



# INFORMATION NOTE

June 2011

## Critical Infrastructure

### Purpose

Recognizing that provinces and territories, as well as the federal government, have roles and responsibilities in strengthening the resilience of critical infrastructure (CI), Public Safety Canada is annually making \$400,000 available under the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) to provinces and territories to help initiate projects designed to improve the resilience of critical infrastructure (i.e. JEPP CI projects).

### Background

Critical infrastructure refers to processes, systems, facilities, technologies, networks, assets and services essential to the health, safety, security or economic well-being of Canadians and the effective functioning of government. Critical infrastructure can be stand-alone or interconnected and interdependent within and across provinces, territories and national borders. Disruptions to critical infrastructure could result in catastrophic loss of life, adverse economic effects, and significant harm to public confidence.

The *National Strategy and Action Plan for Critical Infrastructure* (the Strategy)<sup>1</sup> establishes a collaborative federal, provincial, territorial and critical infrastructure sector approach that will be used to strengthen critical infrastructure resiliency. To be effective, the Strategy must be implemented in partnership among all levels of government and critical infrastructure sectors.

### JEPP CI Objectives and National Priorities

With a view to enhancing the resilience of critical infrastructure in Canada, the objectives of the Strategy are to:

- Build partnerships;
- Implement an all-hazards risk management approach; and,
- Advance the timely sharing and protection of information among partners.

Proposals for JEPP CI funding should advance one or more of the above objectives.

Under the Strategy, Year Two priorities are to establish an information sharing framework to accelerate sharing, improve quality and better protect critical infrastructure information. In addition, risk assessments of critical infrastructure in Canada should be developed in Year Two. Consequently, provinces and territories are encouraged to pursue projects with the assistance of JEPP-CI funding that take an all-hazards approach to mitigating risk and/or further the sharing and protection of emergency management / critical infrastructure information.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.publicsafety.gc.ca/ci](http://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/ci) | [www.securitepublique.gc.ca/ie](http://www.securitepublique.gc.ca/ie)

## JEPP CI Guidelines

JEPP terms and conditions apply to JEPP CI applicants and recipients; additional information on the funding process, eligibility criteria, preparation of applications and preparation of claims can also be found in the JEPP Guidelines.

- **Project Proposals/Applications**

JEPP Terms and Conditions and Guidelines apply to JEPP CI applicants; interested applicants should complete the JEPP application form (<https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/prg/em/jepp/index-eng.aspx>) as per the instructions found in the JEPP Guidelines. Sufficient information about the proposed project must be provided by the applicant in the proposal. In addition to an overall description of the proposed project, this section of the proposal should list 1) concrete, measurable objectives associated with the proposed project; 2) outcomes and deliverables associated with the proposed project; 3) specifics on how the proposed project will contribute to the implementation of the National Strategy and Action Plan for Critical Infrastructure; and, 4) geographic area or stakeholders to be served or involved through the proposed project.

- **Project Reports**

JEPP Terms and Conditions and Guidelines apply to JEPP CI recipients, in particular provinces and territories are required to contribute to annual reporting requirements for JEPP funded projects to support federal accountability and risk management guidelines. In support of this, all provinces and territories receiving funding for JEPP CI projects are required, within the stipulated timelines of the JEPP Guidelines, to:

1. Submit to Public Safety Canada HQ, via the Public Safety Canada regional office, a Mid-year Project Report that outlines the status of each JEPP-CI funded project. At this time, provinces and territories should also note if the entire funding allocation for each approved project is expected to be used so that surplus funding can be dealt with appropriately and lapsed funding minimized. Provinces and territories receiving JEPP-CI funding will be provided with a report template by Public Safety Canada (DFAPP) to assist them in fulfilling this requirement. In addition, provinces and territories are expected monitor the status of approved projects within their jurisdiction on a regular basis throughout the year and advise their respective Public Safety Canada regional office of any changes to the federal commitment amounts as soon as they are identified. Public Safety Canada HQ (DFAPP and the Director General, Critical Infrastructure and Strategic Coordination) must receive the Mid-year Project Report by December 31, 2011.
2. Submit to Public Safety Canada HQ, via the Public Safety Canada regional office, an Annual Final Project Report outlining the key activities that were completed and outcomes achieved for each JEPP-CI funded project. The Annual Final Project Report should also describe how the project contributed to the implementation of the *National Strategy and Action Plan for Critical Infrastructure*. Any challenges faced and lessons learned should be identified in this report as well. Annual Final Project Reports should be submitted each year to the appropriate Public Safety Canada Regional Director for forwarding to the Director General, Critical Infrastructure and Strategic Coordination. Provinces and territories receiving JEPP-CI funding will be provided with a report template by Public Safety Canada to assist them in fulfilling this requirement (included in the JEPP Annual Update for 2011). Incomplete or late Annual Final Project Reports will delay the approval process for claim payment and may be considered when evaluating future CI project proposals. Public Safety Canada HQ (DFAPP and the Director General, Critical Infrastructure and Strategic Coordination) must receive the Annual Final Project Report by April 30, 2012.