

Institution

Justice Institute
of British Columbia (JIBC)

Principal Researcher

Carol Amaratunga, JIBC

Greg Anderson, Dean
Applied Research and
Graduate Studies,

Ron Bowles, Associate Dean,
Applied Research

Research Field

Emergency Planning

Student Involvement

10 student researchers
10 employed students

Partners & Collaborators

Royal Roads University
Natural Resources Canada

Pearces 2

Public Health Authority of
Canada

Funding Sources

Canadian Centre
for Security Science

Project Location

Rural Communities Across
Canada

<http://wp-rdrp-dev.jibc.ca/>

<http://drrplan.net/>

Disasters can and do happen. Be prepared. Rural Disaster Resilience Planning Framework

Small, rural, remote and coastal communities have been affected by hurricanes, wildfires, water contamination and other hazards. Some communities have slowly disappeared while others have flourished. What makes the difference? Why are some communities more resilient to disasters and change? How can communities help themselves survive and prosper?

The JIBC and partners have developed The Rural Disaster Resilience Planning (RDRP) Guide with rural communities in mind. The RDRP process includes a user-friendly guide to help communities work through four steps and three tools to increase their resiliency. A Virtual Community of Practice has also been developed to allow communities, academics, first responders and policy makers to collaborate on disaster resilience planning.

Step 1: Getting Started – what steps to take in preparing for disaster resilience planning.

Step 2: Resilience and Hazard Assessment – how to assess what disasters are likely to take place and your community's current state of resiliency.

Step 3: Building a Resilience Plan – identifying strategies and goals for building resilience in your community.

Step 4: Plan Implementation – create customized reports to help your community increase its overall resiliency and adopt strategies to help the community survive a disaster.

This resiliency research and development of award winning tools has led to the future development of a Chair for Resilient Communities. Working with a number of communities and universities across Canada and internationally, the goal is to continue research focusing on aboriginal communities as well as continued Strategic Research into National and Local Capacity Building for Disaster Risk Management.

The development of these tools will support the JIBC Emergency Management Division Program and the Royal Roads Masters in Emergency Management courses and capstone projects.

*“Working on the guide helped to educate the community about emergency management and resilience issues, through the presentations and workshops. Additional information has helped to revamp the emergency plan for the whole Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula.”
Lion's Head, Ontario*

