

Happy Holidays EPICC Members

EPICC would like to wish all of our members a joyous holiday season. We look forward to another year of growth and learning, where we will strive to provide an even better service to all of our members. Thank you for all of the support throughout the years and have a safe and healthy New Year.

The Twelve Days of Christmas

On the first day of Christmas my Director sent to me: a BC Planner for a fee

On the second day of Christmas my Director sent to me: Two Latex Gloves and a BC Planner for a fee

On the third day of Christmas my Director sent to me: Three Ballpoint Pens, Two Latex Gloves and a BC Planner for a fee

On the fourth day of Christmas my Director sent to me: Four IT Nerds, Three Ballpoint Pens, Two Latex Gloves and a BC Planner for a fee

On the fifth day of Christmas my Director sent to me: Five Olympic Rings, Four IT Nerds, Three Ballpoint Pens, Two Latex Gloves and a BC Planner for a fee

On the sixth day of Christmas my Director sent to me: Six Staff Worth Paying, Five Olympic Rings, Four IT Nerds, Three Ballpoint Pens, Two Latex Gloves and a BC Planner for a fee

On the seventh day of Christmas my Director sent to me: Seven Flashlights Dimming, Six Staff

Worth Paying, Five Olympic Rings, Four IT Nerds, Three Ballpoint Pens, Two Latex Gloves and a BC Planner for a fee

On the eighth day of Christmas my Director sent to me: Eight Lawyers Bilking, Seven Flashlights Dimming, Six Staff Worth Paying, Five Olympic Rings, Four IT Nerds, Three Ballpoint Pens, Two Latex Gloves and a BC Planner for a fee

On the ninth day of Christmas my Director sent to me: Nine Guards Advancing, Eight Lawyers Bilking, Seven Flashlights Dimming, Six Staff Worth Paying, Five Olympic Rings, Four IT Nerds, Three Ballpoint Pens, Two Latex Gloves and a BC Planner for a fee

On the tenth day of Christmas my Director sent to me: Ten Plans Worth Keeping, Nine Guards Advancing, Eight Lawyers Bilking, Seven Flashlights Dimming, Six Staff Worth Paying, Five Olympic Rings, Four IT Nerds, Three Ballpoint Pens, Two Latex Gloves and a BC Planner for a fee

On the eleventh day of Christmas my Director sent to me: Eleven Staff a Typing, Ten Plans Worth Keeping, Nine Guards Advancing, Eight Lawyers Bilking, Seven Flashlights Dimming,, Six Staff Worth Paying, Five Olympic Rings, Four IT Nerds, Three Ballpoint Pens, Two Latex Gloves and a BC Planner for a fee

On the twelfth day of Christmas my Director sent to me: Twelve Hot Sites Humming, Eleven Staff a Typing, Ten Plans Worth Keeping, Nine Guards Advancing, Eight Lawyers Bilking, Seven Flashlights Dimming,, Six Staff Worth Paying, Five Olympic Rings, Four IT Nerds, Three Ballpoint Pens, Two Latex Gloves and a BC Planner for a fee

Winter Safety!

We all love the holidays, but it means that there could be more rain and even some snow.

Last year, we had a large amount of snow during the holidays. EPICC would like to share some tips on winter safety.

SNOW & SHOVELLING

It is very important for residents and/or business owners to take all precautions to prevent injury from slipping on icy walkways.

It is a by-law in Vancouver for all residents to have their sidewalks shoveled or they will face ticketing.

In order to prepare for the winter season, get your disaster supply kit ready by ensuring you have these items: snow shovel, rock salt and sand. Purchase your shovels early in the year. Once the snow falls, they will be very hard to find in stores. Make sure you keep rock salt, to melt the ice and also sand, to improve traction and prevent slipping.

If you or any of your employees are going to be doing the shoveling, use proper shoveling safety to prevent injury. Shoveling is more strenuous of a work-out than most people think. Studies have shown that a person's heart rate can increase to higher levels than safe aerobic activity should induce in a matter of 2 minutes. Don't shovel if you have a heart or lung condition or high blood pressure. Use a smaller shovel and keep a wider stance when shoveling heavier wet snow. This may take longer, but it will be a lot easier on your body. Don't forget to bend your knees and lift with your legs, not your

back. Nobody wants to spend the holidays in pain or even in the hospital. Be responsible and use proper shoveling safety.



FLOODING

With snowfalls and rainfalls and changes in temperature, communities are at higher risk for flooding. Floods are a very common hazard and all floods are not alike. Floods can develop slowly over days, or very quickly. Be cautious of flooding wherever you live, especially if you are located in a low lying area.

CAR SAFETY

Lastly, we would like to suggest preparing your car for the winter and extreme cold. Always keep your gas tank over half full during the winter season. Check your antifreeze levels, heater and defrosters, brakes, battery and ignition system, lights and hazards, windshields and wiper fluid. Lastly, check your tires. Make sure they have adequate tread.



Your car's winter emergency kit should include

- a shovel
- windshield scraper
- water
- matches
- small broom
- battery powered radio
- jumper cables
- blanket
- emergency flares
- snack food
- hats, mitts, socks
- first aid kit & extra medication
- pocket knife
- batteries
- rope
- flashlight

Have a warm and safe holiday!

References:

www.fema.com

www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/snow.htm

What's New?



The **Justice Institute of British Columbia**, **EPICC** Member and Sponsor for the 2010 **EPICC** Forum, would like to encourage you to participate in some of the new Emergency Management educational courses offered.

To learn more about the course which are available to you or your employees, visit the website: www.jibc.ca/emergency



2009 Emergency Preparedness Conference



From ideas to Action- Get it Right!

The 22nd Annual Emergency Preparedness Conference was held in Vancouver at the Sheraton Wall Center from the 23rd to the 25th of November 2009. This conference provided attendees about how to engage in proper emergency management procedures; and lessons from the past - what to do in certain situations; what worked and what didn't.

The theme of the conference this year was **“From Ideas to Action- Get it Right”** focusing on how we can become better prepared in a work environment, throughout the community and at home.

The Conference included: Pre-conference Tours, the Conference plenary, breakout sessions and an Exhibit Area.

The Pre-Conference Tours started at the Sheraton Wall Center and took all the participants on a bus to selected sites. The first site was the **Richmond Olympic Oval**.

The tour showcased the design of the arena and also the many uses that it will have after the Olympics. The second site was the **City of Vancouver Operations Centre**, there participants were shown how the building is designed to resist earthquakes. The third site was **the Dedicated Fire Protection System** at the City of Vancouver. There is a salt water pumping service with earthquake resistant pipeline. The attendees got to witness the pumping stations in action. Sounds like a great way to start off the conference.

The Conference had many engaging speakers, who brought a lot of knowledge in Emergency Preparedness, Healthcare Emergency Management, Disaster Planning and Business Leadership.

Presenters spoke on: Public Safety, Telecommunications, The Media and Emergencies, Rural Health System Capabilities, and challenges with climate changes. Some focus was given to the 2010 Olympics and how to manage the volunteers and prepare for the large crowds. Other presentations outlined current events such as the H1N1 Outbreak and the Chilliwack Flooding.

Between sessions, the breaks allowed enough time to visit the many exhibitors. **EPICC** was fortunate to have a booth set up adjacent to the registration desk for the conference. It was a great location that provided a lot of networking opportunity. EPICC thoroughly enjoyed meeting all those who stopped by for information and just to say “Hi.”

Some of the other exhibitors included EPICC members such as **F.A.S.T. Limited**,

Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Canada, The Justice Institute of BC, Provincial Emergency Program, the Ministry of Health and The Salvation Army.

We are very fortunate to have the EP Conference every year to help keep us educated current Emergency Issues and the importance of Emergency Preparedness and Business Continuity.

EPICC News!

Recently some of EPICC’s dearest Directors had to leave the board. EPICC wanted to publicly thank these directors by having a recognition reception last month on November 24th, 2009.



Carmen Funk, F.A.S.T.Limited
&
Deborah Proctor, City of Richmond

were both awarded a plaque of recognition for their years of dedicated services to EPICC.

We would also like to thank those members who attended and shared in this event with us. It was a fun filled event.

Thank you!

EPICC FORUM 2010

“2010 - Lessons from the Real World”

In collaboration with



Only 1 Day

Wednesday, May 26 2010

www.epicc.org

Mark your calendars!

Disaster Forum Conference 2010
May 10, 2010
Banff Centre

www.disasterforum.ca

What's in the Media?

Media Blog- Mingleverse Laboratories Inc.

By Jim Stanton, EPICC Director

Have you heard of Mingleverse? It's one of the newest Media 2.0 trends. Mingleverse Laboratories Inc. (www.mingleverse.com) is a multiple award winning start-up company providing participants with the newest form of online and mobile communications.

The National Hockey League Vancouver Canucks are one of the first organizations to use Mingleverse to create virtual meeting spots where fans can wander around and chat in 3-D sound.

Up to 50 people can convene in virtual meeting spots and interact with a 3-D voice, audio and visual telecommunications as though they were meeting together in real life.

Mingleverse allows participants to share presentations with people in the room, show videos and share slide presentations and other content.

Along with sports teams, the idea has attracted the attention of Disney Interactive Studios who see potential for giving kids a way to meet with their favourite Disney characters. Howard Donaldson, Disney's Vice President of Studio Operations said, "I think it is something really unique and it represents the future of how people are going to communicate and collaborate."

The MingleRoom service delivers the first “Immersive Social Communications Experience” with natural, human interactions through the use of immersive 3D voice, sound, graphics and video.



MingleRooms are available for everyone that wants to engage others personally from across the city or from across the world in a way that feels just as real as being there!

MingleRooms can be configured instantly to accommodate from 2 people to groups of up to 50 people simultaneously - all through a

simple click of web browser and without having to leave home.

Within the first six weeks of its operations more than 10,000 mingles had been hosted at the site. Mingles can be open to the public or they can be invitation only. Hosts can determine if they will be free or charge an admission. Mingles also chart the carbon emissions saved by the virtual meetings.

The company which is privately funded, recently received seed money from Telefilm Canada for its upcoming uVenu projects for entertainment-based mingles.

Stand by for more developments!

If there is anything you would like to see on next year's EPICCgrams, please submit comments to Lesley Carew, Executive Administrator www.epicc.org

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