

# Glossary

**Aboriginal Disaster Resilience Planning Guide**

The ADRPG is a user-friendly guide developed with Aboriginal communities in mind to help assess a community's current state of resiliency, what disasters are likely to take place, and how to develop an Action Plan to help increase overall resiliency.

**Aboriginal Peoples**

Indigenous peoples within the boundaries of present-day Canada comprised of First Nations, Métis and Inuit persons.

**Aboriginal Resilience Index (ARI)**

The Aboriginal Resilience Index is designed as a tool for helping communities assess their current disaster resilience and monitor their progress towards enhancing disaster resilience over time.

**Advisory Group**

A group of individuals brought together to assist in guiding community-based research.

**All Hazards Approach**

In Disaster Emergency Management this refers to broad disaster planning, response and mitigation efforts that address the possibility of all types of hazards.

**Buy-in**

The willingness of interest groups and community members to acknowledge the value of the research.

**Census Tracts**

A census tract, census district or census area defines a specific geographic boundary for conducting a census of the local population.

**Climate Change**

Long-term shifts in weather patterns generally used to describe a recent trend towards increased weather variability and extreme events that has powerful implications for the emergence of natural disasters.

**Community**

A community shares a geographic area, social boundaries or beliefs, and can be organized around a particular issue, mutual activity or identity.

**Community Assessment**

The gathering of information through various techniques and from different sources which would help identify community hazards, assets, vulnerabilities and an analysis of disaster resilience domains.

<b>Community Assets</b>	Available resources including people, Traditional Knowledge, materials and supplies, equipment, facilities and services that can be useful in accomplishing a community task.
<b>Community-based Research</b>	Research that uses community engagement and other forms of participation to work together in addressing research questions that affect community members' wellbeing.
<b>Community-based Research Skills</b>	The ability to: listen, demonstrate curiosity, self-awareness, a willingness to learn, generosity, wisdom, trustworthiness, and excellent communication, language, reading, and writing skills.
<b>Community-based Researcher</b>	Local researchers who engage community members through various forms of participation to work together to address the project's research questions and to facilitate the enhancement and assessment of community disaster resilience.
<b>Community Capability</b>	The actions and strategies that a community uses to mobilize its assets (capacity) to accomplish a common goal (such as addressing a hazard or the impacts of a disaster).
<b>Community Capacity</b>	The sum total of all types of human, physical and material assets in a community, including Traditional Knowledge.
<b>Community Disaster Resilience (CDR)</b>	Capacity of a community to anticipate and prepare for disasters, to take steps to reduce disaster vulnerability, to adapt to the impacts resulting from a disaster, and to continue functioning during and after a disaster.
<b>Community Engagement</b>	A way of working with community members to address issues affecting the wellbeing of the community.
<b>Community Government</b>	The local level of government, whether an unincorporated organization, or an incorporated level of government under the Indian Act or provincial/territorial legislation.
<b>Community Interviews</b>	Semi-structured interviews conducted with community members addressing threats to the community, community strengths and vulnerabilities, and resilience domain priorities.
<b>Community Profile</b>	Characterizes a community's history, population, general health profile, interpersonal and family support networks, businesses and services, geography, land use, vegetation, wildlife, climate, community infrastructure; community-based organizations, local capacity inventory, local governance structures, emergency management services, hazards information, and recent community changes.

<b>Community Research Team</b>	A team of diverse individuals with multiple perspectives undertaking local research and trained in community disaster resilience, research skills, ethics and collaborative community engagement.
<b>Community Resources</b>	The resources a community can use to address needs during and after a disaster including food, shelter, water, critical services, infrastructure, and technologies.
<b>Community Vision</b>	A community plan for the future identified through participatory activities and community consultation.
<b>Community Workshop/Community Meeting</b>	A community meeting held in a variety of formats to explore community disaster resilience and associated concepts, measures and plans.
<b>Consensus</b>	General and widespread agreement for an idea or opinion that is shared by all members of the group.
<b>Demography</b>	The attributes that describe a population (i.e., age, gender, race, class, ethnicity, (dis)ability, etc.).
<b>Disaster</b>	An event which seriously disrupts the functioning of a community and causes human, material and economic or environmental losses that exceed the community's or society's ability to cope using its own resources.
<b>Disaster and Emergency Management (DEM)</b>	The process of mitigating, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from potential risks and actual disasters in order to reduce vulnerability and losses, and generate resilience to future impacts.
<b>Disaster and Emergency Planning</b>	A domain of resilience that focuses on the state of disaster preparedness and planning in the community.
<b>Disaster Prevention/Mitigation</b>	The phase of Disaster Emergency Management referring to efforts taken to minimize the impacts of disasters, or to prevent hazards from creating a disaster.
<b>Disaster Preparedness</b>	The phase of Disaster Emergency Management referring to efforts undertaken to develop disaster plans, procedures and resources in order to offset the hazards associated with disasters.
<b>Disaster Response</b>	The phase of Disaster Emergency Management referring to immediate efforts to deal with losses, casualties, and needs following the impact of a disaster.
<b>Disaster Recovery</b>	The phase of Disaster Emergency Management referring to efforts to restore pre-disaster order and functioning following a disaster.

<b>Disaster Resilience</b>	The ability to cope with impacts of disasters, learn from past disasters, and grow stronger as a result. Disaster resilience can be exercised at both the individual and community level.
<b>Disaster Resilience Enhancement Strategies</b>	In response to a community's hazards and levels of resiliency, these are specific strategies implemented to build disaster resilience, capacity and capability in the face of hazards and vulnerabilities.
<b>Disaster Risk Management</b>	Attempt to anticipate and manage uncertain, but possible, factors and outcomes associated with disasters.
<b>Disaster Vulnerability</b>	The reduced ability of an individual or group to anticipate, cope with, resist, and recover from the impacts of a natural or human-induced hazard.
<b>Economy</b>	A domain of resilience that focuses on livelihoods and economic activity in the community.
<b>Elder</b>	A person who has a great deal of cultural and experiential knowledge about their own community and is recognized for such knowledge by the community.
<b>Electoral Boundaries</b>	A geographic or political boundary outlining electoral voting privileges.
<b>Facilitation</b>	The role of guiding (not leading or participating in) a discussion so that everyone has a voice and no one monopolizes the conversation.
<b>First Nation</b>	First Nation band or, First Nation, is the community level of government for those peoples subject to the Indian Act in Canada.
<b>First Nations</b>	One of three Aboriginal peoples recognized by the Canadian Constitution.
<b>First Responders</b>	First on the scene of an accident or emergency to provide security, rescue, fire suppression, spill response, and/or pre-hospital medical care.
<b>First Response Capacity</b>	The availability and capacity of first responders, including personnel and certifications, material and equipment, and infrastructure.
<b>Focus Groups</b>	Focused interviews or discussions conducted interactively in a group setting.
<b>Gender</b>	The range of characteristics which distinguish males from females. These characteristics may include biology (i.e., the

	state of being male, female or transgender), social structures (including gender roles), or gender identity.
<b>Geography</b>	A community's physical landscape and features.
<b>Governance</b>	The nature and quality of formal and informal governance structures and processes as they relate to disaster preparedness and resilience.
<b>Hazard</b>	A hazard is a dangerous condition or event that has the potential to threaten humans and what they value including life, wellbeing, connection, material possessions, and the natural, social and built environment.
<b>Hazard Resilience Index (HRI)</b>	The Hazard Resilience Index is designed as a tool for helping communities assess their current resiliency towards hazards that exist in the community and monitor their progress towards enhancing hazard resilience over time.
<b>Hazard Profile</b>	A community assessment to identify local hazards and vulnerabilities and to document community capacity and capability to deal with hazards.
<b>Hazard Risk Profile</b>	A profile describing the community's exposure to risk considering its resources, disaster management capacity, vulnerabilities, and specific hazards.
<b>Health Canada</b>	An agency specializing in public health that is one of many operating departments of the Federal Government of Canada.
<b>Health Practitioner</b>	A professional invested in the field of health, such as a nurse, physician or physiotherapist.
<b>Healthcare System</b>	The sum total of all the organizations, institutions and resources whose primary purpose is to improve health.
<b>Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA)</b>	Following the 2005 United Nations' World Conference on Disaster Reduction, this framework was developed to address global risk reduction, response capability and planning activities, early warning systems, risk communication, and disaster resilience.
<b>Incorporated Community</b>	A community that has been legally incorporated as a municipality or other form of community government in a Province or Territory.
<b>Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada</b>	One of the federal government departments responsible for meeting the Government of Canada's obligations and commitments to First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.

<b>Informed Consent</b>	A recorded statement or signed document by a research participant which makes explicit the fact participants are aware of the risks, benefits and information storage procedures associated with participating in the research project.
<b>Inuit</b>	One of three Aboriginal peoples recognized by the Canadian Constitution.
<b>Integrated Disaster Resilience Profile Template</b>	Characterizes a community's history, population, businesses and services, geography, land use, vegetation, wildlife, climate, cultural practices, community infrastructure, community-based organizations, capacity inventory, local governance structures, disaster emergency management services, hazards information, and recent community changes.
<b>International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)</b>	An international federation that focuses on supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in providing relief and assistance to disaster victims globally.
<b>Lead Researcher/Team Leader</b>	A key individual who facilitates the research project in their community and the involvement of other team members, community participants, and stakeholders.
<b>Métis</b>	One of three Aboriginal peoples recognized by the Canadian Constitution.
<b>Municipality</b>	The area within the boundaries of an incorporated municipal corporation defined by provincial or territorial legislation.
<b>Non-Government Organization (NGO)</b>	A legal entity that, although may receive government funding, operates independently from government.
<b>Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)</b>	An international organization promoting world trade and economic globalization.
<b>Preference Voting</b>	A method of voting where voters rank preference in terms of the issue being voted on (i.e., 1 <sup>st</sup> choice, 2 <sup>nd</sup> choice, 3 <sup>rd</sup> choice).
<b>Public Safety Canada</b>	A Federal Government agency specializing in national security, emergency management, crime prevention, border security, corrections and law enforcement.
<b>Remote</b>	For the purposes of this project, the minimum criteria for definition as a rural community is identified by its residents and meets one or more of the following criteria adapted by the Public Health Agency of Canada (2009): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Located <math>\geq</math> 200 km or three or more hours by vehicle away from a community with an acute care hospital;</li> </ul>

- Access is by water or air year round, or by roads that are inaccessible for portions of the year.

<b>Research</b>	Research is looking for answers to questions – formal research relies on a thorough and systematic approach to asking questions and seeking answers.
<b>Research Ethics</b>	Ethical research ensures that confidentiality, consent, the right to withdraw from a study at any time, and community accountability, among other issues, are all addressed in research design and implementation so that participants are not hurt in any way.
<b>Resilience Domains</b>	Key factors that shape a community's disaster resilience, including community resources, demography, disaster and emergency planning, economy, emergency response capacity, geography, governance, knowledge of traditional practices, and social fabric.
<b>Risk</b>	The probability that a hazard will impact a community or region and the likely potential for negative consequences, such as loss of lives, jobs, property, or economic activity.
<b>Risk Management</b>	Attempts to manage uncertain, but possible, hazard factors and outcomes.
<b>Risk Reduction</b>	The use of ongoing activities, projects and programs to address the causes of disasters, including reducing exposure to hazards, decreasing vulnerability of people and property, and increasing preparedness and capacity for managing disasters.
<b>Rural</b>	<p>A community located beyond the “golden hour” (the time required travel to the nearest major health facility or acute care hospital) and meets at least three of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population not more than 1,000.</li> <li>• Population in regions where more than 50% of people live in an rural community.</li> <li>• Predominately resource development, hunting and trapping, or fishing based economy.</li> <li>• Identified as rural by its residents.</li> <li>• Located not more than 50 km from a service centre.</li> <li>• Population density not more than 50 people per square km.</li> <li>• Located in a non-metropolitan region (built-up area of 50,000 population or more).</li> <li>• Has limited access (e.g., single access road in winter – several small communities have alternate dirt road access in summer).</li> </ul>

- Communication services are generally available but not necessarily reliable or, in the case of internet, not based on broad band or high speed access.

<b>Semi-structured Interview</b>	Interview objectives are unchanging but the questions and format are flexible and should respond to the direction taken by each interview participant.
<b>Social Determinants of Health</b>	Refers to social and economic factors that contribute to health and wellbeing.
<b>Social Fabric</b>	A domain of resilience that addresses the relationships and social networks in a community.
<b>Sponsoring Organization</b>	A participating organization that has agreed to sponsor and assist with community-based research activities.
<b>Stakeholder</b>	A person, group, organization, or system that affects or is affected by an organization's activity.
<b>Traditional Knowledge</b>	Skills and practices that form part of a community's cultural and spiritual identity and contribute to many aspects of community wellbeing. This knowledge is transmitted from generation to generation.
<b>Traditional Territory</b>	A territory that a particular group of Canada's Aboriginal peoples historically used and to which the group may have an ongoing relationship, rights and/or obligations.
<b>Treaty</b>	A treaty is an agreement entered into between sovereign states and Aboriginal peoples or international organizations.
<b>Unincorporated Community</b>	A community that has not been legally incorporated as a municipality in a Province or Territory.
<b>Vulnerability</b>	The characteristics and circumstances of a community, system or asset that make it susceptible to the damaging effects of a hazard.
<b>Working Group</b>	A group of community members or agency representatives (generally about 4 or 5 people) selected to provide assistance, advice and support to the Community-Based Research Team.
<b>World Health Organization</b>	An organization specializing in international public health that is one of many operating agencies of the United Nations.