## For Immediate Release

Monday, May 4, 2020





## PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

**Welland, ON** - Natural disasters and global pandemics may be beyond our control, but there are ways to reduce the risk and the impact of whatever emergency we might face. Emergency Preparedness Week (May 3-9, 2020) encourages Canadians to take action and be better prepared to protect themselves and their families during emergencies. Emergency Preparedness Week is a national effort for provincial, regional, and municipal governments to promote public safety.

"Education and understanding Canada's vulnerabilities is key to emergency preparedness," said Brian Kennedy, Welland's Fire Chief and Community Emergency Management Coordinator. "Having an emergency preparedness kit will help families manage on their own for 72 hours. That's something we all can do to prepare and feel more confident when facing a natural disaster."

## It is important to:

- Know the risks Although the consequences of disasters can be similar, knowing the risks specific to your area can help you make a plan.
- Make a plan It will help you and your family know what to do.
- Get an emergency kit During an emergency, you will need some basic supplies because you might be without power or tap water. Be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours in an emergency.

Emergency Management is a priority for the City of Welland Fire and Emergency Services. Visit welland.ca/Fire/EmergencyPreparedness.asp to learn more about the City of Welland Emergency Management initiatives and plans. For more information on Emergency Preparedness Week, visit canada.ca/emergency-preparedness-week

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**Contact:** Brian Kennedy

Fire Chief and Community Emergency Management Coordinator

905-735-1700 Ext. 2400

fire@welland.ca