

Agenda for 2009 ARC Webinar # 6

September 22, 2009, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Eastern

The Cost of Doing Nothing: Who pays after the storm?

As the climate changes, weather extremes may pose a significant threat to public infrastructure. Liability exposure will likely increase and damage costs and awards from weather related events may grow larger. The first presentation will focus on legal liability of governmental authorities in their capacity as owners and occupiers of infrastructure assets and in connection with their approval and inspection of infrastructure assets under development, construction and/or refurbishment. The increasing variability of future weather conditions also presents a great challenge to disaster recovery and mitigation, including how to pay for damages not covered by insurance or where to find funding for precautions against possible extremes in the future. Support for disaster mitigation is limited and responsibility often falls on municipal governments. The second presentation focuses on the costs of recent Canadian weather related disasters, and programs and funds for pre and post disaster mitigation and recovery.

Chair: Jennifer Forkes, Clean Air Partnership (CAP)

- 12:50- 1:00 pm: Technical Introduction
New participants and those who wish to review the technical aspects of participating in the webinar should sign in early.
- 1:00 – 1:05 pm: Jennifer Forkes, CAP, Welcome
- 1:05 – 1:40 pm: Sabrina Gherbaz, Torys LLP: Failure to Adapt Infrastructure: Is legal liability lurking for infrastructure stakeholders?
- 1:40 – 1:50 pm: Q & A
- 1:50 – 2:25 pm: Dan Sandink, Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction: Disaster Recovery and Mitigation: Who pays?
- 2:25 – 2:35 pm: Q & A
- 2:35 – 2:50 pm: General Q&A
- 2:50 – 3:00 pm: 2010 Planning, Webinar Wrap-up and Evaluation



2010 Planning

The Alliance for Resilient Cities Webinar Series will continue in 2010. We welcome input from participants on proposed topics.

The following list of 15 potential webinar topics incorporates feedback from a survey of members in August 2009. During the September 22 webinar wrap up, participants are invited to provide a “thumbs up” or “thumbs down” as we go through the list of topics. At any point during the webinar, participants are encouraged to use the “questions/comments” box to submit other potential topics and/or speakers.

- State of Adaptation Planning in Canadian Communities
- Local Climate Impacts Profile – a quick approach to assessing vulnerability
- Flooding in the City –land use planning, basements and sewers
- Adaptation for and by the Urban Forest
- Vulnerability and Risk Assessments – what, when and how
- Interpreting, Using and Communicating Climate Projection Information
- Heat Impacts and the urban environment– planning for hotter temperatures and extremes, urban cooling strategies
- Infectious Diseases – new and emerging threats to public health
- Energy supply and distribution – an intersection of climate change mitigation and adaptation?
- Mainstreaming Adaptation into Planning Processes
- Tourism –impacts, adaptation and options for changes weather patterns
- Green Development – are current policies and practices enough to protect against climate change?
- Tornadoes and Hurricanes – prediction, precaution and preparation
- What can the Federation of Canadian Municipalities do to support cities and towns?
- What are the Provinces doing to support adaptation in cities and towns and what more is needed?

