



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BY-LAW #2025-02

1. Title

This By-law may be cited as the “Emergency Management By-Law”

2. Purpose

The purpose of this By-Law is to establish and maintain a comprehensive Emergency Management Program and to confirm the Municipality of the Town of Digby, the Municipality of the District of Digby, and the Municipality of the District of Clare’s participation in the Digby County Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO) in accordance with the Emergency Management Act, 1990, c.8, s. 1, 2005, c. 48, s. 1

3. Authority

This By-Law is enacted pursuant to the authority granted under the Emergency Management Act, 1990, c.8, s. 1, 2005, c. 48, s. 1 and regulations.

4. Definitions

For the purposes of this By-law:

- a) “Act” means the Emergency Management Act of Nova Scotia, 1990, c.8, s. 1, 2005, c. 48, s. 1
- b) “Council” means the Council of the Municipality of the Town of Digby
- c) “REMO” means the Digby County Regional Emergency Management Organization, jointly established by the Municipality of the Town of Digby, the Municipality of the District of Digby, and the Municipality of the District of Clare.
- d) “Emergency” means a present or imminent event requiring prompt coordination of resources to protect the health, safety, or welfare of people or to limit damage to property or the environment.
- e) “Emergency Operations Centre” (EOC) means the designated facility from which the REMO directs and coordinates emergency response and recovery activities.
- f) “Regional Emergency Management Coordinator” (REMC) means the person or persons appointed as the full-time coordinator responsible for the administration, coordination, and maintenance of the REMO program.
- g) “Regional Emergency Management Plan” (REMP) means the all-hazards plan developed and maintained by the REMO to guide emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.

5. Establishment of the Regional Emergency Management Organization

- 1) The Municipality of the Town of Digby, the Municipality of the District of Digby, and the Municipality of the District of Clare hereby confirm their participation in the Digby County Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO).
- 2) The REMO shall operate under a jointly approved Inter-Municipal Emergency Services Agreement between the participating municipalities.
- 3) The REMO shall be governed by a Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee (EMAC) composed of representatives from each participating municipality.
- 4) The REMO shall establish a Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC) that will be responsible for recommending policy and procedures and will include representatives of emergency services and other agencies which may have direct operational responsibilities in an emergency.

6. Emergency Management Program

- 1) The participating municipalities shall maintain a comprehensive emergency management program that includes:
 - a) Prevention and mitigation.
 - b) Preparedness.
 - c) Response; and
 - d) Recovery activities.
- 2) This program shall be administered under the direction of the Regional Emergency Management Coordinator (REMC) on behalf of the REMO.

7. Roles and Responsibilities

- 1) Council will:
 - a) Approve the Emergency Management By-Law.
 - b) Approve the Regional Emergency Management Plan.
 - c) Approve the Inter-Municipal Emergency Services Agreement.
 - d) Appoint members to the Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee.
 - e) Authorize the declaration and/or termination of a Local State of Emergency as required under the Act; and
 - f) Ensure resources and support are made available to maintain the regional emergency management program.
- 2) Municipal Staff will:
 - a) Support the development, implementation, and maintenance of the Regional Emergency Management Plan.
 - b) Participate in training and exercises as required by the REMO; and
 - c) Support the activation of the EOC during emergencies or exercises.
- 3) Regional Partners will:
 - a) Participate in the REMO planning and operational framework.
 - b) Coordinate and share relevant information and resources to support emergency management functions.

- 8. Regional Emergency Management Coordinator (REMC)**
- 1) The REMO shall maintain two dedicated full-time Regional Emergency Management Coordinator's (REMC). One will be funded by the Municipality of the District of Clare, and one will be jointly funded and shared by the Municipality of the Town of Digby and the Municipality of the District of Digby.
 - 2) The REMC's shall:
 - a) Administer all components of the Regional Emergency Management Program.
 - b) Coordinate the development, review, and maintenance of the Regional Emergency Management Plan (REMP).
 - c) Provide advice, support, and training to REMO members and partners; and
 - d) Act as the primary liaison between the REMO and the Nova Scotia Department of Emergency Management (NSDEM).
- 9. Regional Emergency Management Plan (REMP)**
- 1) REMO shall prepare and maintain a joint Regional Emergency Management Plan (REMP) consistent with provincial standards.
 - 2) The REMP and any amendments shall be submitted to all participating municipal councils for approval and forwarded to the NSDEM.
- 10. Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)**
- 1) The REMO shall maintain three Emergency Operations Centre's (EOC's) that meet provincial standards to serve as the central location for coordination during emergencies.
 - 2) The EOC's shall be equipped and maintained in a state of readiness to support regional response and recovery operations.
- 11. Mutual Aid Agreements**
- The REMO may, with approval of all participating municipal councils, enter into Mutual Aid Agreements with other municipalities, organizations, or agencies for the provision or receipt of emergency assistance and resources.
- 12. Review and Compliance**
- All aspects of the Regional Emergency Management Program shall be reviewed at least once every two (2) years by the REPC and the NSDEM to update and ensure compliance with provincial legislation and standards.
- 13. Repeal**
- Regional Emergency Management By-Law #2009-02 and any amendment thereto of the Municipality of the Town of Digby is hereby repealed.
- 14. Effective Date**
- This By-law shall come into effect upon the date of Ministerial approval as required under the Emergency Management Act.

Clerk's Annotation for Official By-law Book

Date of First Reading: November 3, 2025

Date of Advertisement of Notice of Intent to Consider: November 12, 2025

Date of Second Reading: December 1, 2025

*Date of Advertisement of Passage of By-law: December 10, 2025

Date of mailing to Minister a Certified copy of By-law: December 10, 2025

I certify that this Certain Exemptions from the Emergency Management By-Law adopted by Council and published as indicated above.

Clerk: Edwin J. Ossinger

Date: December 3, 2025

E. Thomas Ossinger

* Effective date of the by-law unless otherwise specified in the text of the Bylaw.