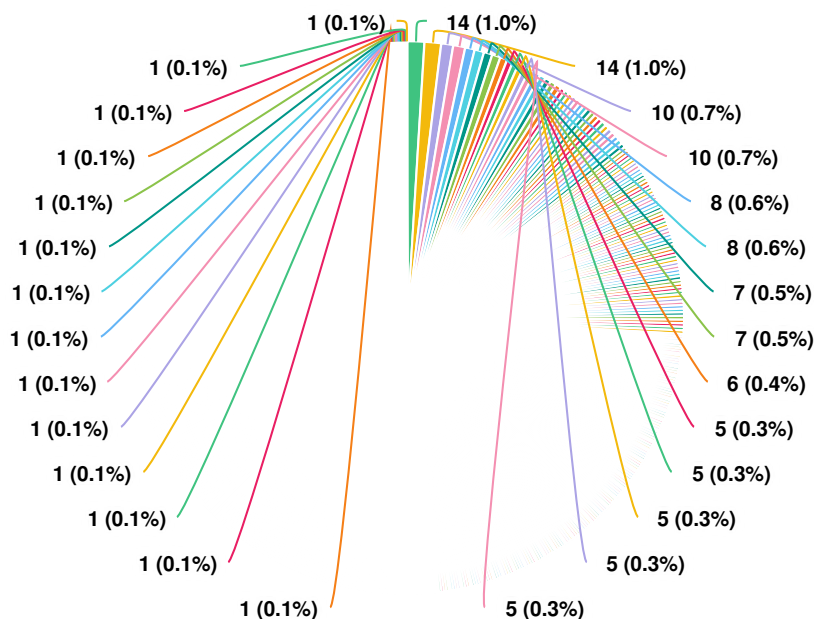


Question options

- Media outlets (TV, online, radio)
- Local municipality sources (website, e-news, social media)
- Central Okanagan Emergency Operations Centre sources (e-news/alerts, website, social media)
- Other government agencies (i.e. BC Wildfire, Environment Canada)
- Social media (neighbourhood groups, friends/family feeds)
- Word of mouth (family and friends)
- Other (please specify)

Mandatory Question (1464 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q18 What is your postal code? (Take a stretch, auto-populate may take a moment)

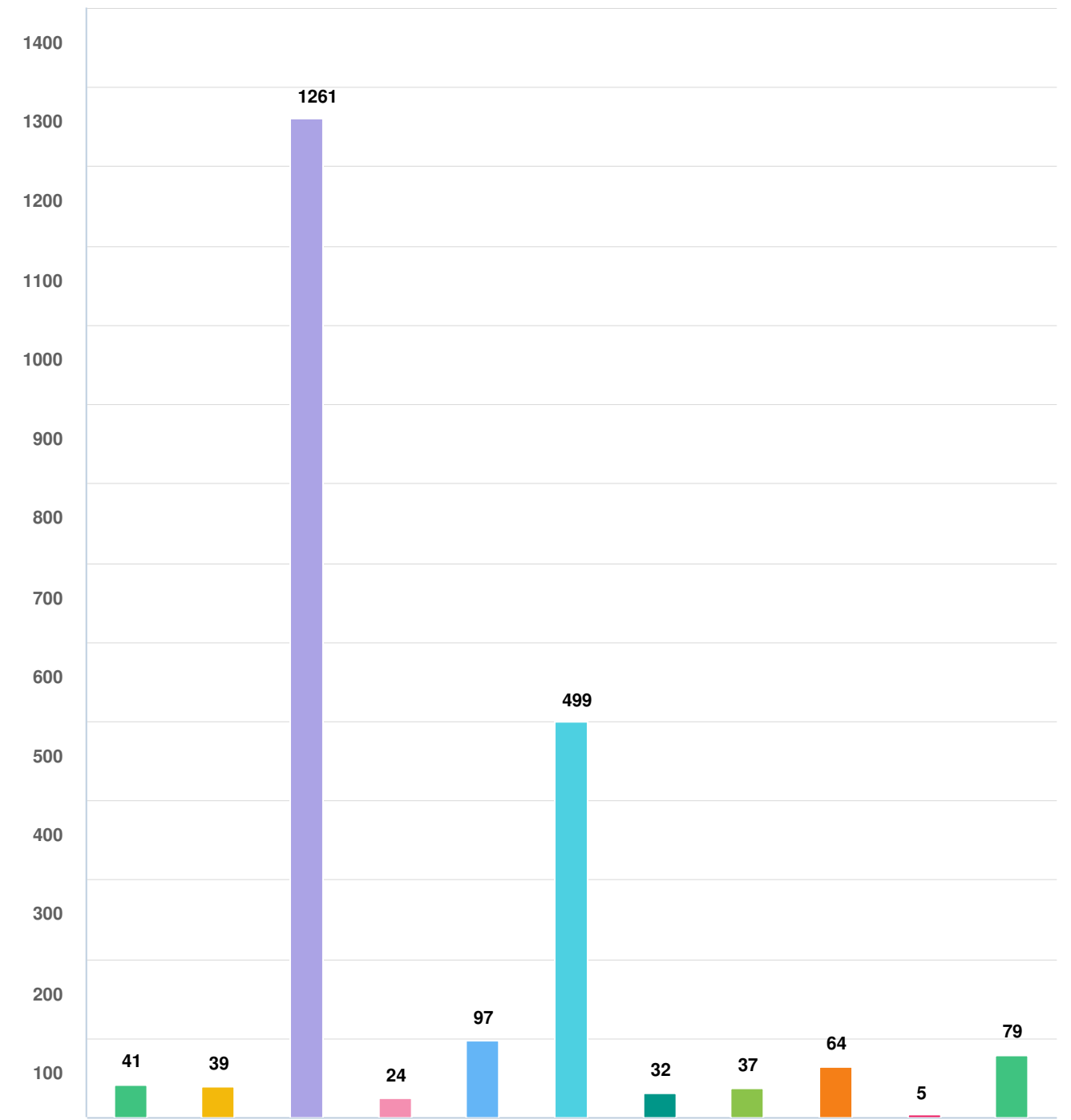


Question options

- Peachland, BC, V0H1X4
- Peachland, BC, V0H1X5
- Lake Country, BC, V4V2S4
- Westbank, BC, V412L3
- Kelowna, BC, V1V1N2
- Peachland, BC, V0H1X7
- Peachland, BC, V0H1X8
- Peachland, BC, V0H1X2
- Kelowna, BC, V1V3B9
- Kelowna, BC, V1V0C9
- Vernon, BC, V1H2E4
- Kelowna, BC, V1X8E4
- West Kelowna, BC, V4T2Z6
- Westbank, BC, V4T3A5
- Peachland, BC, V0H1X6
- West Kelowna, BC, V1Z4E5
- West Kelowna, BC, V4T1E8
- Kelowna, BC, V1W4T4
- West Kelowna, BC, V4T1X9
- Kelowna, BC, V1V3G2
- West Kelowna, BC, V1Z2P7
- Kelowna, BC, V1V3C1
- West Kelowna, BC, V4T3C8
- Kelowna, BC, V1Z3M3
- Lake Country, BC, V4V1N9
- West Kelowna, BC, V1Z3R1
- Lake Country, BC, V4V2T2
- Kelowna, BC, V1V2Y3
- West Kelowna, BC, V4T1L6
- Lake Country, BC, V4V2N1
- Kelowna, BC, V4V1P4
- Kelowna, BC, V1Z4C1
- Kelowna, BC, V1V3G3
- Kelowna, BC, V1Z1B2
- West Kelowna, BC, V4T3M4
- Kelowna, BC, V1W4X5
- Westbank, BC, V4T2M6
- Kelowna, BC, V1X7T6
- West Kelowna, BC, V1Z1N5
- West Kelowna, BC, V1Z3N1
- Kelowna, BC, V1Y1Z9
- Lake Country, BC, V4V2H8
- Lake Country, British Columbia, V4V0A9
- Peachland, BC, V0H1X9
- Kelowna, BC, V4V1E5
- Lake Country, BC, V4V0A4
- Kelowna, BC, V1W4X3
- Kelowna, BC, V1W4Y5
- Kelowna, BC, V1Y9R7
- Kelowna, BC, V1X7T8
- West Kelowna, BC, V1Z3M7
- West Kelowna, BC, V4T1N3
- Westbank, BC, V4T3L9
- West Kelowna, BC, V4T2J5
- West Kelowna, BC, V4T3B6
- West Kelowna, BC, V1Z3Y5
- Kelowna, BC, V1V1V6
- Westbank, BC, V4T3G1
- Lake Country, BC, V4V2K7
- West Kelowna, BC, V4T2R6
- Kelowna, BC, V1W0A1
- Kelowna, BC, V1W3Z8
- Kelowna, BC, V1W4N8
- West Kelowna, BC, V4T1G1
- Vernon, BC, V1H2B7
- Peachland, BC, V0H1X1
- Kelowna, BC, V1P1J6
- Kelowna, BC, V1W5M4
- Kelowna, BC, V1V2P9
- Kelowna, BC, V1V2X6
- Kelowna, BC, V1W3Z9
- Kelowna, BC, V1W1A4
- Kelowna, BC, V1V2A9
- West Kelowna, BC, V4T3G7
- West Kelowna, BC, V4T2J3

Mandatory Question (1464 response(s))
Question type: Region Question

Q19 Which best describes you? (Choose any two options)

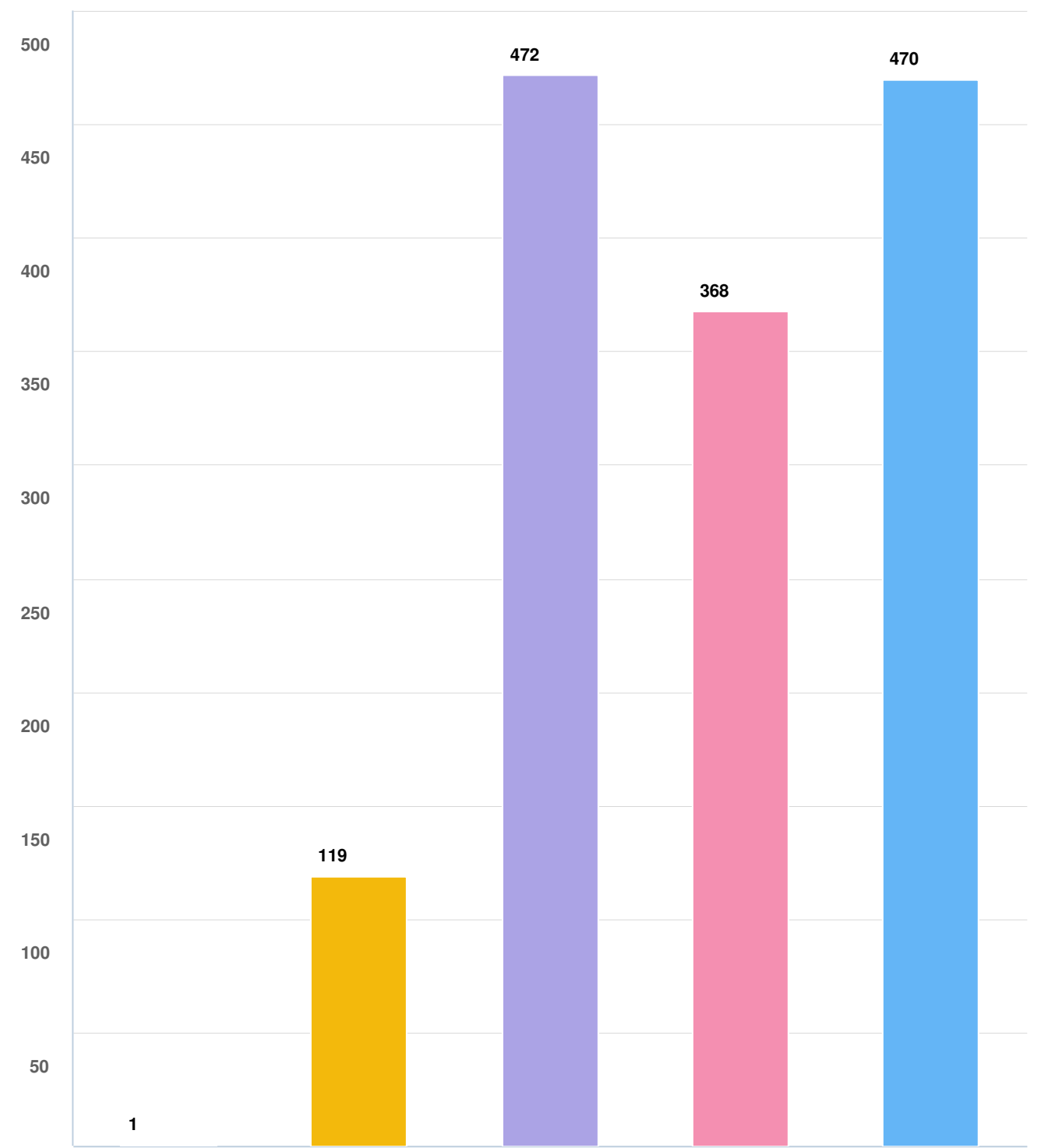


Question options

- I am in the emergency management field
- I am a volunteer in emergency management services (i.e. ESS)
- I am a resident
- I am a part-time resident
- I am a business owner
- I am retired
- I am an academic
- I am a student
- I am a non profit employee
- I am a non-profit employer
- Other (please specify)

Mandatory Question (1464 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q20 Which age category do you fall within?

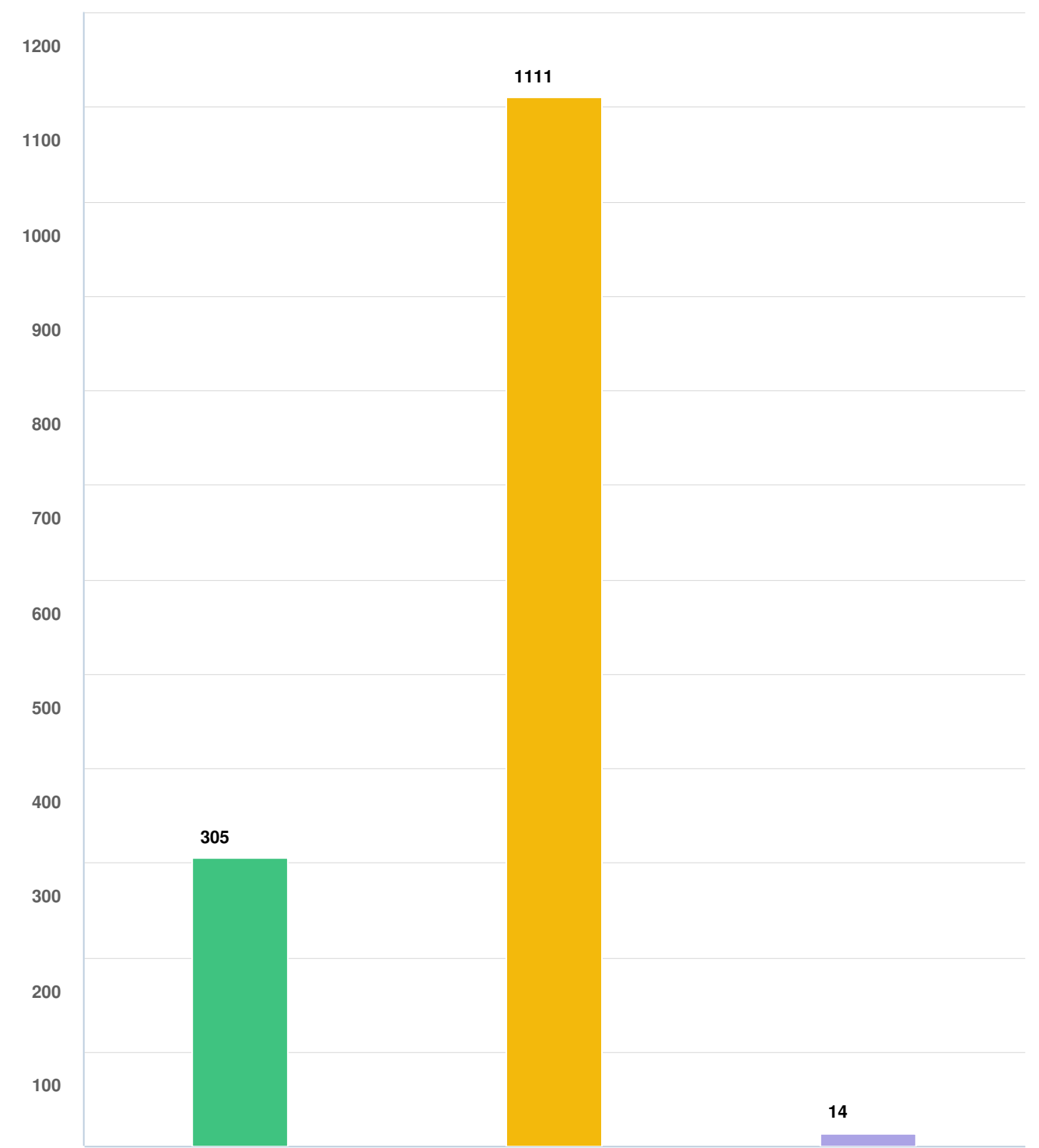


Question options

☒ Under 17 ☒ 18 to 34 ☒ 35 to 54 ☒ 55 to 64 ☒ 65+

Mandatory Question (1464 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q21 Do you have children under the age of 18 at home?



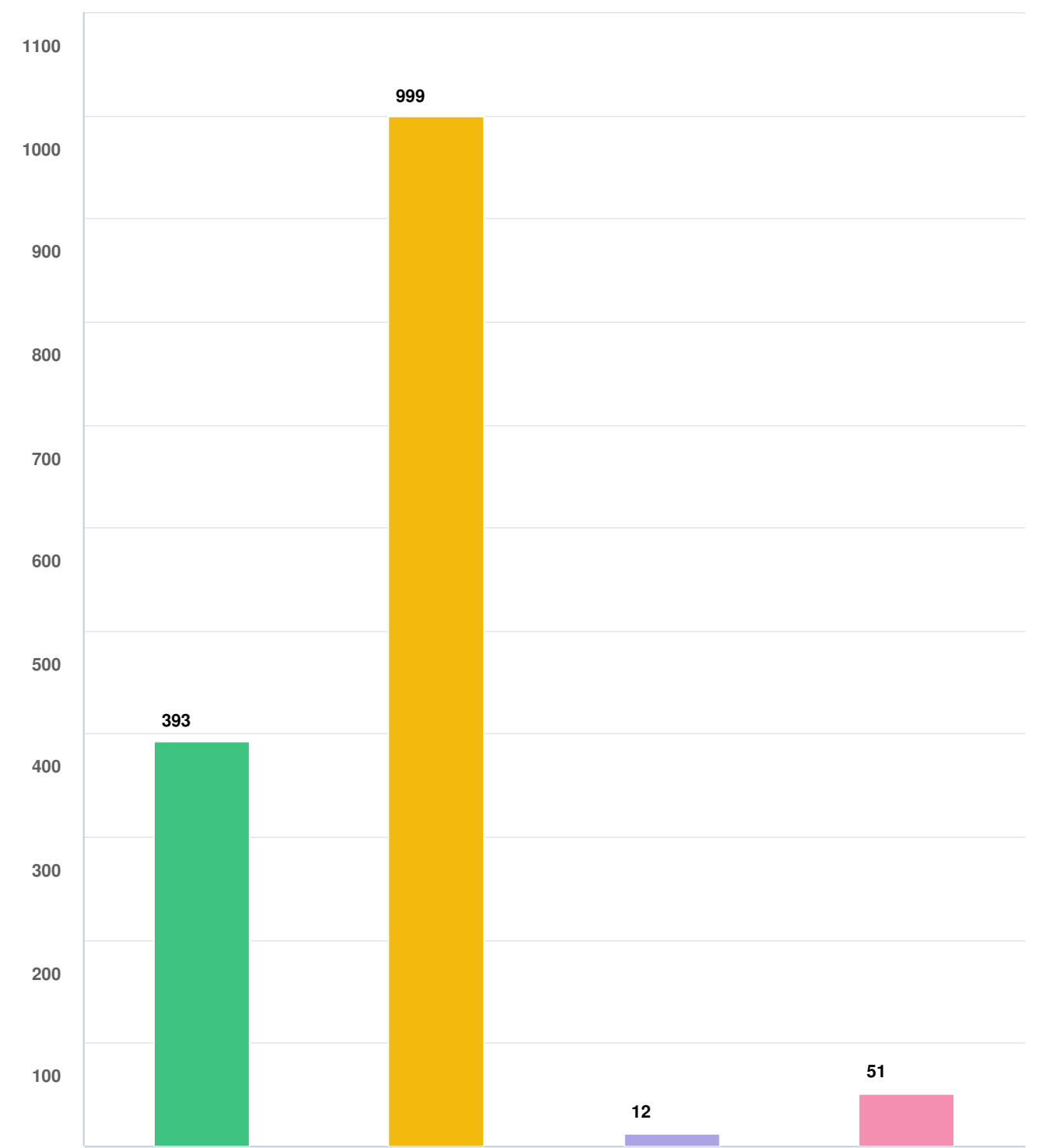
Question options

☒ Yes ☒ No ☐ Prefer not to say

Mandatory Question (1464 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q22

Gender

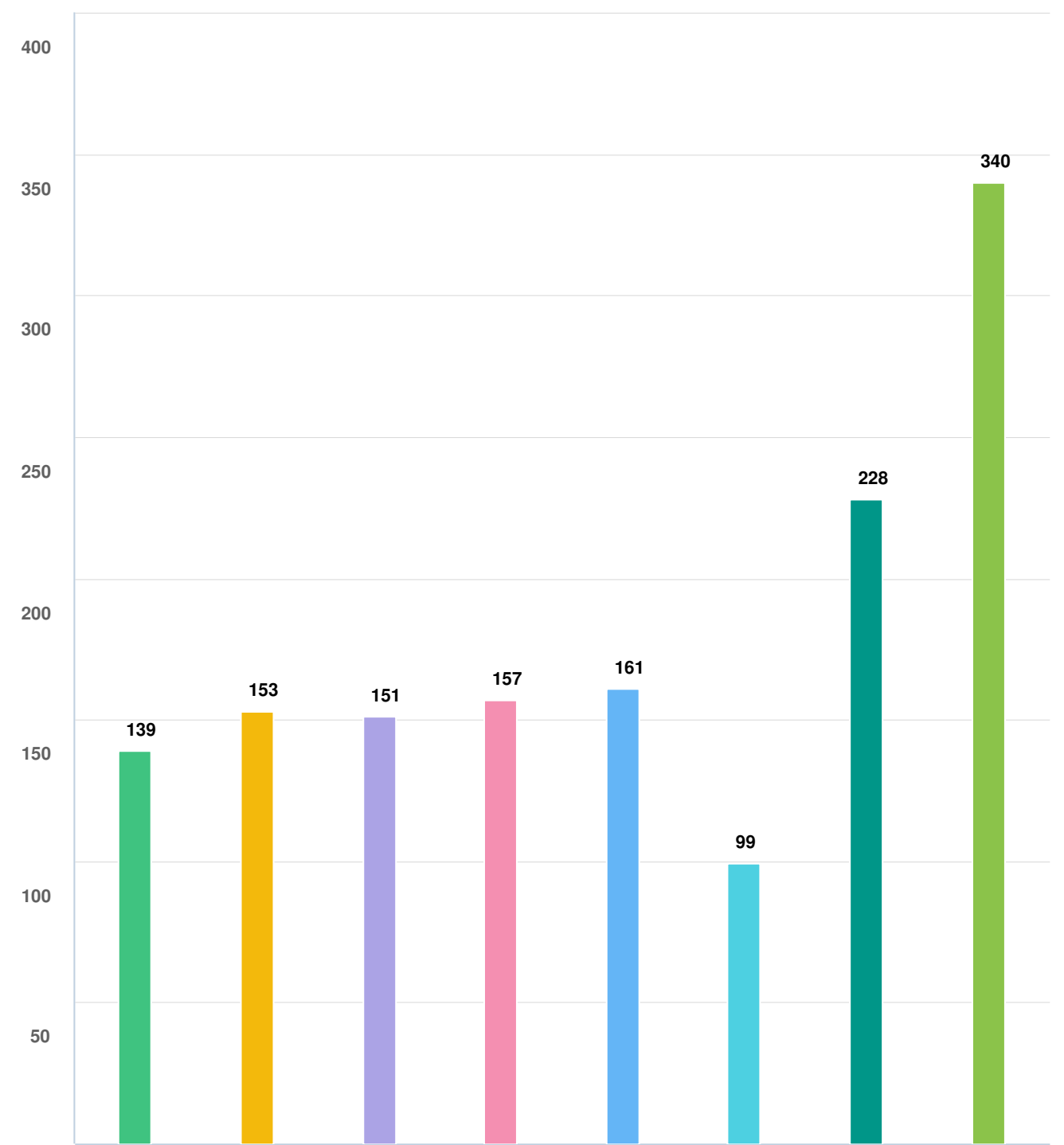


Question options

Male Female Non-binary Prefer not to say

Mandatory Question (1464 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q23 Which household income category do you fall within?



Question options

- Under \$40K
- \$40K to \$60K
- \$60K to \$80K
- \$80K to \$100K
- \$100K to \$125K
- \$125K to \$150K
- \$150K or more
- Prefer not to say

Optional question (1462 response(s), 2 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q24 | Do you have any additional comments to share regarding emergency preparedness?
Tell us below.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 09:43 AM

Many materials in an emergency preparedness kit expire. That's a big block to buying one that can support a family for a week. Best idea is usually just to get out of the emergency area.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 09:44 AM

Best help I found was published lists of what to keep handy - different ones for a quick evacuation and another for shelter in place on your own for 3 days. Make these lists accessible everywhere and that helps people get started. Its daunting to do it all at once, so stage the lists; ie today go find a box or tub for your car, tomorrow buy 24 bottles of water, the next day put aside emergency pet supplies etc. eventually it all gets done :)

Anonymous

4/15/2024 09:44 AM

Promote free fire prevention assessments more

Anonymous

4/15/2024 09:46 AM

Our hearts got out to all the first responders of last years forest fires!

Anonymous

4/15/2024 09:54 AM

Ive done my best by finding social media that addresses emergency preparedness and Ive stocked up on supplies over a few years when and where o could afford it. Ive invested a few hundred dollars

Anonymous

4/15/2024 09:56 AM

FYI - there were lots of responses that I didn't connect with and picked something even though that wasn't how I felt. Asking open questions will allow you to collect more accurate data rather than assuming you know how people feel/ think/ want. My experience of people not being prepared after last summer's fires is they don't know WHAT to be prepared for or HOW to prepare for it. Understanding WHY we need what we need and how often we have to replenish - like investing in water to sit in your garage year after year that goes bad in the heat in the first summer - waste of water, expensive, doesn't get used - so people stop buying it. Help us with information to educate us on what you feel we need to be prepared for, why and how to do it in an realistic/affordable way.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 09:56 AM

1) Eliminate open wood burning fires in back yard year round. 2) To see municipal Buy Law Enforcement go around and talk with property owners that are not maintaining or cleaning up there areas to help prevent fires. Issue tickets where required for none-compliance.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 09:58 AM

Thank you for all that has been done in the past, what continues today for tomorrow...

Anonymous

4/15/2024 09:59 AM

There needs to be more neighbourhood emergency groups. I recently came across a senior that was worried about getting out in an emergency, if there were neighbourhood watch groups throughout our community that could be a good thing.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:01 AM

Question 6 asked about barriers and none of the answer were a fit for me. There are no barriers to stop me. I know what I should do but have not prepared in the way of having food supplies ready. I do believe you should be prepared, I have volunteered for registration for evacuees in the past and the majority were not prepared for evacuation

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:13 AM

Stop traffice in Knox Mountain park. Cars coming up the park are a risk. Last year we were evacuated out of the park because of careless smoking. Cars just increase the risk of people smoking. Much more signage is needed regarding smoking in the park. We live with the consequences of visitors enjoying the park inappropriately. Also, in the preample, you said the kits were valued at \$170 each and now here they are \$100 each. Test and proofread before publishing!

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:19 AM

After summer of 2023 and the lack of organization for evacuated residents have concerns about having to sleep in the car and for how long. What else should be in my emergency kit?

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:24 AM

Continue public awareness through weekly or biweekly column in Castanet, interviews with first responders, public who were prepared and saved house or property, public not prepared who wish they had, other topics. Make it a regular multimedia for older folks and social media for those who are Facebookers, Instagrammers, etc.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:27 AM

After experiencing personal property loss in the McDougall Creek wildfire, the following needs improvement: The ability to register as evacuated without requiring EOC support. The messaging was unclear. I registered but got unneeded followup calls from EOC. Many did not register. Residents and property owners were forbidden access for far too long after the event and official property status was inaccurate. After a month, reentry was sudden and open to all

resulting in crime in Bear Creek/ Rose Valley Rd areas. The most accurate information came from fellow residents. Even if they had permission to be in the area for livestock, they were taking a chance sharing info with their neighbours. After an emergency there needs to be an ability to get one or two long term residents into the area asap so that they can freely share accurate info with their fellow residents. We need to break down the expert/resident divide. Residents are the experts on their area. If we fail to work together then residents will ignore officials in future emergencies. Figure out a way to involve evacuated residents in the EOC operation.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:29 AM

Emergency support should not expire for those that have filed for assistance and need the support.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:32 AM

It would be useful to have an evacuation check-list for businesses when open and have employees present and for times the business is closed and vacant. Also It would be good to have an emergency supply list for business. And what if we had a non-binding, friendly, visit from the fire marshall to talk about how to safe-guard the exterior of businesses?. It has to be a friendly visit as the cost for extras (like tree removal) may be over-budget and then the company faces jeopardy with their insurance company for not being able to afford to go the extra mile right away. I am not talking mandatory fire extinguishers and exits signs, muster points etc--just a walk around on the outside to show the business owner what else they can do to help themselves, their neighbours and the community.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:33 AM

I have a motorhome and would evacuate using it. It would be nice if that occurs to know where I could go and park it. Please provide information on locations that I could go and park it during an evacuation and what services are available at that location.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:46 AM

Evacuated twice during the 2003 Kelowna fires (no damage to our place), so that has given us some insight on being prepared.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:47 AM

For people living in condos or small spaces, it may be challenging to have enough emergency supplies in storage - water, food, candles, heating, etc. It would be great to publicize what percentage of the residents in the region are prepared for an emergency... for example: 50% have drinking water for three days, 70% of people keep their vehicles fully fueled, 20% have removed cedars from around their home due to fire risk, etc.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:47 AM

I am aware I need to get rid of cedar shrubs close to my home

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:48 AM

Learn from the 2021 White Rock Lake wildfires and be prepared for any other future occurring disasters

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:49 AM

Fix your questionnaire! The only way I could get through it was to pretend I live in Newfoundland!

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:50 AM

After being involved with three fires near two properties in the West Kelowna area over just 2-4 years, I think it is very important to educate and make residents more aware of the risks for fire that may be in the interior of their homes, or around their homes, that are fuel for fire, and to educate residents on mitigating their properties as we are most definitely going to experience more fires ahead with our climate changes. More knowledge offered to the public with hands on, or non computer based workshops or community courses would be good as a large part of the Okanagan region is a retirement age group and most do not have the ability to use computerized websites or news that comes on the internet sites.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:53 AM

It would be good to know EXACTLY what to store/have on hand in case of emergency, and which things can wait until needed.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:54 AM

I do have a designated emergency closet with backpacks, but we don't have all the supplies yet. Looking for water, filtration pump or water bottles. Appreciate getting notified in advance to repack once weather gets hot again. Had lots of food packed a few years ago and it isn't good anymore so lots of waste.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:56 AM

i have a large dog and a husband with memory problems. Relocating (accommodation) will likely be an issue but we also have a vehicle we could sleep in and currently have a condo at Big White we could go to if fire wasn't an issue on that single access road.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:58 AM

Emergency preparedness affects everyone, including those who are vulnerable , and marginalized so extend supports or design outreach for these folks, those experiencing homelessness, gender based violence, seniors, persons with disabilities, low income/poverty, lack transportation options, living in rural areas/vs urban centres

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:58 AM

If there was a purchasable kit with the basics it would be simple for the average person with a suggested list. It surprised me in the moment how basic logic left us.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:58 AM

I purchased a home with Cedar hedges, I have spent more than I had allocated for clean up of these trees. I have cut trees down etc and it would be great if there was a program to pick up the debris at no cost through the community.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:58 AM

Just keep the information coming regarding emergency preparedness for the public. This would include communication tips for family members and what supplies people should have at the ready. Info spots on radio or TV would be very beneficial. The online information is already there.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:01 AM

Thank you for all you do and helping the public be prepared! During the WK fires last year it was the first time I was faced with possible evacuation and it was hard to find up to date information on what to do when, but through the help of the noted websites, plus local social media groups it was easier. thanks!

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:13 AM

Yes! There should be encouragement of the app that connects you and neighbours to save your pets if you aren't home. I would risk anything to get the out safely. More focus should be on this

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:16 AM

If one lives in an orchard area, no large stands of forest trees. Are they really required to evacuate. I can see the Lakes and hillsides up from Okanagan Lake, but not an orchard area as a fire threat. Last two fires have been close but in the area where I reside there are just houses, no forest.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:16 AM

Please ensure that all agencies and departments have keys to gates such as the ones between Ckifton Road and McKinley Landing. Such was not the case 2 weeks ago when there was a smoldering burn pit - the responders did not have the latest key.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:20 AM

I would say prepared, but not completely. More information is good.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:24 AM

The recent RCMP report to parliament listed the risk of increased civil unrest as a high potential as the polycrisis has more impact on daily

lives. What is RDCO doing to take this into account?

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:27 AM

Updating the BC govt's AQHI rating would be helpful - it's not always accurate compared to other websites. I also think communication is very important - especially after the worst has passed - for example, last year many W Kelowna residents weren't clear on why they couldn't go back to their homes straight away. Reminding people to know how to access their house insurance and how to start a claim is also important.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:28 AM

The fire fighting crews and local fire department and police were great when we had to leave. I would like to see more tree trimming in our area.. I have done all our trees and a few of the city property trees but there are some on city property that should be done that are too hard for me to do.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:31 AM

A written planning document for people would be helpful... kind of like an "at home" will kit.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:32 AM

no

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:36 AM

I was evacuated during the fire last year, communications re ESS must must must be better. During evacuations everyone was told to go to ESS, but then when I got there I was turned away. ESS is open to all evacuated, there should be no barriers. This mis communication isn't just at the provincial ESS level, it's also local representatives. Everyone must understand the policies and procedures. I felt so unhelped, lost and was made to feel greedy for showing up at a place that every agency told me to go to (provincial, municipal, rdco). I have the means to figure it out, but many wouldn't have and they would be too embarrassed to return.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:39 AM

I have what's needed should I need to evacuate due to fire, flooding, etc as needed. Innone central location. So as when it's time to evacuate its ready to go and I can start getting the proper authorities notified should worse case scenario take place

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:41 AM

Have your RV stocked and ready to go

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:47 AM

More funding for helping people remove bushes cedars etc, or anything else needed. It's a different world it is not if but when.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:42 AM

preparing for pets also needed

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:44 AM

There was speculation of our evacuation but little communication. It causes anxiety and panic. I understand it is difficult to predict change in an emergency but wildfires in particular have ravaged communities for many years. It seemed like the preparedness of those in charge was lacking. Wait times, lines, access to necessities took a very long time. There is an onus on residents to be prepared there should be the same accountability on RDCO as well

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:44 AM

Having watched the wild fire situation in Hawaii, I wondered if Kelowna is even equipped with sirens?

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:51 AM

Encouraging people to get prepared through grants or discounts on funding items would be beneficial. In addition, giving detailed direction out to homes so they have a guideline to follow in different types of emergencies.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:51 AM

Extremely clear communication is vital. Any room for any interpretation means that a group of 5 Neighbours all have 5 very different ideas of what they are expected to do or understand what message was just shared. Also, keeping information up to date and ongoing on the official channels (communications methods). You are competing with social platforms that update every minute. Ensuring that your official channels are updating and providing the appropriate messages often will keep people engaged in following. It may be easy to focus resources on the emergency itself, but putting a strong communications team that is regularly updating residents saves confusion and loss of time dealing with residents with incorrect information.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:55 AM

Being a resident who was previously evacuated due to wildfire there was very bad organization in the beginning and lack of direction and communication to the residents.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:53 AM

space (storage) is an issue for being emergency prepared in place with limited storage.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:53 AM

I think it would be a good idea for the city/district to put together emergency preparedness kits and sell them to the public.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:56 AM

no

Anonymous

4/15/2024 12:03 PM

I have heard little about specific responses for people who are disabled so I feel especially vulnerable during an emergency.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 12:11 PM

No emergency access road above peachland on the crown land

Anonymous

4/15/2024 12:12 PM

Barrier to better preparedness: Time and energy. We're two working parents with kids and there's so many competing things for our time, being prepared and routinely checking supplies slips of the radar sometimes.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 12:12 PM

During the Kelowna fires last summer I found that there was a lack of communication and alot of uncertainty. People took matters into their own hands. Our evacuation cost our family over \$5000- and expense that took months to recover from... We felt like there wasn't a lot of clarity of what we should be doing. Half the city was living life normally & the others were fleeing. I think that emergency services at the municipal, regional and provincial level need to hire more social media and outreach workers to reach the public.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 12:19 PM

It would be nice to have the option to have trees and shrubs on city properties (that we are concerned with) maintained or removed. Not at our expense or time. municipalities need more money to help with this. I know of someone on disability that can not afford to pay for their trees removed she can barely afford to eat. The tree is on city property.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 12:23 PM

Plans need to be made to assist disabled and elderly people who do not have the resources to deal with emergencies or evacuate on their own. Accessible buses could be made available for non-drivers, accessible hotel rooms or power generators for people on vents or oxygen generators, for example. Most of the people who die as a result of natural disasters are disabled, yet we are never considered in official plans.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 12:28 PM

I think they did a great job last summer with the fires in Kelowna

Anonymous

4/15/2024 12:30 PM

I am a senior lady (over age 0f 80 and with several medical conditions) and often wonder how i would cope if i no longer had a home to return to.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 12:39 PM

We were evacuated during the 2023 fires. Although the fire was moving fast, we had enough time to prepare and evacuate calmly thanks to the District's alerts and fire map.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 12:40 PM

Keep up the good work.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 12:56 PM

The city and region need to be out in front of the populace now with preparedness planning. Social Media, advertising on media outlets and video features should be in plain view for all as we head towards another wildfire season and expected drought.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 01:12 PM

We have a lot of deaf people who missed out on important information during the fires last year, several of them were evacuated. I am deaf myself and fire season is always terrifying for me even though I have never been evacuated myself. I am so nervous about sleeping at night during lightning storms and fire season. I do not have any deaf-friendly alarms installed in my home, and I cannot afford to. Please include ASL interpreters whenever possible. Perhaps offer deaf-friendly alarm kits of some kind, that would go a really long way to make us deaf individuals feel extra safe and secure in our homes.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 01:07 PM

I have. Wood stove for heat and a propane stove outside for cooking. Also a generator to protect my freezer .

Anonymous

4/15/2024 01:10 PM

The burned pine trees trees on road allowance are not removed; but the fire smart principles are recommended for the homeowner. Why are the same principles not applied to the ministry of transportation?

Anonymous

4/15/2024 01:13 PM

Regarding forest fires, as a community, we should be listening to Indigenous voices about how to prepare and handle fires, and further how to prevent them in the future. Most natural disasters/emergencies are occurring due to human caused climate

change. Spreading awareness and education on how to lower individual impacts would be beneficial.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 01:16 PM

Joint news conferences involving all levels of fire services, municipalities and regional district were EXTREMELY beneficial.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 01:17 PM

No

Anonymous

4/15/2024 01:17 PM

I lost my house in the 2021 wildfires and would like to see better community engagement to prepare the community for future events

Anonymous

4/15/2024 01:24 PM

Municipalities should suspend water meter costs during the onset of a fire as homeowners begin to wet down their property or use continuous roof fire suppression systems to minimize fire risk.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 01:25 PM

BCSPCA provides free door stickers to let emergency personnel know what type of pets are in the house and how many.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 01:27 PM

Can you add guidance for electric vehicle owners, such as always carrying a level 1/2 charger. Would there be considerations for making charging available at emergency centres etc. If an evacuee forgets their cell phone/charge cards etc. they will be able to not use public chargers.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 01:35 PM

No

Anonymous

4/15/2024 01:38 PM

Biggest challenge is accommodation for two large dogs.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 01:46 PM

Imperative for municipality to clear the fire hazards to residence in Okanagan centre from gullies, non used road allowance overgrown, hills between residence with dead scrubs, trees of heaven, Chinese elms. Fire will race uphill. The municipality has to clear those scrubs, dead wood and branches/fuel.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 01:45 PM

We need to talk about climate more and normalize conversations about what we can individually do. Please fund more creative ways for folks to engage on climate justice issues.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 02:03 PM

I really appreciate the work of the Central Okanagan Emergency Preparedness operations. I hope we never need your services but it's good to know information and support is available.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 02:09 PM

I think it would be useful to properly circulate an example of an emergency preparedness plan and timeline so that it's able to be seen before an emergency occurs.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 02:11 PM

More info on how to volunteer to help others in an emergency, there never seems to be a call for volunteers and then when there is an emergency it is too late to train people. Maybe there is no need for more volunteers? If there is a need it should be publicized so we know how, where we can help.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 02:22 PM

1 app that has all relevant up to date real time information that is very user friendly would be nice. I found having to go for one website to another very confusing. Got more up to date info on Facebook

Anonymous

4/15/2024 02:23 PM

Our Strata does a good job of keeping residents u to date and informed during emergencies

Anonymous

4/15/2024 02:46 PM

We were on alert last year with the fires. I learned: to have a basic amount of cash, a check list of specific important papers needed 'if' (I grabbed my music books & left my financial record book with! pass words! Consider taking more food etc. to share with others.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 02:55 PM

Have a checklist prepared in advance so you know what items to gather in priority order if you are given time to pack personal effects

Anonymous

4/15/2024 02:55 PM

Based on last year's experience in West Kelowna, communities need to be better prepared to deal with mass evacuations. Housing will always be a difficult issue, but registration and needs assessment need to be done quicker.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 02:57 PM

I think municipal work shops would be a good idea to help educate and prepare citizens and businesses/

Anonymous

4/15/2024 02:59 PM

Question 6 should have a different response - if one has a go bag and is as prepared as possible then none of the options is viable It must be answered to go to next question but none really apply if prepared

Anonymous

4/15/2024 03:11 PM

I am concerned about the routes out of my community. Currently there is one way out which is scary in emergencies (glenrosa road)

Anonymous

4/15/2024 03:14 PM

I have evacuated twice. Both were probably an overreaction and premature. It is difficult to remain calm and logical when all the messaging is panic laden. I expect that the overevacuation simply clogs highways etc. Some calming messages would be helpful.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 03:37 PM

Nope read my answers prior.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 03:44 PM

I really depended on EmergencyInfoBC when we were evacuated for notices and updates. It was a service I could depend on on and I felt safer.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 03:48 PM

Continuing to send FireSmart brochures via Canada Post may be beneficial. Residents don't seem to be getting the message and some residents pose a hazard to their neighbour. By-law management should review their by-laws and make updates to secure safety to the community.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 03:56 PM

I think families/households should have a list with things to remember to pack should they have to evacuate. It was one of the hardest things to do - trying to go through the home with limited time and try and remember important documents, papers, photos, etc. when you are under stress and need to leave quickly. it is also difficult planning when you have pets to care for and where you can safely travel too. Having updates on highways and notifications of safe routes is also essential.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 03:58 PM

Our homes are right next to Mill Creek and two years ago they came through and tagged trees with red ribbons, thinking for removal or some kind of trimming, but nothing has been done.

Anonymous

No

4/15/2024 04:07 PM

Anonymous

4/15/2024 04:15 PM

I do not feel really safe when the trees and bushes in front of us on an embankment are a big fire risk BUT I have no control over them. (fisheries and ? parks) . We live at the Pointe on Gellatly.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 04:31 PM

Have several list of different types of situations and there needs

Anonymous

4/15/2024 04:33 PM

why don't they teach this in all levels of school, along with first aid?

Anonymous

4/15/2024 04:36 PM

I did not like the survey. It forced me to choose answers that don't match what I wish to answer. iTunes and towns need to have better evacuation plans and share that with the citizens. Municipalities can't expect communities to just be calm and have faith that something never done before will work as planned.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 04:41 PM

I selected financial as a reason for not being prepared because I had to select something and none of the other reasons fit. I can't afford a helicopter to escape from my neighborhood. Traffic flow needs to be top priority when evacuating a neighborhood.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 04:47 PM

Continue to keep the Yard and roof free of debris and remove fire hazards. Most neighbors are now practicing this after last Summer fire.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 04:52 PM

A well maintained second route out of West Kelowna is much needed. The Mt Law fire a few years ago had Glenrosa rd gridlocked as everyone was hurriedly evacuating

Anonymous

4/15/2024 05:16 PM

THERE IS A FARMLAND DOWN THE HILL FROM THE LAKES THAT HAS PILES AND PILES OF DEAD BRANCHES ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE HILL (THUNDERHILL FARMS). VERY CONCERNING IF THERE WAS A FIRE AND THESE PILES AND PILES AND PILES OF DEAD BRANCHES WOULD BE A FIRE HAZARD

Anonymous

4/15/2024 05:28 PM

This questionnaire would not accept my postal code V1Z0B3

Anonymous

Have personal that are helpful/knowledgable and compassionate

4/15/2024 05:46 PM

when dealing with public.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 05:48 PM

Not at the moment

Anonymous

4/15/2024 05:48 PM

It would be great if one of the community open house discussions was taking place closer to the city centre as the four sites listed are not central.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 05:53 PM

It would be helpfull if each area of the okanagan had " base camps" for residents with no where to go...we have two unsocialized dogs, no camper, where do we go?

Anonymous

4/15/2024 06:21 PM

A quick on what is needed would be nice

Anonymous

4/15/2024 06:33 PM

Keep you gas tank full and a second box for animals

Anonymous

4/15/2024 06:57 PM

It would be nice to know what emergency situations are common and a cheat sheet on how to prepare for them (concisely).

Anonymous

4/15/2024 07:03 PM

Inconvenience, personal anxiety and disruption of routine comfortable lives are not emergencies. This whole exercise of emergency preparedness strikes me as an effort run by government Boy Scouts padding their resumes as experienced in "Emergency Management". The ridiculous clown show that was demonstrated in the West Kelowna fire is prime example of bumbling bureaucrats achieving nothing with a lot of activity. It was unnecessary and pointless. Nothing put political optics. My 2023 fire Emergency Plan??? Take the VERY FEW things that are important, get in your truck and go get a hotel room or stay with friends for a week. Done. Biggest mistake??? Register with the Emergency response people. A complete waste of time and completely unnecessary. My wife was "trapped" in Chilliwack for 8 days during the flooding. She was in the highway and was turned back at the mudslides. Emergency Plan?? Check into a hotel and watch a lot of TV. Media said food was running out. Some items ran out but no one lost weight. Sorry. My definition of "emergency" differs greatly from government salaried bureaucrats dreaming up work and budgets to spend. I'm sure there is a seminar somewhere nice on emergence response planning. The hotel might have a great buffet. Enjoy.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 07:06 PM

Most emergency preparedness documentation is either too thorough (I'm not in a position to be buying water purification equipment or hiking the mountains) or vague (put aside important documents? What documents are important?). Mostly I want information on what I should be sure to do in the case of evacuation like 2023 - what to take, what to do as I leave my home. We probably will have nearby family to stay with, and if not we'll have elderly family to help care for.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 07:45 PM

The best service is a local location, like public schools, to open up their doors and offer a hub for people to visit in person.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 07:50 PM

Making access to resources easier would be helpful; as would grants to prepare for future emergencies.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 08:04 PM

It would be huge if the government would bulk purchase emergency preparedness supplies and sell at wholesale to residents. Water filtration, medical kits, emergency food buckets, etc. Canadian retail prices are a huge barrier for families.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 08:05 PM

I would like a lot more information given out during emergencies (like the wildfire last year in Lake Country). It was very stressful not knowing updates about properties on a daily basis.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 08:38 PM

Please keep on spreading the information

Anonymous

4/15/2024 09:02 PM

A system like the amber alert system where you receive a text to your cell phone would be helpful for evacuations and evacuation alerts.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 09:10 PM

It would be great if it was easier to volunteer to support community responses to major events.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:07 PM

I grew up in California and emergency preparedness was taught in school and PSAs on TV. There were frequent earthquakes so it was front of mind.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:29 PM

We cannot control lightning strikes, strong winds, or drought. However, individual humans and broader communities can control its own actions. Our region needs to come up with a practical and

effective plan to guard against people acting irresponsibly in the bush (campfires, careless use of sparking machinery etc). The status quo of fire ban announcements does not seem to be working as human-caused reasons continue to be a significant percentage of wildfire causes. Less fires means less emergencies! Thank you firefighters and emergency responders for your heroic work!

Anonymous

4/15/2024 10:59 PM

I think it's important for people to not only prepare for themselves but also for their pets. As of June 1st every year I have my own grab bag ready and my cats cages and grab bag ready. Wildfires are a regular thing in my area every year.

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:48 PM

In the handout from i think, the rdco, there was a statement to turn on the roof to sprinklers we bought from firesmart. This is incorrect. They get set up but the building protection people turn them on

Anonymous

4/15/2024 11:48 PM

We have our own emergency Tri-fuel power generator and our home is wired with a transfer switch and grid cut off. I think it is atrocious that we only have one high voltage power line suppling the West Side of the Valley, therefore no redundancy. Also, I believe the BC Provincial Government is being irresponsible in not allowing Fortis to expand their Natural Gas supply to the Okanagan Valley. All this "Green" energy technology, that is supposed to replace our conventional energy supply is a pipe dream, Solar and wind power are not reliable enough and not plentiful enough.....I expect black outs in our future, due to Political and Bureaucratic mismanagement.....

Anonymous

4/16/2024 06:39 AM

the best preparedness for the city is to live within our means so that when an emergency arrives the city can afford to act cannot act out of poverty

Anonymous

4/16/2024 06:58 AM

thank you for all these programs that help the community

Anonymous

4/16/2024 07:00 AM

As we were evacuated last summer, we have a much more robust emergency plan that now includes extended family and neighbours.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 07:22 AM

When we leave for summer vacation we are moving all the patio furniture into the garage. There are multiple patio sets that would be the only combustible on the exterior.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 07:52 AM

Our neighbourhood is not fire smart. People have their BBQ's up against their junipers, their junipers growing up into their eaves, their homes surrounded by wood chip mulch, or their houses up against the forest (Shoreline, Apex, Derek Trethewey). So stupid. Lake Hill is the ONLY viable escape route. The secondary route off East Ridge is a fire-fuel nightmare, so not really a viable alternate. You should walk the Raptor Loop, there too. It's a fuel rich mess.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 08:02 AM

I wish that an entrepreneur would create a generic "go bag" that the public could purchase as that is one area that I am unsure of what I need. It can also be hard to gather it all so ready made would be super helpful.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 08:11 AM

Advertisements on TV, social media, etc with tips on how to prepare and react would be good for the general public. Or free downloads like emergency plan checklists.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 08:24 AM

There might already be a list to be prepared but i think the biggest barrier last year was not being able to register at a hotel and then have the emergency support take over the cost. was advised if we were evacuated and had not yet rec'd a slip for the hotel we would have to cover the cost prior to any support being given. hotels in the Okanagan are extremely expensive and also if you have dogs and/or cats it can be more challenging. what about offering up campground space if possible?

Anonymous

4/16/2024 08:25 AM

This questionnaire doesn't allow for being being mostly prepared or in the process of preparing. It also hasn't asked if a neighborhood has gathered to jointly prepare, which in certain circumstances would be an important factor in saving lives and maybe property. It also doesn't allow for changing an answer, which is a bit strange.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 08:25 AM

THANK YOU to all Emergency Responders and Personnel!!!

Anonymous

4/16/2024 08:42 AM

When we were evacuated during the 2023 fire in Kelowna there was no where to go for help. Nearest centre was West Kelowna. No hotels had vacancies. We visited the Salvation Army centre which was where the website said to report. No one knew anything and we were told to phone friends to get help (1.30 am) we spent the remainder of the night sleeping in our car. As seniors this was very frightening. Next day tried to sign in to the suggested web site but it was

overwhelmed and would not take our information. Thankfully friends came to the rescue and housed us for the week that we were out of our house. I would suggest that there be a few emergency centres available at various locations around Kelowna so that everyone who needs help can be accommodated. Churches, schools are two that come to mind. Somewhere to be safe would have avoided some of the stress that the emergency presented. Also we were not informed of the status of our house for 6 days. Luckily our neighbor had a camera and texted us that our houses were still standing. Otherwise another avoidable situation. I think the Fire services did an amazing job and thank them wholeheartedly Thank you for giving me this chance to vent. especially

Anonymous

4/16/2024 08:45 AM

I liked the local, regional and provincial response to the wildfires last year. Well done everyone! I did hear a lot of complaints from people who were evacuated last year about the initial lack of communication and the lengthy time it took to get registered. Some people were left out in the heat and smoke for days.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 08:57 AM

No

Anonymous

4/16/2024 09:07 AM

I live in the central part of Kelowna, not surrounded by woods, so don't expect to be evacuated for wildfires or floods. A building fire would require emergency evacuation and my home insurance is online and I know how to find emergency help. I have my ID handy.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 09:11 AM

Our emergency responders did a fantastic job last year during the fires!

Anonymous

4/16/2024 09:20 AM

No

Anonymous

4/16/2024 09:21 AM

My concern is getting home and taking care of the cats and dogs etcetera. I also feel like I will manifest disaster talking about it and preparing for it, if that makes sense? Although intuitively I know that much like my OFA2 training, there is relief in knowing that I am prepared to help.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 09:39 AM

Perhaps a representative to access improvement to FIREPROOF our homes, immediate neighborhood. For example a community event to individualize better preparedness. (I see RDCO does a BLUE Bin

assessment/ with Notes on the bin to improve that, maybe at the same time do a quick note on things they see that can be done for Fire or Water issues ?

Anonymous

4/16/2024 09:40 AM

Thanks to all the volunteers, fire fighters and others who assisted all during last years fire disasters. I was amazed at all that they did. Very afraid of this year and the drought conditions noticed as I back onto Glen Canyon-brittle dry already in March. May the rains come.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 09:43 AM

I thought I was going to give feedback on the local / provincial government's reaction and preparedness to last years fire situation. The lack of planning on government's part was atrocious and caused the tourism industry to collapse. We personally took a huge financial hit as the government sent our customers home and failed to do anything in there power to get them back. As owners, we lost, but also all of the employees in the industry that were depending on their income to pay their bills suffered greatly. It was the worst reaction the local and provincial government could have possibly made. This survey was all about the individual person's preparedness, but the governments need to look at their actions and NEVER do that again.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 10:01 AM

In my opinion local, ease of access for emergency planning training would benefit a lot of people.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 10:21 AM

I find insurance and steps when you've been evacuated so confusing. Wish there was more resources for steps to do when you've been evacuated and steps to follow when you're allowed to go back. Last year, when the big fires happened, someone said to take pictures or record everything in your house for insurance purposes but also for your own knowledge and it also helped so much with packing up what we could safely. Many of the emergency preparedness documents say things like "Water, dry food, etc" but those arent the things we pack when evacuated. Unless the whole city burned down, we will have access to those in a fire. Some things are irreplaceable and some steps can be done to "help" with the fire mitigation and I wish this was more commonly communicated (i.e. grab your safe, any cash you have in your home, precious keepsakes) and what can we do to help firefighters? (i.e. we know have a paper ready to stick on the door that says "We have safely evacuated and there are 2 hose bibs located here and here with hoses unattached but sitting there for your use if needed")

Anonymous

In this era of increasingly severe natural disasters (wildfires, floods,

4/16/2024 10:41 AM

drought, etc.), local/regional governments engaging in proactive public education and outreach campaigns for emergency preparedness is greatly appreciated; this should be bolstered with both carrots (e.g. FireSmart property grants) and sticks (e.g. fines for those property owners who do not FireSmart their properties and thus endanger not only themselves but their neighbours as well)

Anonymous

4/16/2024 10:44 AM

Early intervention is key I think. We were impacted severely by the McDougall Creek wildfire which started as a small fire many kilometers away from our home but grew to encompass a very large area. Greater efforts early on in the fire may have saved many homes and a lot of money.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 11:14 AM

The questions asked were a bit difficult to answer. There was no option to state something like "I know of the risks and reasons why, I just have procrastinated"

Anonymous

4/16/2024 11:19 AM

I appreciate these types of surveys so the community is aware of the level of preparedness of residents.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 11:37 AM

It is a comfort to know the preparedness of our regional district.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 11:48 AM

This is very specific, but it would be good for RDOS, municipalities within the District, and the Province to emphasize what we can do residents to make our environment safer from fire. We are working to make our home firesmart (special focus on plants/hedges), but our neighbours aren't as proactive, and finding ways to reinforce FireSmart practices might help get the message out? Thank you for the survey and all the good work you do too!

Anonymous

4/16/2024 12:01 PM

It is important for children to understand what will happen if there is an emergency while they are at school. Parents need to know how to contact their kids if the emergency happens while kids are at school.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 12:05 PM

I'm not sure how to keep enough food, water, and electricity for 3-7 days. I have snack, a backup cellphone battery charger, and water jugs but not enough to last for 3-7 days. Portability becomes an issue because I do not have a car to take a lot of water with me, for example.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 12:52 PM

I am signed up for email alerts, which is fine when there is power and I am at home. Would like to have option to sign up for text message alert. I do not have data on phone so text message I would always get.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 03:15 PM

My loved one living here is nearly 100 years old, she/we cannot evacuate on a moments notice and would need a handicap placement. There should be a pre sign up this time of year to give us peace of mind.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 04:17 PM

Last year was terrifying and I would like to not have that happen again. I would very much like to have an emergency preparedness kit ready to go.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 04:50 PM

Yes, Just a note for 911 responsiveness. During last summer's McDougal creek fire, my son and his partner who live on Clifton Rd were watching the fire. When they saw the embers jumps the lake and ignite the bush below them they phoned 911. Knowing as well that Clifton was full of vehicle looky loos. The 911 operator told her she was a "crank call" the fire would never jump the lake (and aren't they in Kamloops anyways) and to get off the phone. She couldn't convince them! It was a significant amount of time later before the fire service showed up and traffic authority to get the people off the street.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 05:53 PM

I appreciate the firesmart people coming around and telling us about local things happening in the neighbourhood. I also appreciate the many different ways of learning about emergencies when they arise.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 06:01 PM

I'm lucky to live near a fire hall.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 07:22 PM

Where do I get a list of things to have in a to go bag and emergency preparedness kit.

Anonymous

4/16/2024 09:20 PM

Since 2003 we have had a evacuation list for fire. Every year my photo's are packed in a rolling suit case and taken to a low risk location for the summer. During the 2023 fire (our 3rd evacuation) being prepared gave us piece of mind that we had taken all the important items, and items. I worry about my neighbors lac of yard preparedness and over 10 years of pine needles on his roof. we are so luck his place did not catch on fire.

Anonymous

4/17/2024 06:46 AM

For question 6, I selected an answer because I couldn't continue the survey without doing so, but it is not the answer I wanted, which was: Nothing, I am already prepared. Thanks for the survey!

Anonymous

4/17/2024 07:39 AM

Our postal code was not listed in the drop down menu. Kelowna, BC, V1V 3G1 (McKinley Beach)

Anonymous

4/17/2024 07:40 AM

Very slow support for people out of their homes during the last fire August 2023

Anonymous

4/17/2024 09:02 AM

Publish preferred escape routes for our town - that is, create routes for specific neighbourhoods that would prevent bottlenecks and a slowdown in evacuation. Also, make sure that paths/roads meant for emergency evacuations and which are closed to ordinary traffic by locked gates are opened up as soon as a threat of emergency circumstances arises - some of those gates were not unlocked during our most recent and harrowing emergency situation.

Anonymous

4/17/2024 09:05 AM

The lack of Emergency preparedness & planning from the city is my biggest concern. I have PTSD every year upon the first smell of smoke as a resident of KV in 2003.. Annually I prepare for my aging parents and my own family. Chute Lake Road-1 road out. City/Developer greed has overridden Emergency Response planning to protect tax paying residents. Now 2 school zones, heavy traffic, roundabouts, construction trucks add as barriers for a safe evacuation plan. The infrastructure of this town is the biggest cause of my anxiety for safety.

Anonymous

4/17/2024 10:37 AM

No

Anonymous

4/17/2024 10:38 AM

During the McDougall Fire in West Kelowna when it was time to leave our home we read conflicting information as far as turning our power off or leaving it on. We decided to leave it on but would like clarification on that.

Anonymous

4/17/2024 11:33 AM

You do a good job!

Anonymous

4/17/2024 04:12 PM

Thank you for the reminder to be prepared for disaster!

Anonymous

4/17/2024 03:29 PM

I would like to see you guys lead the effort to reduce the large amounts of cedar hedges in neighborhoods in West Kelowna. They are probably our biggest threat.

Anonymous

4/17/2024 03:50 PM

no

Anonymous

4/18/2024 08:08 AM

A visual infographic checklist of all supplies needed and the locations they should be kept would be helpful. Make it a single pdf and visually appealing.

Anonymous

4/18/2024 08:27 AM

Lived in the Cariboo during the evacuation of 100 Mile House in 2017, always have a full tank of gas in my vehicle during fire season

Anonymous

4/19/2024 08:03 AM

I appreciate your efforts to keep people informed and encourage emergency preparedness. It has encouraged me to purchase things while I'm grocery shopping today, and to find a source that lists what I would need. Hopefully that's on your site. Also some of the questions didn't allow for my answers so there was some frustration doing the questionnaire.

Anonymous

4/19/2024 08:44 AM

Many residents could help fight wild fires if allowed. Many have hoses and pumps ready to deploy if needed. This could save a house or barn, the reward outweighs the risk.

Anonymous

4/19/2024 10:45 AM

There is a lot of conflicting info.

Anonymous

4/19/2024 10:57 AM

hope Spikop is clear of fire hazards

Anonymous

4/19/2024 12:12 PM

Yes, I would like to know if there is anything in place for people who are disabled who live on their own (with or without a spouse so they may get evacuated on a evacuation alert instead of having to wait and have to evacuate with everyone else.

Anonymous

Questions 6 - I have no barriers on discussing preparedness but that

4/19/2024 12:22 PM

option wasn't there so I just checked the first box. Last August we were evacuated from our home in McKinley Landing due to fire. We've always had a plan in place in our interface area, in what to grab first as time allowed (dogs, meds, photos (ones not stored online yet but in boxes), computers, important papers. We have a basic inventory list of contents of house; we reviewed our house/boat insurance coverage this Spring. Fortunately for us, we have a 5th wheel trailer (always hash basic personal items, water, etc) and left the immediate area for 10 days. We thrive to keep our 1/2 acre treed lot reasonably free of pine tree debris, etc. We have a water hose that reaches down to the back of our property. There is a SPCA dog stickers indicating 2 dogs in house. We talk to our neighbours and make sure they're safe (elderly) and let our family/friends know we were safe. It was good to know our plan worked last summer except we could have been a little faster. Thanks to everyone that kept our neighbour safe!!

Anonymous

4/19/2024 01:45 PM

I believe the Okanagan emergency agencies and local response teams do a great job. I take confidence with the communications via email and the info available to create an emergency plan and a well stocked "bug out" kit. The one item missing is trying to stay in my home longer than 3 to 7 days without water or power. I would need to evacuate in such a scenario.

Anonymous

4/19/2024 03:31 PM

During an event the key access routes in and out of the affected area need to be identified and kept clear before an evacuation is ordered. Time and time again I have witnessed the curious getting in their cars to drive over to an area that affords them a better look. In many cases this vantage point happens to be a critical route for emergency personnel to get in and, just as often, the key evacuation route for others to escape should the situation get worse.

Anonymous

4/19/2024 06:50 PM

It might be helpful to have a suggested list of items people should have on hand for emergencies likely to occur in our area.

Anonymous

4/20/2024 07:54 AM

I have just spent an hour on the Internet, trying to find an emergency evacuation route from my residence. If there was a fire, I was not able to find anything also, I was trying to find information on livestock in the case of an emergency and was also not able to find anything. I looked at the community wild fire protection plan.(2010) and did not find any pertinent information.

Anonymous

Alerts to your specific postal code on your phone would be awesome

4/20/2024 08:22 AM

(kind of like an amber alerts)

Anonymous

4/20/2024 09:03 AM

As density has increased in our neighbourhood, the access and exit from our area is bad. The city has to look at how can people get our in an emergency. Right now there is no way we could get out in time no matter how much personal planning we do.

Anonymous

4/20/2024 12:57 PM

We would like someone to come around the neighborhoods and recommend to residents about the danger of dried out cedar hedges for themselves and their neighbors.

Anonymous

4/20/2024 02:25 PM

Our trailer is at home in summer and is ready to go. For winter I have a small generator for power and gas fireplace for heating. I have backcountry hiking supplies at home, sleeping bags, stoves and water filters. Our documents are in fireproof box. I have experience in emergency work and situations

Anonymous

4/20/2024 09:32 PM

Had a whole emergency kit prepared in case of earthquake when we lived in Vancouver. Not sure how my kit would differ for other emergencies.

Anonymous

4/21/2024 09:10 AM

One of our biggest concerns is the single transmission source for electricity in the West Kelowna area. Without a second source, our entire area is vulnerable to losing power from fire which could take out the line or a substation. All supporting businesses and services would close. During the 2023 local fires, obtaining additional bottled water was very difficult as stores were sold out rapidly. That and other necessary supplies become vulnerable to resupply routes. Another concern we have is with respect to the management of traffic to access the bridge route should an evacuation be required. Are there sufficient RCMP officers to handle all the traffic areas to ensure smooth movement of such a situation? There seems to be insufficient monitoring of traffic at the best of times, and drivers often ignore signs and rules of the road. Under the pressure of an emergency, this would be a big concern.

Anonymous

4/21/2024 12:37 PM

Discounts on supplies and more comprehensive checklists for shelter in place versus evacuate would be helpful.

Anonymous

4/21/2024 05:00 PM

no comment

Anonymous

4/21/2024 05:31 PM

Thank you for the hard work during the 2023 West Kelowna fires and then when the embers started fires on my side of the lake, Kelowna area. I thought I was prepared due to previous years of fires but this was a new scary and I'm upping preparedness this year, reviewing kits and plans now in April. I wasn't personally affected by needing vouchers and a place to stay, as many were, but I heard there were challenges with that due to the volume of people (again, hadn't happened before) I hope a better system will be ready for next time. Also, Prospera Place had been open for shelter last year for a few days before people/evacuees seemed to hear about it. Getting info out as fast as possible is needed. But thank you for your work :)

Anonymous

4/21/2024 06:44 PM

Consider questions about family pets & livestock emergency preparedness plans

Anonymous

4/21/2024 09:09 PM

Yes, it would be nice to have grants for people who are unlimited income to provide emergency kits and to cover labour and cost an emergency proofing one's home

Anonymous

4/22/2024 07:40 AM

Thank you! Where to purchase ready made kits.

Anonymous

4/22/2024 04:52 PM

I appreciate all that the RDCO did to keep the community alert during last year's fire season. I can understand that it's a lot to juggle.

Anonymous

4/22/2024 05:12 PM

Families of Seniors and persons with disabilities may want to attach 'air tags' to their shoes, jackets and hats. Most people who leave their home will more than likely have their shoes on and possibly a jacket or hat. This may save time looking for someone in an emergency

Anonymous

4/23/2024 11:17 AM

cordemergency.ca was a good tool for us during the events last year. We also received updates on Global and sought out online resources to plan out 72 hour emergency kit. Many people that I spoke with in our area that were evacuated last year seemed very confused about ESS. Where to register, if they needed to register, how ESS could help.

Anonymous

4/24/2024 03:03 PM

Question 6 has no option like "N/A" or "none of the above" and is required (must select an option)

Anonymous

4/24/2024 04:52 PM

The government should be supplying insurance for us in a program we can make payments. My insurance doubled and now they say no payments, thus i can't afford it. The city should have a selected area that provides water and toilets for people with campers ect. Provide storage for our things we pile in cars as we will have to sleep and live in them. Make it essential that motels will be used in an emergency for the people who live here. Provide shelters for our animals. Most important your help services were absolutely ridiculous having to wait over 4-5 days for help and expected to sit daily in a line up while we are supposed to go to work and lose our spot. The last big fire we went directly to Walmart where they assessed our family and gave vouchers immediately for clothing and food. Non of the bs like last time. You caused severe undue stress that was not needed on top of everything. If you can only process one to two people an hr and this is what we were told then you need to gather more volunteers and be ready.

Anonymous

4/24/2024 06:45 PM

we work on our preparedness each year. We appreciate there are new ideas to be safer. we appreciate the fire smart rebates. it would be good if the town was more willing to do their part on parkland. or allow the neighbourhood to do it

Anonymous

4/25/2024 11:10 AM

I know it's important, especially after the fires last year. I would love to have access to purchase a fully loaded kit with info on what to add... and keep pushing out the info so more people hear it more times!

Anonymous

4/25/2024 02:33 PM

I think it is important to use Social Media more often when there are emergencies.

Anonymous

4/26/2024 01:16 PM

#6 does not have a n/a

Anonymous

4/26/2024 01:31 PM

I have noticed that government prefers Twitter as a means to communicate quickly with the public. This concerns me because in my experience Twitter is very rarely used by people my age and older. I understand that Twitter has become a standard way for government and media to interact, but I don't think government agencies realize how uncommon the use of this app is with the general public, outside of tech, large organizations, and government. For example, during the mass shootings in Nova Scotia, the RCMP used tweets to communicate shelter in place warnings to the public. Timely critical information like this should not be communicated primarily or solely through social media.

Anonymous

4/26/2024 03:17 PM

Grants to help firesmart homes would be helpful. Also, there's often conflicting information - especially with respect to yard maintenance. I've heard "cut lawn short" (for fire preparedness) and "keep lawn longer" (for water restrictions). It's often confusing to try to do the right thing when you hear different requests from different organizations.

Anonymous

4/26/2024 08:49 AM

Rdco should communicate directly with residents, not property management companies. I missed the opportunity to view my property as I didn't get notified from my strata company.

Anonymous

4/28/2024 09:14 AM

It's hard to want to think about emergencies so I procrastinate- an event with opportunities to win supplies might be a good nudge. Workplace events would be nice to remind us emergencies can happen on weekdays and we'd need to have a plan there as well. It would also encourage participation since we'd get a break from our desks.

Anonymous

4/28/2024 10:46 AM

I feel as though the municipality and government could do a better job in conveying information to the public in regards to the measures set in place to ensure the limitations of emergencies/natural disasters (i.e. forest fire prevention, earthquake warning, etc...). I feel as though it would put much of the public's minds at ease, to see something like a 20 or 50 year plan for the mitigation of such occurrences, and the measures that will be setup to ensure success (i.e. planting sections of trees known to be more resistant to burning, controlled burns, proper coverage of deep forest areas so that initial embers can be spotted and quickly put out before spreading, etc....)

Anonymous

4/28/2024 08:50 PM

I found the Evacuee Registration terrible. I was out of province when we were evacuated and when i tried to register for support for when I got back to Kelowna, I couldn't. I tried calling and nobody was ever able to help me, so in the end, my household received absolutely no support. It was very frustrating. I am extremely disappointed in the system.

Anonymous

4/30/2024 07:43 PM

It would be great if training could be shorter and more accessible

Anonymous

5/01/2024 11:49 AM

Information on how to prepare in the event of a power outage - back up power supplies.

Anonymous

5/02/2024 09:39 AM

I feel that we're prepared, but we don't have specific plans in place for certain scenarios (e.g. where we'd go if we needed to evacuate), as I feel that would be dependent on who else is evacuated.

Anonymous

5/02/2024 09:44 AM

I feel that part of emergency preparedness is being proactive about practices that contribute to potential emergencies such as spraying our forests and roadsides with glysohate. It creates a tinder dry forest and roadsides causing fires to ignite more easily, burn hotter and travel faster. It also kills our natural fire breaks such as birch stands.

Anonymous

5/03/2024 09:51 AM

Current narrative is that climate emergencies are increasing. This is not true. I have been a resident of the Okanagan for over 30 years. Wind events and forest fires are an annual threat and need to be planned for. But scaring residents is not in our best interests. Webinars and such with facts and not guesses and fiction will ensure buy in for emergency plans.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 11:30 AM

No

Anonymous

5/06/2024 11:31 AM

Know your insurance. Have one contact in the event you are separated to communicate in the event no power/internet. Close and lock all windows and doors when evacuated. Shut off water.irrigation??

Anonymous

5/06/2024 11:33 AM

I have a emergency vehicles just in case of transportation during emergency events. I have a one copy of emergency plan , food and first Aid kits in my car too!

Anonymous

5/06/2024 11:38 AM

We live in Rose Valley and were evacuated in August 2023 for just over a week. During this time it was imperative to get timely information on the status of the fire and our home. Luckily we have security cameras installed on our house, so we could monitor our home's status in real time. We found that during this time the most accurate and timely information came directly from our community and other residents who had eyes on the ground. Neighbours sharing security camera footage and actually being able to see what was happening was what we needed at that time. I would recommend the RDCO be more open about sharing helicopter footage of the neighbourhoods and what is actually going on so that residents feel informed and can see what is going on.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 11:38 AM

We need the Mars bomber back!

Anonymous

5/06/2024 11:42 AM

I think the regional districts and other local municipalities are doing a good job of keeping the public informed!!

Anonymous

5/06/2024 11:47 AM

Regarding the FireSmart program, let's increase the emphasis and financing on preparing & prevention. Also, how to encourage and provide incentive to remove fire hazards like partially dead cedar hedges, trees, foliage that is on private or public land. For private land, maybe enable removal options and offer grants.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 11:47 AM

One person in a family can be a catalyst for emergency preparedness, but it takes buy-in from all members of the household. One planner in the midst of "last minuters" is like swimming against a strong current.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 11:50 AM

A reminder to people to have a power bank ready for cell phones, and to have a flashlight with batteries ready.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 11:52 AM

Excellent work / survey

Anonymous

5/06/2024 11:56 AM

need to know supplies. also i don't have a car, need a ride out if evacuated, 3 people in my house

Anonymous

5/06/2024 11:59 AM

I have some concerns about a neighbour's lack of firesmart yard maintenance potentially making things worse for my property in the event of a fire.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 12:09 PM

I'm sure this has already been compiled and I just haven't seen it, but I would love a short list of what to include in an emergency kit and what to have at home in case of an emergency.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 12:10 PM

All local area levels should have better communication and better training in advance of any situations that may occur. Last year was proof that no one was prepared for what happened.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 12:11 PM

I would love to hear the suggestion that all pickup trucks drivers should carry a shovel in their vehicle in case of a roadside fire.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 12:19 PM

The one question about making a plan doesn't give an opt out about why I'm not making one. If I have one I'm not avoiding it, etc.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 12:23 PM

No

Anonymous

5/06/2024 12:32 PM

Timely notices to residents or to associations for them to circulate can be very helpful

Anonymous

5/06/2024 12:34 PM

I would love to know more about opportunities to fire smart my neighbourhood in an interface zone. Specifically about grants to support this work and advocacy for regional park firesmarting.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 12:37 PM

Don't wait for the order to start packing. You don't realize how much your items mean to you until you leave them behind, hoping to return to them. But first and foremost, always protect living beings before items.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 12:55 PM

Thank you for trying to prepare us all earlier and get on top of prevention more. Bless you all!

Anonymous

5/06/2024 12:58 PM

Our strata council has been pro-active about getting fire smart. Not sure what is being done regarding emergency preparedness. We are located in a hillside area with only one access point.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 12:59 PM

Like a dedicate radio station to listen to.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 01:15 PM

I think homeowners need to take more responsibility in cleaning their yards from debris.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 01:50 PM

Simple, easy-to-follow instructions.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 02:01 PM

Postal code for my area was not available I live in Kelowna ,B.C V4V 1P4

Anonymous

5/06/2024 02:05 PM

The fire last September near Peachland galvanized me to get our household ready. We now have lists, and an evacuation plan. We firesmart'ed our yard this spring.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 02:08 PM

We have actively been doing fire mitigation on our property meaning frequent trips to the landfill with debris. Perhaps more residents would be encouraged to do the same if we weren't charged for every bag? Yard waste used to be free :)

Anonymous

5/06/2024 02:11 PM

Discourage residents to plant cedar trees so close to homes, especially mobile homes.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 02:18 PM

Thank you for promoting and educating emergency preparedness. The. ore people know the more competent they will be in the event of an emergency

Anonymous

5/06/2024 02:25 PM

Evacuated in 2023. We have no family/friends in the Okanagan so we ended up at Kal Tire Place. There was not enough volunteers and not enough accommodations for pets. It was very sad to be kicked out of Kal Tire place with my dog as I needed to use the bathroom and could not leave my pet alone in the car.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 02:25 PM

Not at this time.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 02:26 PM

Continue the local preparedness meetings

Anonymous

5/06/2024 02:42 PM

I really like that this is being talked about and that our local government is being proactive in this matter.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 02:55 PM

Question 6 was "none of the above" but had a forced choice answer.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 03:09 PM

We have a survival kit packed for ourselves and pet at all times, in addition to sleeping bags, extra water, snacks, safety deposit box and a list of what is important to us to put in the car.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 03:26 PM

I appreciate all the helpful information that has been provided on a regular basis and the Central Okanagan Emergency updates to my email and iphone. This is amazing and critical info. So important.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 03:54 PM

We need information on what to do if cell phones are not working in an emergency. Where would we go? How would we contact our families?

Anonymous

5/06/2024 04:05 PM

I recommend city or RDCO issue weekly reminders during the fire season on what each household should do to be ready.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 04:17 PM

municipality needs to step up with heavy fuel and scrubs, trees of heaven & Chinese elms clean up on the hills and Maddock Ave future road allowance not in use. A fire waiting to race uphill and burn many beautiful homes in OK Ctr. Let's get on with cleaning up the fire hazards here! Nothing happened yet despite frequent requests from residents and neighbours! Not if, but when...

Anonymous

5/06/2024 04:35 PM

I believe it would be good to get volunteers or firefighter to try to go around, some people don't have TV or radios. Even some are disabled that they need help and have no one here to help.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 05:25 PM

We appreciate all the information being shared and the work being done to keep our communities safe.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 05:30 PM

I was confused last year about whether or not to turn off the main water line into the house if we ended up getting evacuated. It was recommended in the emergency pamphlet I read, although I saw news feeds showing fire fighters fighting interface fires with homeowners' hoses.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 06:13 PM

We were on evacuation alert last summer, and I remember being evacuated during the Okanagan Mnt fire when I was younger. I thought CORD did a great job this year keeping us updated. I would like to fire smart our home - it's surrounded by dry pine trees. Would also like to make our home more eco-friendly (heat pump, etc). But we just don't have any extra cash flow right now because I'm a student. I know analysis shows a positive cash-benefit but we literally don't have a cent to spare today. I wish there were better ways to finance such things without taking on big credit card interest rates.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 06:19 PM

I found some of the best disaster preparedness information at JW.org. It has been very helpful with the past fires here in the Okanagan <https://www.jw.org/en/library/magazines/awake-no5-2017-october/disaster-steps-that-can-save-lives/>

Anonymous

5/06/2024 07:48 PM

Thank you very much for all of the work you are doing on these matters.

Anonymous

5/06/2024 08:39 PM

I would like to feel prepared and know where to go to access different kinds of help if needed

Anonymous

5/06/2024 08:45 PM

I MUST get prepared ASAP

Anonymous

5/06/2024 09:48 PM

Not sure

Anonymous

5/06/2024 10:11 PM

Bc wildfire app was helpful during evacuation alerts and orders in 2023

Anonymous

5/06/2024 10:19 PM

No

Anonymous

5/07/2024 07:41 AM

Last year was pretty scary and we learned a lot about what to have packed and ready to go. We also learned that as long as our family and dogs are safe, material things do not matter. Those can all be replaced.

Anonymous

5/07/2024 08:00 AM

I think somehow over advertising on where to find information during an emergency as well, that I share accurate and up to date. To help stop the fear and panic. I did not know until last year to remove my patio furniture,cushions , rugs etc.... To help prevent ignition of fire . With no news on social media and no cable for the news.

Anonymous

5/07/2024 08:17 AM

Need more financial help to haul away wood and yard waste for fire smart preparedness. Maybe branch shredding?

Anonymous

5/07/2024 08:19 AM

I would like to see some civic action , be it fire personnel, etc that could enforce removal of dead cedars , etc in neighborhoods.

Anonymous

5/07/2024 08:33 AM

Have a nephew who does Fire smart in the Yukon and he gave me advice when White Rock lake fire happened

Anonymous

5/07/2024 08:38 AM

Would love a straight forward guide of what steps to take and what one needs to include in a kit. Taking the guess work out of the next steps would help make the process easier and would ensure more people are prepared.

Anonymous

5/07/2024 08:41 AM

RDCO and District municipalities should seek co-funding to establish incentives for residents to pre-train and invest in professional grade fire equipment kits that residents could pre-ready during pre-evac/evacuation-alert stage for utility of arriving emergency response crews to enhance District resource capacity and timing of their neighbourhood response to community-scale wildfire incidents. Home fire pump/hose/sprinkler kit equipment available, tested and deployed by residents to pre-wet adjacent wildland property edges during extreme hazard days and during advancing wildfire incidents. (Esp properties with swimming pools and/or lakeshore proximity). Standard wildfire grade pump & hose kits pre-deployed at key strategic resident properties add great integration opportunity for crews to have immediate access to alternative (non-hydrant) water supplies during a community-scale incident where their resources are otherwise greatly taxed or overwhelmed. In particular large strata properties are a challenging residential property type that might otherwise become assessed as "indefensible" by taxed fire crews during a community scale event. They need heightened pro-active consideration during strategic response planning, FireSmart preparations and pre-suppression resourcing since they are currently a concerning gap in RDCO capacity.

Anonymous

5/07/2024 08:57 AM

Clearer exit routes for the Okanagan would be helpful.

Anonymous

5/07/2024 09:23 AM

Thank you and great work to all those involved during the last fire seasons.

Anonymous

5/07/2024 09:42 AM

Not at this time

Anonymous

5/07/2024 09:44 AM

Must be notified where to go if evacuated...no friends or family

Anonymous

5/07/2024 10:32 AM

I live in a condo complex. It's a second home so it's not that critical to our safety

Anonymous

5/07/2024 11:54 AM

A HUGE problem is government policy for burning. In the city of Kelowna, the rules are too restricted to properly do controlled burns on some agricultural properties . Policy set by council who should go out into the community The amount of debris in some areas needs to be addressed as it's a bomb waiting in our community. As for flooding, it's a joke the way it's handled locally. Too much arguing between city and province and no real work being done (ie: grave removal).

Anonymous

5/07/2024 06:05 PM

More use of the emergency alert system on cell phones

Anonymous

5/07/2024 07:25 PM

I am now developing a checklist of things to bring in case I have to evacuate. I am welcome to others suggestions too.

Anonymous

5/07/2024 10:54 PM

We store fresh water, have a backup generator, keep some stored food.

Anonymous

5/08/2024 09:24 AM

none

Anonymous

5/08/2024 09:45 AM

Have no vehicle so makes planning difficult.

Anonymous

5/08/2024 11:36 AM

Have something similar to the National Public Alerting System for BC and fires specifically

Anonymous

5/08/2024 01:55 PM

Would be helpful to have guidelines on how to prepare a strata building for emergencies. We have a sewage lift station. If the power goes out for more than 2 hours, we will have a health and safety issue.

Anonymous

5/08/2024 09:23 PM

we have plans in effect and ones who keep in touch with us to make sure we are safe and looked after.

Anonymous

5/08/2024 11:40 PM

Emergency preparedness requires that we also understand how to expect the unexpected for caring your family and pets. Back up plans

with family and friends in different communities are important should evacuations be required.

Anonymous

5/09/2024 12:06 PM

Having experienced a fire I know the dangers and I try hard to mitigate risk. I am actively planning to install a fire suppression system to protect my property and the surrounding area. At the same time I am powerless to stop the neighbour's from intentionally impeding access to fire responders. They acknowledge that their recent actions (new fence) have made it impossible for emergency services to reach our area quickly but they don't care.

Anonymous

5/09/2024 12:09 PM

More access to assistance for making my property fire safe

Anonymous

5/09/2024 02:32 PM

Thank you for the information and being proactive with ESS.

Anonymous

5/09/2024 10:33 PM

After last years wildfire on the West Kelowna side the Royal LePage Arena was ill prepared for such a situation where many of us were left homeless after being evacuated. The card system did not work and to be told that you would have to come back in 2 days to get any sort of help was insane. To even add to the madness was telling Kelowna residents to come to the Royal LePage centre for help where they had a massive building they could have used (Prospera Place). We left and went to my sisters place in Coldstream and once we were there we found out that the Vernon arena was an evacuation centre as well. I have to say that they were extremely well run, processed our claim under 2 hours, we had funds sent to us within 1/2 hour, food, supplies for our pets, clothing, food trucks donating meals for people, ect. We would tell our neighbours and friends to make the drive up to Vernon to get assistance as they would have had to wait days for any sort of help.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:42 PM

No

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:47 PM

Thank you to all who work to prevent or mitigate catastrophe, keeping us informed and safe.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:47 PM

No

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:48 PM

Love more info what and where ti buy ready made kits for emergency

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:50 PM

No

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:51 PM

CORD Emergency updates don't come often enough and are repetitive info. Social media neighborhood groups were more informative - we have security cameras and share info and know what is going on - it is not a secret... Be more open and timely with information!!!! You want us to rely on the govt sites for info, then withhold info. Human nature is to fill the information void and figure it out on our own if we have to...

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:51 PM

This is a great initiative. Thank you.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:53 PM

Thank you for the opportunity to participate

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:54 PM

send me a list and how often supplies need to be changed

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:54 PM

Have a well defined meeting place in case you get separated from your family. Also, in West Kelowna a meeting point on each side of the bridge is important. One other item is to have a seperate land line and cell phone carrier-that way if your land line is out your cell line is still useable

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:54 PM

It would be good to get information about what should be in an emergency kit. We also don't have a car, though we belong to a carshare-- so being able to leave quickly is an issue for us, and others without our own vehicles.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:55 PM

We do put together a evacuation kit/bags nearer to summer. Having no relatives here is difficult also.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:56 PM

It would be great to have a team sponsored by the municipality or province who could do firesmarting work (clearing/chipping, pruning, removing trees, replacing hedges, etc.) at a minimal cost - not everyone is physically able (beyond those officially designated handicapped), or can afford the local tree companies, and it's not

always easy to find/choose a responsible vendor.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:57 PM

An info sheet about what to have ready in case of emergency would be helpful!

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:57 PM

Haley is doing a great job with communication! Go Haley go!

Anonymous

5/10/2024 02:59 PM

I am one of those who lost her home last summer. I want to take the opportunity to thank you for all you are doing for us. Keep up the good work, and stay safe.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:02 PM

I think someone should have a look at all the dead cedars that seem to be everywhere very high fire hazard

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:03 PM

We were evacuated for 10 days last summer. I can't begin to thank the firefighters and emergency personnel for their incredible work. I am so saddened for those that lost their homes. I am also absolutely amazed that so many homes were saved considering the intensity of the fire and wind. Just thank you, thank you, thank you.....

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:05 PM

I have been a paid-on-call firefighter here (2011-2015). I know what to do and we are packed right now and prepared to leave with our travel trailer FAST, if we have to. We will have food, clothing and water.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:06 PM

I think I was very surprised last summer. even though I have lived in the Okanagan for many many years and experienced the firestorm of 2013, I was quite certain that we were "safe" in the lower mission. I had no clue that the fire would jump the lake and gobble up half of Lake Country. This was a good lesson for me. I was home alone; my husband was working out of town and I was very frightened. We live in a condo and I thought, what happens if someone's balcony catches fire and they don't notice? I stayed awake and kept buckets of water on my patio. I made deals with friends to go and get my husband's car for me if his work (near knox mountain) became under evacuation order. I don't know what my community could have provided that would have helped me. I knew my friends were available. Since that night, I have begun to inventory my home on a spreadsheet

Anonymous

I would like access to sand and sandbags so I can fill a few in

5/10/2024 03:06 PM

advance of storms.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:06 PM

Having been through 2 evacuations in 2003 while living in Gallagher's Canyon and now living in North Glenmore, one of our main concerns is a dependable evacuation route. Last year with the West Kelowna and Lake Country fires, we were worried that Highway 97 in both directions would be impacted impeding a safe evacuation route. Social media is critical in updating the public with information and is greatly appreciated.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:08 PM

Hopefully i can get updates from time to time and support when in emergency

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:11 PM

Yes make sure you know where everyone in your family is.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:12 PM

I think that being reminded about emergency preparedness helps us to get motivated to start doing what is required to be prepared when them moment arrives be it floods, wildfires, etc. So thank you for all of the reminders.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:14 PM

N/A

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:15 PM

DURING MCDOUGALL CREEK WILDFIRE, (WEST KELOWNA 2023) EMERGENCY ALAERT SIRENS DID NOT GO OFF IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:15 PM

Questions 5 and 6 required a selection but none were answers I wanted to give. I haven't prepared for an emergency for the same reason I haven't done a lot of other things I "should" do. I'm a single parent working full time and there are a million things to do. The physical song of them can be tricky to fit in but it is the mental load that prevents me from getting it done. I need to figure out what I need to do before I do it and really to be effective it's not just my family but also our apartment building and surrounding neighbours that would need to coordinate. There's no way I have the mental and emotional bandwidth to figure it out. Honestly the only thing that would be sure to make it happen would be for someone to drop a basic kits off at my house with the detailed list of the specific to me things I should add.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:16 PM

I would have liked a range of options. I am somewhat prepared for some kinds of emergency and well prepared for other kinds of emergencies. Our household is well prepared for a 72 evacuation, for example, but less prepared for a massive blackout.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:16 PM

We are pretty good at fire smarting our property. But I just don't know exactly what we should have in an emergency kit, for anything other than just fire evacuation.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:19 PM

As the former Chief Security Officer of a global hotel group, I have decades of international experience providing support to hotels to prepare for, manage, and respond to crises and disasters. Following last year's travel ban, I reached out to the host provincial, regional, and municipal governments and to the BC Hotel Association to offer my expertise. Despite a promise from the premier's office and some kind words from the hotel association, there was no response even after I followed up several times. Now, everyone is worried about the rapidly approaching fire season. Some positive measures have been put in place, but nothing substantial has been done to train and prepare hotel staff to house traumatized evacuees or to coordinate hotel evacuations and re-housing. It's very disheartening that we don't use expertise we have in our midst...

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:22 PM

If you could provide lists of what is needed, and/or post them to your web page people will have the ability to slowly get stuff and help to reduce suddenly expenditures

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:21 PM

what do you do with your propane tanks from you barbecue and fire table when you have to evacuate.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:22 PM

N/a

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:22 PM

I spend an obsessive amount of time tracking fire updates when I'm away from home during fire season, are there any volunteer positions that utilize anything like that?

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:23 PM

Exactly where to go is the immediate responsibility that one needs to know as soon as an emergency situation presents itself.

Anonymous

I would love to see emergency alerts sent out as text messages when

5/10/2024 03:24 PM

a neighbourhood is on either evacuation alert or order and updated whenever there is changes. One of the most frustrating things from last years fires is the evacuation map on the regional districts site not being accurate in real time. If we were able to sign up somewhere with our addresses and phone numbers then we would get emergency alerts and know when we need to prepared to leave.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:25 PM

One website to cover all information during an emergency.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:27 PM

Would be helpful to download a list for grab and go box and other things that can be done around the home when you have to evacuate for flood, fire etc

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:30 PM

Appreciate the survey, however not sure how some of the questions relate to emergencies. My age, gender or income really are irrelevant. Questions like what I would need and personal struggles with following through in an emergency would be more helpful. I am a Military Veteran renter with PTSD and would require ESS help I'd there was an emergency. I live across from a park with a forest that is looked after by District of Lake Country. They have done absolutely nothing to mitigate the fire risk in the park. Nothing I have sent has even been acknowledged and not even CORD will do anything because it is the responsibility of DLC. How does this build any trust or security with the residents. My landlords have cleaned up their property to mitigate fire, while the people in charge of the area have done nothing. Lake Country didn't even include themselves in the community meetings. Thanks for all the work you are doing. If you are interested in talking to me about my concerns, please feel free to contact me at 250-540-2606 Doreen Thanks!

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:30 PM

There needs to be an easy way, online, for people to register in any emergency, including where they go and what assistance they may need. Last year's registration was not adequate.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:31 PM

More accessible for Deaf people like me... Last year, it was awful with the lack of communication with the emergency and evacuation staff. Needs to improve this year - closed captioned & ASL interpreters

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:33 PM

We can prepare, but what happens if it happens when we are not home? I'd appreciate some ideas around that.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:35 PM

I have thinking to prepare emg supplies, but not sure what to prepare

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:38 PM

No

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:39 PM

Currently live in Mabel Lake, Enderby and we have no volunteer fire dept or staffed fire department. It is very scary being here in the summer months.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:40 PM

Thank you for conducting this survey!

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:41 PM

Neighbourhood meetings to address possible issues. For instance, I did some research on this topic, and one point that needs attention is the access between Clifton and McKinley—the developer should complete this road connection ASAP (I am sure there are other road access issues for other neighbourhoods) Also, I noticed last August 17/18, with the McDougal fire - Clifton road was not closed to local traffic, and hundreds of people drove in to watch the fire across the lake. When the fire jumped the lake just north of Clifton, all these people started leaving, and the exit traffic was then backed up and slow-paced. If the Clifton fire had started closer to Kelowna, all these people might have been trapped (until the gates to the McKinley area were opened).

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:44 PM

No

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:44 PM

Education and information that is tailored to those with learning disabilities (aka. ADHD, Neurodiversity. Etc) (so short, visual, to the point, with all the relevant information is easy to access). With the ability to download shopping lists and knowing how long those good would be safe to store.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:47 PM

N/a

Anonymous

5/10/2024 03:50 PM

planning for pets is really important too and should be included in the planning conversations!

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:06 PM

.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:06 PM

It would help immensely to have a city bylaw to have everyone remove pine needles, pine cones and dead branches from their properties. One house on my street has a mountain about 4 feet high of needles just waiting for someone to throw a lit cigarette into.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:07 PM

Last year our emergency plan was hindered due to multiple fires in numerous districts. This forced us to come up with not only a plan B but a plan C. I encourage education information on this potential problem in the Okanagan/shuswap regions.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:07 PM

The killiney beach water system still needs a back up generator!!

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:15 PM

I wonder what role HealthLink BC 811 line might play in management of emergencies. I work as a part time physician for 811.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:21 PM

We evacuated due to fires last summer, and I found I did not have everything I needed. It would be good to have checklists or something to help with knowing what to take. Thankfully stayed with family and they supplied physical essentials but I worry about paper files for business and personal. Would like more information about that because cannot scan it all. Also what happens if tax files destroyed?

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:27 PM

Just starting to look into preparedness on the website. Unfortunately we missed all the public presentations (in-person and online). If there are any more community engagements, I am really interested in joining as it looks like this year might be even worse than the last

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:27 PM

Some recommendations- 1. Creating a defensible space around homes by clearing away flammable vegetation. 2. Having an evacuation plan in place, including multiple escape routes, and ensure everyone in a household knows it. 3. Prepare an emergency kit with essentials stowed close to one of these escape routes - medications and first aid , prescriptions, electronics/ chargers , clothes for 2-3 days, water and snacks, valuables and important documents 4. Keeping vehicles fueled and ready to go in case of evacuation. 5. Educating the community on using fire-resistant roofing and siding for homes with higher exposure. 6. Develop a communication plan with neighbours and community in case of

separation or emergencies during an evacuation. 7. Cloud seeding to increase rain in forest / national park green zones to proactively prevent chances of fires 8. Safe space to drop off flammable items like propane gas tanks - this was a problem last summer. 9. Explore technology options like drones and remote sensing and AI to detect, suppress and monitor wildfires.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:28 PM

I reached out for an environment consultation on my property but haven't heard back. I can't afford significant landscaping changes but I would like to know if there are affordable changes to get prepared.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:32 PM

Knowing where to go and where to stay

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:46 PM

Your email that came into my mailbox really got me thinking about this subject, especially as I care for my mom and my husband.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:50 PM

I was part of an earthquake preparation group in Vancouver. I feel being prepared for anything is worthwhile!

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:51 PM

I think it was Question 6 which required an answer about "barriers" however I don't have any so I selected "financial" there should be an option for "I don't feel I have any barriers".

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:52 PM

People need to be prepared year round. Too many people wait until it's too late.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:54 PM

https://prrd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/page/emergency-services/preparedbc_household_guide.pdf

Anonymous

5/10/2024 04:58 PM

We were evacuated last year during the fires. I thought we were prepared for an emergency but we definitely forgot to do a few things...like move our propane tank for the fire table away from the house. We do have our important papers and photos easily accessible but we need to have food and water etc in an emergency pack.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 05:07 PM

Advice on best routes to take would be appreciated when trying to leave danger areas.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 05:16 PM

Keep the messages posted so we all have time to help one another

Anonymous

5/10/2024 05:27 PM

Discounted Air purifiers would be great for people in need during fire season

Anonymous

5/10/2024 05:34 PM

I live next to Knox mountain. I would like to know how we can make our forest safer for us residents who back onto the park?

Anonymous

5/10/2024 05:45 PM

Would appreciate being better informed during wildfire season.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 05:54 PM

Thank you for all the community information . The home assessment was amazing and I continue to work on the suggestions. Well done!!!!

Anonymous

5/10/2024 05:56 PM

We follow the app closely and last year there was fire across the lake from us (we live in McKinley) and the app didn't have those people of evacuation order as the fire was coming down the mountain towards them. Is the app able to keep up during an emergency and be relied on to tell us when to evacuate or does it lag behind and therefore we need to use our own judgement?

Anonymous

5/10/2024 05:58 PM

Thank you for the information

Anonymous

5/10/2024 06:05 PM

I couldnt add my city because the postal code populator only qadded a few codes starting with "A". The first 3 charaxters of my postal code is V1W

Anonymous

5/10/2024 06:06 PM

I have food storage and some things like candles, etc.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 06:08 PM

Is transportation available for seniors with mobility challenges who may need to evacuate?

Anonymous

5/10/2024 06:16 PM

More information and services to help making our home and property more fire smart.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 06:33 PM

BC Wildfires was an excellent resource and let us know what was happening in our neighbourhood

Anonymous

5/10/2024 07:15 PM

N/a

Anonymous

5/10/2024 07:19 PM

Please make the emergency planner PDF printer ink friendly. The big black bands at the top of each page stopped me from printing it out as it would use tooo much printer ink. It's just uses too much ink which makes it too costly to print out!! Thanks

Anonymous

5/10/2024 07:23 PM

During our very bad West Kelowna Fire last year ESS was not prepared to help people Quickly and make sure families had access to safe accommodation. People having to sleep in cars etc was terrible. Not back dating assistance to those who took care of their own needs and reported in later was very poor assistance.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 07:24 PM

I believe that from March through October there should be educational programs seminars and or articles promoted on Social media websites, local news programs etc reminding residents the dangers of how easily a forest fire can be started by human ignorance and lack of safety. E.g. smoking on hiking trails, campsites fires not being put out completely, how a cigarette butt can continue to smoulder even though the person thought they put it out. Big fines or jail for those who deliberately start a forest fire. In addition continuous commercials not only on prevention but also emergencies preparedness. When there are burn bans I believe every Provincial park, campground etc should staff reminding people not only that there is a burn ban but notification of fines of possible jail if it is violated. Thank you

Anonymous

5/10/2024 07:25 PM

After recent years very afraid of fire but recently developed loss so no close family to plan with

Anonymous

5/10/2024 07:29 PM

Really grateful for all the information that was given last year during the wild fires in Kelowna, we really appreciated the detailed updates and everything all the volunteers and emergency services did to help keep us all protected, so thank you! :)

Anonymous

5/10/2024 07:33 PM

Do you have information that you're not sharing with us? This emergency preparedness is going quite viral around Canada. What do you have to say?

Anonymous

5/10/2024 07:36 PM

I'm a renter and for emergency preparedness, I just know to keep an eye on things. In the summer, I have important documents gathered in a small safe for a quick grab and go.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 07:52 PM

Global News Okanagan was my best source of information. It was reassuring to hear from the local Fire Chiefs. Information about evacuation routes is crucial.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 07:57 PM

Some of the questions I could not answer properly as I have been through an emergency losing my home. Made answering not accurate.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 08:07 PM

Appreciate the local govt and community encouraging this. I heard in Australia they have many neighborhood clear-the-woods events that bring the community out to help prepare the environment for fire prevention, etc. We should research that, talk to some Ozzie's and do that.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 08:10 PM

I feel the city isn't doing enough to prepare. We have multiple times reached out about the risks of all the dead fall on the Clifton side of Knox mountain, to be told it's not a risk. This was before the fire that nearly wiped out wilden. It took a long time for the community to hear about the fire jumping the lake - we were texted from a friend on Dilworth telling us to go, before there was any official word

Anonymous

5/10/2024 08:43 PM

Let's do it!

Anonymous

5/10/2024 08:58 PM

I think I am pretty well prepared for an emergency in winter or summer. I was evacuated in 2003 and remember what it was like to have to do it all at the last minute so I'm ready now. However, I travel in fall and sometimes I'm not sure what to do if my neighbourhood is evacuated while I'm away.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 08:59 PM

I feel as prepared as possible for forest fire season & the need to evacuate home quickly with 2 young children (after multiple years of local experience & evacuations), but not necessarily for other types of less common emergencies. I feel unsure & overwhelmed about how to be prepared for so many different possible (but not highly likely) disasters & emergency events.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 10:00 PM

What if, god forbid, my adult son and I have to evacuate will there be transportation for us to go somewhere safe? Neither of us drive. That is the biggest fear we have, not being able to get out of here in time, and our two cats.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 10:08 PM

Can't think of anything.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 10:13 PM

pack your evacuation bin on the May long weekend, floods and fires can happen anytime after

Anonymous

5/10/2024 10:38 PM

I think the residential inspections for properties that have a lot of junk, wood, brush etc should be forced to clean up their yards or face immediate and weekly fines. These are a risk to the neighbours and surrounding entire neighbourhood during fire seasons.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 10:51 PM

I feel a bit more prepared as I am a Nurse and work full time at our local hospital so with my experience and access to medical supplies if needed makes me feel a bit more prepared.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 11:06 PM

Question 6 should be omitted from the results as there should have been an option for none of the above. None of the options applied to me, but I had to choose one. Also, the question about gender came after the question about children. All it said was gender. Did you mean my gender, or my kids gender? It should have been written as a full and clear question. I answered for my gender.

Anonymous

5/10/2024 11:18 PM

We should have wildfire evacuation route road signs.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 01:08 AM

I think basic kits should be available for low income families for free first time and discounted after.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 01:56 AM

Older modular home insurance must be able to get more and better coverage. Higher grants to replace old tall cedar hedges with fire resistant shrubs. How to set up one's property with roof and landscape sprinklers.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 03:13 AM

It's scary. Drought fires overshoot earth energy imbalance. It's too much

Anonymous

5/11/2024 05:43 AM

In 2023 during the evacuation period information was limited from the regional district emergency webpage. I found more current information from other websites such as KelownaNow and a local Facebook page.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 05:47 AM

The Fire Smart resources are good. The trick is to encourage people to speak with their neighbours in order to get them on the same page and then working together

Anonymous

5/11/2024 06:32 AM

Close down the forestry service roads

Anonymous

5/11/2024 06:40 AM

no

Anonymous

5/11/2024 06:51 AM

Having an easy online system (maybe via BC ID app) to access support during evacuations would be incredibly valuable.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 07:27 AM

Efficient, effective communication is key. The Voyent Alert system utilized by RDOS was a big step in the right direction. Customized alerts specific to an address is important. Then provide efficient messaging with content that 'cascades information. Lead with date/time and a brief description of the message, follow with sub-headings of message categories then close with full details. This allows the reader to focus on information pertinent to them.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 07:32 AM

This email I got from you did impact me, and I am prepared to change my emergency readiness, I could use more information about what steps to take.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 07:46 AM

Yes I have two pets and am concerned about them in an emergency

Anonymous

5/11/2024 07:58 AM

More information on emergency preparedness would always be helpful - checklists, best practices, etc.

Anonymous

Everyone should have a "Bug Out" bag and a plan

5/11/2024 08:37 AM

Anonymous

Conflicting information is confusing

5/11/2024 09:05 AM

Anonymous

NA

5/11/2024 09:07 AM

Anonymous

Yes, I am very concerned about an evacuation route out of the upper mission -having travelled in rush hour, which is minimal traffic compared to if everyone up here the Ponds, KV, Belcara etc were to need to get out - the routes would be jammed.

5/11/2024 09:08 AM

Anonymous

We were evacuated from Quail Ridge last year. Crossing the bridge to visit West Kelowna for assistance was a total Disaster. The bridge could have been closed at any time. We had to return for three days (a one-hour return drive) and then were too late to get any hotel financial support. If you don't own a car how could get support? You must plan to be able to provide aid to Kelowna residents in Kelowna or Lake Country.

5/11/2024 09:39 AM

Anonymous

You probably already aware that this happened, but during our last evacuation our family's biggest problem was what to take with us I was pushing for a bare minimum since we were heading across town to relatives and i had faith in our firefighters as well as our local environment and felt that this was a necessary evil to help you focus on fighting the fire. My wife on the other hand went into full 'save as much as we can of our heritage memories, paintings and heirlooms - which ultimately extended to us taking our wine; spirits; and crystal wedding gifts. The house was safe but one of those easily damaged items did not survive. It might be worthwhile to create and distribute a list of essential memories - family documents and photos - things that cannot/are not insured or insurable that should be taken and can be listed and located by the individual families ahead of time.

5/11/2024 09:54 AM

Anonymous

I missed out on benefits last year when evacuated because I could not attend the long hours to get thru lines.

5/11/2024 10:17 AM

Anonymous

To have the supplies needed affordable for those who can't afford it. Also try to get to know your neighbors so just in case of emergency you can help them if they need it (ie: wheelchair bound/health issues, etc)

5/11/2024 10:30 AM

Anonymous

5/11/2024 10:33 AM

I have two adult special needs children, so I would need more resources to plan for them.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 12:05 PM

For seniors, it is difficult to have a reliance on technology for communication

Anonymous

5/11/2024 12:40 PM

We were evacuated last year and didn't receive an alert until several hours after the evacuation notice was given. Luckily a neighbour saw flames and warned everyone.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 12:45 PM

Thank you for doing this survey.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 12:47 PM

I'd like to be able to volunteer in emergency situations however finding information on how to do so is not easy.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 12:50 PM

Considering the number of people evacuated, I thought emergency response very good.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 12:50 PM

We had just moved here a year before the Glenrosa Fire broke out while we were having a family reunion. When we were all evacuated safely and found friends to accommodate all of us, the news kept saying to check in at the Royal Lepage building but never gave the physical address. We had no idea where it was for a few days and by that time supplies were very limited to choose from. (ie: I left without a change of underwear)

Anonymous

5/11/2024 01:02 PM

Thank for all you do for preparedness.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 01:12 PM

No cedar bushes. Zerra scraping.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 01:52 PM

No

Anonymous

5/11/2024 02:02 PM

It is difficult to fire prepare our yard and area because the trees and grasses are both city and privately owned. Some of them have dead branches or are dry grasses and I'm not sure what the best way to

deal with that is.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 02:02 PM

Our neighborhood was evacuated last year for one week - thankfully our house was fine thanks to excellent firefighting efforts + 5 years ago we cut back 30 large pine trees which were too close to the house - replacing with Maple - took out the propane tank which was too close to the house. We will be expanding our house perimeter with brown crush this year to further help. We were keeping an eye on developments and packing yet not alerted to pack up and leave until our neighbor called at 11pm to let us know. One BIG worry for us as we have no local family was where to go with our 3 cats. We were fortunate to find a place thru a friend who was renting with Airbnb so he allowed us to be there for the entire time. We kept up on the latest developments thru the T.V. and our neighbors who set up a brief txt connection including sharing pictures showing everyone where fires were and our street status. Previous owner was a volunteer firefighter and got word to us thru his Mother that he had "boots on the ground" and our house was ok. TWO QUESTIONS - 1 - WHERE DO PEOPLE GO WHO HAVE PETS? 2 - How can we protect our deck areas better from embers - a metal mesh or something else? Thank you for everything!

Anonymous

5/11/2024 02:03 PM

Please plan now for ESS services to be offered in a more efficient way. Pre-registration would be helpful, then if needed, the info is already in the system.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 02:03 PM

Stop lying to us and wasting our money. We will fire you all.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 02:05 PM

We are very concerned about the forest beside our home. It doesn't belong to us, but there are many dead and fallen trees there. We have called the fire department weeks ago, but no one has gotten back to us. This feels like our biggest threat.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 02:08 PM

I would like to see a clear cut guard around our community. I worry about the trails behind our house behind Ridgerock Place. There is no fire mitigation on the trails.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 02:11 PM

Although I live in the Shuswap, my family all live in Kelowna. I will always remember with kindness, the work that Gerry Zimmerman put into his fire dept. during the 2003 fire in Kelowna. Also, the extra work that Castanet does re-the news. We get Castanet happenings up here, LONG before Global is on a story. I read Castanet all day

long!!!!

Anonymous

5/11/2024 02:24 PM

Last wednesday the emergency alert testing did not produce the sounding alarm.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 02:28 PM

Maybe offer a central location or join with retailers for a week to offer at certain retailers to buy supplies in our area.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 02:33 PM

It would be great to have community clean up dates in line with fire smart guidelines, where we could have extra "green bin" material pickup. This would encourage community level planning for emergencies, rather than just individual residences. We met new neighbours last year during the fire, even though we knew most of them. If there were a couple of weekends in the spring when everyone was encouraged to "clean up" we would meet more people with fire prevention in mind.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 02:37 PM

Thank you for your all you do and have done and the proactive approach and planning before events you are doing - this is critical in being better prepared at every level and helps so much with homeowners getting ready for fire season ! Landscaping has to change and demonstrations of combustibility to the media and public as reminders early in the fire season is helping change minds and is helping to improve the situation - Keep up the good work! Thank you!

Anonymous

5/11/2024 02:39 PM

Thank you to all community staff for the information shared! Job well done!

Anonymous

5/11/2024 02:46 PM

So very confident in West Kelowna Fire and Rescue. Thank you Chief.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 02:49 PM

I'm always as ready as possible to leave, and have left while on alert 3 times now, to stay with other family. What I worry about most for my neighbourhood is how hard it is to get out of the neighbourhood in an emergency. I live in Glenrosa and the road is always backed up so far, it takes hours to get out. If it was really urgent, I worry that we wouldn't get out in time.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 02:52 PM

Starting is the hardest part and remembering to update supplies as years go on.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 03:04 PM

How do I get my neighbour to clean all the junk and the old dead branches and wood piled up in their yard next to my fence which i watered last year during the fire as ashes were falling on all this dried up stuff where the rats live.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 03:05 PM

The communication from CORD increases if there is more likelihood of having to evacuate. I would rather evacuate early than leave at the last minute.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 03:24 PM

Power outage, air quality and awareness of a viable escape route are top of mind for me. Power to operate A/C and air purifiers may be critical (depending on the type of emergency). Need power for the elevator to escape our building, if necessary. Need accurate information, if necessary, for suitable escape routes. Last August (2023) the information available was inaccurate and not up to date. but I figured it out myself.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 03:26 PM

I find it so expensive to get the things I need in order to be fully prepared

Anonymous

5/11/2024 03:32 PM

Quicker access to information is needed. Word of mouth and social media spreads info quicker than official channels.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 03:38 PM

we need drones patrolling our area , with the capability of dropping fire retardent on there own. report to authorities where the fire is . lots of water bombers.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 03:41 PM

You want us to cut down cedars Firesmart our home but don't even have an 2024 application online, it way to slow to get someone to view your home for the program and funding is insufficient. Why can't you come and pick up,the cedars we take out it cost allot of money to hire people to firesmart your home.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 03:50 PM

We know what you guys are doing. People are waking up, and the knowledge is spreading faster than you can spread a wildfire.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 03:55 PM

My strata does not care about fire safe, the environment because of massive green spaces that no one uses, and the drinking water we pour on them. Grass should brown out here like semiarid elsewhere.

Our acres of lawn should be rock garden and our flower beds using xeriscape principles. We have a council that knows everything but never reads a bulletin or prepares for emergencies. The regional districts need to address the stratum noncompliance across the valley with bylaws. Our City of Kelowna is quick to jump on musicians but not on fire code nor fire safe. the disorganization of the 2023 fires wasted alot of pre-planning by the Salvation Army and other groups, so celebrities could hand out socks. Socks are great -but a preference not a principle. Look at the confusion for folks without vehicles and when trying to find a place to sleep for the sojourner in the valley. Our neighbours are locals form a way back and we are newcomers and cannot ask for help of them. That is the okanagan spirit and 2023 really showed how silly and unprepared we were to the world. Tha is why tourism is down and sales of homes are faltering after the fire. We congratulated ourselves but the lack of business proved we were wrong and the tourists going elsewhere are right to think of safety first. Let's do better.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 03:58 PM

No.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 04:12 PM

During evacuations white lake fire the information about my area was dismal at best A better online platform should be devised and one that is user friendly For 28 days I was evacuated During the white lake fire I and my neighbors in the valley of the sun subdivision had o information whether the fire had reached our subdivision or not its was stressful enough without being left in the dark o the situation Last yrs scotch creek fire reporting was dismal also as we had no idea how fast or how far away the fire was from our homes until the road was reopened and we could see how far from our homes it was

Anonymous

5/11/2024 04:16 PM

Make preparedness somehow mandatory, maybe easy acess community for sale kits for those that are overwhelmed to put it together themselves. Have a central news location or app to go to with instructions and resources that evacuueess can access.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 04:21 PM

Question #6 isn't valid if you're already prepared

Anonymous

5/11/2024 04:24 PM

Got my first lesson during 2013 Calgary flood. And now multiple evac alerts and orders in our last house. I know how important it is to be ready.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 04:51 PM

Anonymous

5/11/2024 04:55 PM

Doing lots of yard fire prevention. Worry about those in the community who are elderly, alone and financially challenged as are some of my friends

Anonymous

5/11/2024 04:56 PM

As a person with a physical and cognitive disability, I am often unable to respond in emergency situations. I wish emergency services set up accessible resources for me in times of risk/emergency.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 05:16 PM

Are there places to secure a free fire extinguisher or emergency supplies for people solely reliant on government PWD as this assistance and its OVERLY STRICT limitations put into tends to increase a person's likelihood of becoming further poverty stricken.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 05:29 PM

with the funding the fire departments get there is no excuse why these fires are getting so big. Put people in charge that can make real decisions

Anonymous

5/11/2024 05:44 PM

We are in transitional housing from the flood we are still spending 69% of our income to live...anyone in a affected area should get a emergncy preparedness kit for free delivered to our door..

Anonymous

5/11/2024 06:05 PM

Yes, we cannot prepare for emergencies where our own municipal city and ministry of forests puts us all at risk by spraying and raining toxic aerial spraying as well as chemical trails filling our skies that causes fires. This very act is impossible to prepare for. But for the results we have pesticide cards to detect toxic stuff that rains down we have what is necessary when we are forced to evacuate the home. I am a student going to the foodbank and on welfare trying to get work to take care of my parent who had a stroke it would be a blessing to have an emergency kit that isn't homemade.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 06:19 PM

Invest in night capable emergency equipment and attack situation immediately.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 06:23 PM

It is really difficult to volunteer during emergencies. Having tiers of volunteers would be helpful, someone doesn't need a vehicle, huge availability, and first aid to help people fill out paperwork at one of the emergency centers

Anonymous

5/11/2024 06:25 PM

We should be investing heavily in new water bombing equipment and pilots. It's shocking to me BC has not done so after last years catastrophic fires.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 06:26 PM

The fact that most of the people delivering emergency support services are volunteers should be clearly communicated year round to help people appreciate the amazing services we receive at exceptionally low cost.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 06:26 PM

Last summer during McD fire there was conflicting information regarding what highways were open

Anonymous

5/11/2024 06:29 PM

Yes. Having lived in Glenrosa on the canyon for over 25 years, we were always concerned about a wildfire, and more importantly, a well maintained alternate route out. This issue (maintained road, signage etc.) has never been addressed.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 06:32 PM

A better job needs to be done to give on the hour updates on fires /ect and more notice if an evacuation is possible. To many sources of information to look at that are not up to date Thanks

Anonymous

5/11/2024 06:41 PM

Thank you for all you're doing to help us residents be proactive & ready. And thanks for all you did last year

Anonymous

5/11/2024 06:42 PM

Let residents have some idea.of what is happening before it happens if.possible so we can be better prepared

Anonymous

5/11/2024 06:52 PM

Although we have a plan we aren't sure how best to include the elderly. They rely on services.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 07:05 PM

Survived 2003 wildfire in Kelowna. Lost everything.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 07:37 PM

If British Columbians weren't taxed to death Maybe low income people like myself could afford to be better prepared

Anonymous

No

5/11/2024 08:10 PM

Anonymous

5/11/2024 08:15 PM

Please encourage local community arrangements, perhaps BBQs after doing FireSmart work. Neighbours helping neighbours.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 08:19 PM

Post notes at your doors informing authorities if there are pets in the house. What kind of pets, their names would be helpful .

Anonymous

5/11/2024 09:04 PM

No comments just thank you

Anonymous

5/11/2024 09:19 PM

Usually well-prepared pantry goods are able to keep us going for at least a week if we had to shelter in place. Biggest worry out here is unreliable power with numerous outages, no backup generators, constant water advisories and no alternatives for water or power sources out here. No improvements to power or water infrastructure for years puts residents out here in a difficult or harmful situation should emergencies arise.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 10:02 PM

I think it would be valuable to consider using text messaging through the BC Emergency Alert Text Messaging in the event of a swift evacuation of a particular area. I'm not sure if this is an option but given circumstances of the devastation of the fires in West Kelowna and Kelowna in the summer of 2023 and how the fire unexpectedly jump the lake, it might have proven useful.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 10:03 PM

Having been evacuated last year I feel the Emergency Response Personnel and everyone involved did a fantastic job. Thank You

Anonymous

5/11/2024 10:07 PM

2024 is the first year that I will have a 'go-bag' prepared for me and my cat. The summer of 2023 was alarming and a real eye opener. I was very fortunate the fires didn't spread into my neighbourhood.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 10:12 PM

Our subdivision just had a member of the local ROCD fire department give us a neighborhood safety smart presentation. It has me looking at all aspects of fire safety.

Anonymous

5/11/2024 10:14 PM

Wildfire is the biggest threat to us, does the local FD have a program to install roof top sprinklers that they can turn on if needed?

Anonymous

5/12/2024 03:46 AM

We need a secondary power supply in west Kelowna in the event of a forest fire taking down the one and only line that supplies power. Has been in discussion far too long and after each forest fire it makes the news and still nothing happens. We do not own a cell phone and still need to rely on emergency services in person to access assistance

Anonymous

5/12/2024 04:12 AM

1 of your questions is faulty

Anonymous

5/12/2024 06:25 AM

Our neighbourhood is NOT prepared, nor is it FireSmart. Drive up Shoreline, Apex, Derek Trethewey. Look at the forest interface all along those properties. Drive around the North end of East Ridge and Lake Hill. Take a walk down the Alternate Escape Route off of East Ridge. Hike the Raptor Loop for a bit. LOOK AT THE FUEL!!!! LOOK AT THE FUEL!!!!

Anonymous

5/12/2024 06:33 AM

Thank you to all the firefighter for helping our communities.

Anonymous

5/12/2024 07:08 AM

There is conflicting information on preparedness sites regards propane tanks for fire pits. All say move the tanks away from the house. Do they go at end of driveways or backyards (issue if yard is only 15 feet then downhill in back). Question that is not clearly addressed is - do to open the tanks to let gas out or keep the tank closed? Open emits propane gas to the air, closed could increase chance of it exploding in heat. Would appreciate clarity on this!

Anonymous

5/12/2024 07:11 AM

I do hope that evacuees get better care than they did last year during the 2023 fires - it was shocking how they were treated!

Anonymous

5/12/2024 07:24 AM

More public announcements and education to push us to prepare for emergencies

Anonymous

5/12/2024 07:25 AM

Emergency Notification System to notify everyone that we need to get go-bag and supplies ready and not put things off.

Anonymous

5/12/2024 08:40 AM

City of Kelowna needs to firesmart its urban forests in an urgent way. Wildfire is the most serious life safety issue facing our city. Our protection through establishing effective fire breaks around the city, firesmart pruning/ clearing of urban forests, and enhanced firefighting

infrastructure is essential. We need to hear about initiatives taken for our protection so this can continue to be front of mind. His work will have real known results for our citizens which is worth the investment. Stop the sales of juniper and cedar type landscape products in Kelowna. Allow fee disposals of cedar, juniper and alike at the landfill.

Anonymous

5/12/2024 09:19 AM

Don't rely on others for your personal preparedness, that is something you have to do on your own.

Anonymous

5/12/2024 09:44 AM

Better online print info would be appreciated. We needed to watch press sessions to get pertinent info on wildfire situation and follow Gloria's Okanagan Wildfires facebook Chat page which brought all info to one place.

Anonymous

5/12/2024 11:29 AM

Information on getting prepared would be helpful. Example - list supplies, step by step guide

Anonymous

5/12/2024 11:30 AM

What do I need to do

Anonymous

5/12/2024 12:00 PM

thanks for the reminder

Anonymous

5/12/2024 12:25 PM

more information on roof sprinklers

Anonymous

5/12/2024 12:30 PM

no

Anonymous

5/12/2024 12:55 PM

I have concerns about having enough efficient exit routes from the city (Kelowna) if/when evacuation is necessary.

Anonymous

5/12/2024 01:28 PM

MORE CAMPAIGNS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Anonymous

5/12/2024 02:42 PM

We've been on evac order or alert many times over the years. I packed for 10 days but I truly didn't think that I would lose my home to the McDougall Creek wildfire. Two things that I tell people: 1) take photos of everything - open every drawer and pull things out if they are stacked. Video is good but it when you are working on the

contents list, it's more work to stop the vid and take a screen cap. 2) alert means get packed and even go early. When the order comes, they really do mean 'a moment's notice.' Thanks for doing this!

Anonymous

5/12/2024 02:45 PM

The government should be offering insensitive to fire proofing your home. Cement board siding, adding outdoor roof sprinklers the directory tie into the residential water supply rather than after your water meter or significant rebates on water bills should the household water be required to protect the property e.g. roof sprinklers, etc.

Anonymous

5/12/2024 02:54 PM

If Sunset Ranch Drive was blocked at the Strata entrance gate and not available for either entrance or exit to Anderson for evacuation or emergencies, how would vehicles get in or out ?

Anonymous

5/12/2024 03:02 PM

So much of planning is impossible without knowing where the threats lie

Anonymous

5/12/2024 04:20 PM

I wish knox mountain park /magic estates ie: and surrounding area where I live was cleaned better in the park , I wish yards with pine needles were raked and cleaned up yearly in peoples yard hazard near all these home's debris/dead trees etc or fines And check all people entering from bottom pay someone to check bags for smokers Human caused is so frustrating, sad, people just don't care

Anonymous

5/12/2024 10:07 PM

During last year's fires in kelowna I found the information was not streamlined. There should be a clear and concise plan of action that is consistent for anyone at anytime during evacuation, or or alert or standby and one call center that is available to anyone to assist.

Anonymous

5/13/2024 06:48 AM

Last year, we had to pivot. Our emergency plans had to change because of traffic and road closures. Having a back-up plan would be good.

Anonymous

5/13/2024 08:04 AM

I asked for a home fire smart assessment and said I was concerned over a neighbours dead cedars, after listening to Chief Brolan on the radio. The neighbour was clearing the trees yesterday. My husband went over with the correct saw to help because they were struggling to cut the trees. The neighbour said someone had complained. It might have been another of his neighbours who also complained but regardless, mentioning his neighbours had complained iwas awkward and doesn't inspire good relations. Also he removed the few dead

trees but below the rest of the long hedge there is 18" of dead leaves piled up. If you investigate that, please dont say a neighbour complained. We need good community relations in emergencies after all 😊

Anonymous

5/13/2024 08:50 AM

I really want to be prepared for emergency, however, I do need a practical guidance for the planning.

Anonymous

5/13/2024 09:16 AM

I think we need to move our emergency notification system to the Alertable app, vs only relying on driving everyone to access cordemergency.ca. Notifications that automatically go out to people based on location if they have already downloaded the app would be much more efficient.

Anonymous

5/13/2024 09:27 AM

would like more information about how to fire safe my home if being evacuated or choosing to leave in the event of an impending disaster.

Anonymous

5/13/2024 09:27 AM

Overall, I have been very impressed with how forest fires in my neighborhood have been quickly put out with no loss of homes etc. I have also been very impressed with the level of communication that has occurred when forest fires do occur.

Anonymous

5/13/2024 09:30 AM

I need an easy but proper list of what to take & how to prepare as a home owner. I cant afford expensive emergency preparedness stuff, whatever that may be, my budget is very tight

Anonymous

5/13/2024 10:57 AM

It's difficult to get friends and family onboard with emergency preparedness planning.

Anonymous

5/13/2024 11:20 AM

I appreciate the firemart people coming through our neighbourhood and offering services.

Anonymous

5/13/2024 11:26 AM

I recently found out that we had a plant surrounding our place with a plant that is an extremely risky plant when it comes to fires. I believe it is called the English Holly, because of it's waxy leaves. Since we have been trying to get rid of it. It is information like this that I think worth sharing/reminding residents.

Anonymous

No just looking forward to some help on being prepared

5/13/2024 11:40 AM

Anonymous

5/13/2024 01:08 PM

During last summer's extensive fires, I found it very difficult to get accurate and timely information about the fires and evacuations. The updates on TV were TERRIBLE, almost no information was given, it was an absolutely ridiculous show of everyone thanking everyone else for actually DOING THEIR JOBS!!! It was nauseating to listen to everyone doing that, instead of them actually giving timely information about what was expected, what had been done, and which resources were actually being deployed and to where. It was a complete mess of useless information on an almost daily basis, with very POOR updating on official websites! DO BETTER RDCO!!! Check out the brief but EXTREMELY informative video that has been posted on BC Wildfire Service website about the fire near Ft Nelson. THAT is what should be the minimum standard of giving information to the public, the news media, AND THE PEOPLE AFFECTED DIRECTLY by the fires!!!!!!

Anonymous

5/13/2024 03:26 PM

Consistent education is required, people seem to forget after the emergency is over. Maybe a education system tied to the school district would help future generations be prepared.

Anonymous

5/13/2024 03:32 PM

If I know what to do to be ready or to reduce the risks then this summer (when I am off work as I am a teacher) I will do what I can.

Anonymous

5/13/2024 04:27 PM

No

Anonymous

5/14/2024 05:47 AM

Exits out of the community not good

Anonymous

5/14/2024 07:21 AM

No

Anonymous

5/14/2024 08:03 AM

I live on Lenz Rd in West Kelowna. Last year when we were evacuated the first map did not include Lenz Rd at all . Just saying that Bartley north was to leave. I phoned the rdco ,they looked it up and was told I was ok . I called the RCMP non emergency and they tried looking up Lenz Rd same result, Lenz Rd didn't even show up on the map . The RCMP phoned the fire department for me and called me back and informed me that I had to get out . I was so worried about the rest of the community here , being a 55+ and so many people have disabilities (including myself). I asked the RCMP officer if they would be knocking on doors, which he said they would. Not 5

minutes later they were here , BLESS THEM.

Anonymous

5/14/2024 08:16 AM

I live in Kelowna though I was born and raised on IR9 with my family. When there is a disaster/emergency on the Kelowna or West Kelowna side of the Bennet Bridge it can be difficult to coordinate relief efforts for family members as the bridge can be the largest constraint when trying to mobilize, families should plan accordingly if they are in a similar situation.

Anonymous

5/14/2024 10:26 AM

During the West Kelowna/Kelowna fires last summer/fall the houses across the street from me were on evacuation alert but my side of the street was not, that is very hard to process and just increased my concerns.

Anonymous

5/14/2024 05:06 PM

I need some kind of TV/Radio alert to notify me of a possible emergency. For example during this past summers fires I did not realize that the hill above my house on Clifton was on fire till I took out the garbage and saw the flames. There should be an amber alert type emergency announcement that blasts out over tv radio and cell phones so we know there is fire in the area. I do not have a cell phone nor do I have social media or website access.

Anonymous

5/14/2024 09:42 PM

Yes. First, thank you for all efforts to assist and safeguard residents and homes when an emergency arises. 1. EARLY, AUDIBLE NOTIFICATION.. An early audible alert in this fairly small neighbourhood would be helpful to immediately warn neighbours of a fire emergency so that preparations can be underway at once, even before fire crews may need to arrive. Winds spread fire quickly and the earliest, clearest possible notice would also help with quick evacuation if necessary. Checking online news and e-mails for CORD notices multiple times every day/evening to see if a nearby fire has started, tracking helicopter/plane sounds and hyper-vigilance to every emergency vehicle siren is not a relaxing way to spend spring/summer./early fall. Not everyone is online or constantly on a smart phone, Availability of audible notice via any form of media to alert residents to local fires that may imminently or eventually impact them and potentially lead to evacuations would not only be useful but would make fire season less stressful in general. Simply knowing about a local fire as soon as possible even far ahead of evacuation alert or evacuation order (circumstances permitting) would be enormously helpful. 2. MEETING ADDRESSING SPECIFIC NEIGHBOURHOOD FIRE PLANNING. On this WFN land, a specifically designated neighbourhood fire planning/info. meeting to ensure that all residents are aware of mitigation measures they can

take and specifically what assistance (e.g. grants) is available to residents in creating fire smart neighbourhoods. Encourage community cooperation and efforts to keep everyone safe. Provide information specifically for this neighbourhood. 3. GOVT/MUNICIPAL FIRE PREVENTION IN AND AROUND RESIDENTIAL AREAS. What is being done to protect our neighbourhoods? What barriers to fires are being used for prevention? e.g. Creating low fuel barrier zones around residential areas using PRESCRIBED BURNS, GOATS to clear grass, brush (as used in fire mitigation internationally) DEAD TREE REMOVAL etc.etc.

Anonymous

5/14/2024 11:17 PM

It's something I know is important, but it always seems to fall down the priority list until wildfire season approaches - when the risk feels more urgent, it's easier to prioritize the time to put the plan/kit together.

Anonymous

5/15/2024 06:26 AM

Since moving back home to the Okanagan, I have experienced being evacuated from our home 3 times in 2003 while in the Southeast Kelowna area and twice in the Joe rich area to which I also had to evacuate with horses along with family members. In other words, it is not our first rodeo. If there could be strict laws against folks staying behind when ordered to leave it would help the firefighters and responders do their job, rather than babysit folks not wanting to leave.

Anonymous

5/15/2024 11:15 AM

We live backing a green space and I think we should as a neighborhood clean it up. Maybe if there were tax breaks, bringing our yards and homes to a certain safety standard could be better achieved

Anonymous

5/16/2024 10:44 AM

More specific lists and where to obtain the best items would be great. Also, where do people store this stuff in their homes?

Anonymous

5/16/2024 12:35 PM

Those of us unable to afford basic supplies should receive a voucher for basic emergency supplies.

Anonymous

5/17/2024 09:44 AM

When we were evacuated, during a wildfire on our road (Philpott Rd.) in 2017, we had to go out the Belgo Dam way. Fortunately, one of our younger female neighbors had driven the back route, with her husband, shortly before the fire broke out. She was able to direct us

out by following her vehicle. The official person (not sure if it was police, or fire department rep) did not know the route and relied on her. For future emergencies that are very likely to happen, I would suggest that the back exit on Philpott be very clearly marked. It may need to be used by people unfamiliar with this route, living in Joe Rich. I would also suggest that communication with residents affected by disasters be vastly improved. In the case of our fire on Philpott (2017), we did not find out our house was standing until we ran into a volunteer fireman, from our area, in a grocery parking lot. He told us the houses had been spared. This was ten days post fire. Of note, we did register with emergency people as directed ASAP. My last suggestion is that there be a little more flexibility in allowing wildfire preparedness burning of fuels (brush, downed trees etc.) on private property or more alternatives be readily provided, locally.

Anonymous

5/17/2024 04:24 PM

Firesmart program all the way! Increase yard waste pick up from every 2 weeks to every week Upgrade everyone's yard waste bins to the largest ones, 2 per household Re-open our yard waste site in Peachland, and turn our yard waste offerings into sell-able compost for our community Ban/Outlaw bark-mark etc sales Ban/Outlaw Cedar shrub/trees etc sales Increase Firesmart happy plants etc at local nurseries Home insurance incentives when Firesmarting homes

Anonymous

5/18/2024 09:26 AM

Allow people to help themselves and not be told to leave under an evacuation order. With MAID out there, the government has made it easy to die. In my case, if I wish to stay in my home and die in a fire, that is my business.

Anonymous

5/18/2024 05:43 PM

For a battery bank for your phone, it is hard to know what to get when you may not have access to electricity

Anonymous

5/21/2024 11:48 AM

Thank you very much! Even this survey opened my eyes to different ways I can prepare for an emergency. I look forward to hearing more about the results - though I hope we will not need to use them anytime soon. Take care during this fire season!

Anonymous

5/23/2024 08:01 AM

Appreciate online resources such as checklists. Would like to see them front and centre in emergency info, as opposed to following a pile of links to different sources.

Anonymous

5/23/2024 01:03 PM

The fires in West Kelowna last summer really sparked anxiety in me over living in a place where this can happen so many months of the

year (which is increasing with climate change). I fully support our city and province spending money to mitigate, prepare, and plan for future emergencies. I am more than willing to prepare my household as well, but feel overwhelmed with where to begin. So any user-friendly resources to guide me would help so much.

Anonymous

5/24/2024 06:11 AM

the okanagan needs an emergency alert system for our mobile phones in case of evacuation. many sleepless nights for us not knowing if we'll be evacuated at a moment's notice during wildfires

Anonymous

5/24/2024 07:43 AM

Yeh I want a fire break around my subdivision in the North Westside and I want generators on the water systems. I was evacuated from Terrace Mountain Fire and White Rock Lake fire. I would like to see communication where the fire is during a forest fire instead of leaving me in the frikken dark for a month. I was in Abbotsford during the fire and I could not take a drive to look like everyone else.

Anonymous

5/25/2024 09:47 PM

for people at risk of being evacuated due to fires, they need to have their 'to go' bag WITH them in their vehicle, plus carry a second charger and their phone or laptop or tablet with them when they leave the house if they are in an area that has already fallen victim to evacuation due to fires

Anonymous

5/26/2024 11:01 AM

Time to prepare it a big factor. Having affordable kits is great. Time to FireSmart is also tough.

Anonymous

5/26/2024 03:05 PM

Best place to purchase emergency kit.

Anonymous

5/27/2024 09:21 AM

Really hoping that this year is a good one. Hoping the rain this May will have a positive impact.

Anonymous

5/28/2024 07:40 AM

In a recent yard redesign I drew significantly on the fire smart resources and the okanagan xeriscape online resources

Anonymous

5/28/2024 11:05 AM

no

Anonymous

5/28/2024 09:48 PM

It would be so nice to see lists of how to prepare for emergencies posted on social media more often.

Anonymous	na
5/29/2024 03:15 AM	
Anonymous	simple packing list
5/29/2024 11:04 AM	
Anonymous	some of the questions did not give me opportunity to give suitable responses.
5/29/2024 04:11 PM	

Optional question (558 response(s), 906 skipped)
Question type: Essay Question

Q25 | Would you like to enter your email for a chance to win one of three emergency preparedness kits?

Note: pages 96 to 185 included email addresses to enter draw for 1 of 4 Emergency Preparedness Kits.