



NUNAVUT
EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020

Introduction

Nunavut Emergency Management, within the Department of Community and Government Services, is responsible for the Emergency Measures Organization and search and rescue operations throughout Nunavut. Nunavut Emergency Management provides overall advice, guidance, to ensure compliance with territorial and federal legislation, and policies regarding emergency management.

Nunavut Emergency Management works to enhance community-based search and rescue capability and preparedness across Nunavut. The Search and Rescue Program provides training to search and rescue organizations and assists with the provision of certain equipment and communications systems to support safer search and rescue operations across the territory. Nunavut Emergency Management provides core funding annually to the Municipal Training Organization to support the community-based Search and Rescue Contributions Program.

In 2019-2020, training was offered to search and rescue groups on mapping skills and comprehensive GPS usage. As a result, NEM will be able to increase the proficiency and safety of the search and rescue operations as well as enhance volunteers' skills. (Note: SPOT devices use the global positioning system (GPS) to determine a person's physical location and the Globalstar Satellite Network to transmit coordinates to and from emergency rescue personnel in the case of an emergency).

As part of the department's ongoing commitment to provide better service to our clients and partners, NEM staff developed and began implementing a Northern-specific ground search and rescue training program for direct delivery to communities that met the national standards of search and rescue

In 2019-2020, Nunavut Emergency Management continued to assist communities with Community Emergency Management training and supporting the development of community specific emergency preparedness plans.

Search and Rescue

Training

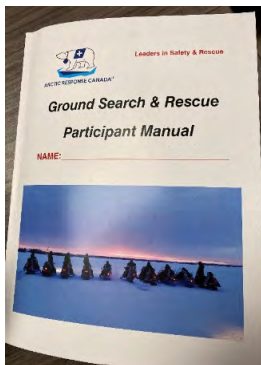
Nunavut Emergency Management developed a ground search and rescue course targeted towards the challenges and realities of Nunavut. This program was developed with the help of the Municipal Training Organization, and Arctic Response, a northern based contractor that specializes in arctic survival and outdoor technical rescue programs.

Integrated into the program was training on the use of global position system devices, including Garmin GPSMAP 276Cx and Garmin inReach Explorer+ units. These units were provided to search and rescue groups to allow for two-way communication through text with search coordinators and Nunavut Emergency Management.

The integration of this new technology into search and rescue training is intended to provide searchers with real time two-way communication and support tracking within the community.

In 2019-2020 Nunavut Emergency Management completed search and Rescue training in:

- Iqaluit
- Arviat
- Rankin Inlet
- Cambridge bay



Equipment

Go Bags

In 2019-2020, Nunavut Emergency Management developed a safety bag known as a “go bag” that contains items to assist a searcher survive on the land in the event they become stranded or lost. The bag was created in response to reports of searchers not being properly prepared when they went out on searches. The bags are the property of the search and rescue group and can be signed out by a searcher.

A total of 24 bags were shipped out to the 12 busiest communities on February 26, 2020, with each community receiving two bags.

The bag contains:

- Large Duffle Bag
- Water-Proof Matches
- Colman Multifuel Stove (Single Burner)
- Colman Fuel Funnel
- Stanley Camp Pot Set
- Petzl Headlamp
- Signal Mirror
- Sleeping Bag
- Blue Tarp
- Survival Blanket
- Machete (Snow Knife)
- Survival Shovel
- Stanley Thermos
- Mittens
- Hat/Toque
- Sleeping Mat



GPS and inReach Kits

Nunavut Emergency Management provided communities with the global positioning system devices of Garmin GPSMAP 276Cx and inReach. These units were originally rolled out in the first search and rescue coordinators workshop that was held in Iqaluit.

The Garmin GPSMAP is a large unit with a user-friendly screen and buttons that can be utilized easily in the cold. The Garmin inReach Explorer Plus also has a map like the GPSMAP. The advantage of the inReach unit is that it allows the searcher to have two-way communication through text with the search coordinator and supports tracking capabilities that the search coordinator can monitor in real time.



The units were distributed to assist searchers in tracking and logging their routes. Of the 245 searches that occurred in 2019, 30% supported by global positioning system devices provided to communities.

Community Emergency Response Plan Training

Nunavut Emergency Management partnered with the Municipal Training Organization to provide municipalities with the Community Emergency Response Plan training. This training has been delivered to every community in Nunavut. Training is delivered to assist communities in their emergency preparation and response planning that can be used for a wide range of incidences.



Search and Rescue by Community, January 1st to December 31st, 2019

Search and Rescue by Community Statistics

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Arctic Bay | 1 |
| Arviat | 20 |
| Baker Lake | 10 |
| Cambridge Bay | 7 |
| Cape Dorset | 7 |
| Chesterfield Inlet | 5 |
| Clyde River | 5 |
| Coral Harbour | 13 |
| Gjoa Haven | 24 |
| Grise Fiord | 1 |
| Hall Beach | 23 |
| Igloolik | 16 |
| Iqaluit | 13 |
| Kimmirut | 1 |
| Kugaaruk | 7 |
| Manitoba | 6 |
| Pangnirtung | 3 |
| Pond Inlet | 20 |
| Qikiqtarjuaq | 2 |
| Rankin Inlet | 23 |
| Nauyasat | 0 |
| Resolute Bay | 2 |
| Sanikiluaq | 6 |
| Taloyoak | 27 |
| Whale Cove | 2 |
| Ontario | 1 |
| Total | 245 |

Search and Rescue

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| 600- Unidentified Emergency | 6 |
| 625-Air Search and Rescue | 2 |
| 630-Marine Search & Rescue | 24 |
| 635-Ground Search and Rescue | 114 |
| 640-RCMP Request for Assistance | 6 |
| 645- JRCC Request for assistance | 2 |
| 650-Medivac | 8 |
| 655-Ground SPOT Activations | 69 |
| 660- General request for assistance | 8 |
| 670-Ground Search on Ice | 1 |
| 675-Marine SPOT Activations | 4 |
| 680-Ice SPOT activations | 1 |
| Total | 245 |

Incidents by Month

| | |
|-----------|----|
| January | 10 |
| February | 13 |
| March | 19 |
| April | 29 |
| May | 26 |
| June | 31 |
| July | 21 |
| August | 28 |
| September | 25 |
| October | 23 |
| November | 14 |
| December | 6 |

Community Emergency Response Plans

| Community | Training Completed | Emergency Plan / By-Law Status | Training Renewed in 2019 |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Iqaluit | Dec. 2008 | Completed | |
| Rankin Inlet | Jan 2020 | Completed | Updated course |
| Cambridge Bay | May 2009 | Completed | |
| Taloyoak | Oct. 2009 | Completed | |
| Kugluktuk | Oct. 2009 | Completed | |
| Whale Cove | Nov. 2009 | Completed | |
| Baker Lake | June. 2019 | Completed | Updated course |
| Kugaaruk | Jan. 2017 | Completed | |
| Gjoa Haven | Jan. 2010 | Completed | |
| Nauyasat | Mar. 2010 | Completed | |
| Arviat | Jan. 2020 | Completed | |
| Kimmirut | Apr. 2010 | Completed | |
| Cape Dorset | May 2010 | Completed | |
| Pond Inlet | May 2010 | Completed | |
| Igloolik | May 2010 | Completed | |
| Hall Beach | Sept. 2010 | Completed | |
| Clyde River | Feb. 2020 | Completed | Updated course |
| Coral Harbour | Oct. 2010 | Completed | |
| Chesterfield Inlet | Oct. 2010 | Completed | |
| Sanikiluaq | Dec. 2010 | Completed | |
| Arctic Bay | Jan. 2011 | Completed | |
| Grise Fiord | Jan. 2011 | Completed | |
| Resolute Bay | Jan. 2011 | Completed | |
| Pangnirtung | Feb. 2011 | Completed | |
| Qikiqtarjuaq | Feb. 2020 | Completed | Updated course |