

Taylor Emergency Support Services (ESS) is looking for Volunteers

Emergency Support Services or ESS is a provincial program aimed at meeting the basic needs of British Columbians impacted by disasters. Our local team is supported by the District of Taylor and is part of our local Emergency Program. Our team provides short-term support in a compassionate manner to people who have been evacuated from their homes.

There are multiple levels of disasters and Taylor has had its fair share –

- in 1999 the whole town of Taylor was evacuated when there was an explosion at a gas plant.
- In 2014 our ESS Team responded to the evacuations of Hudson's Hope and surrounding areas due to wildfire.
- In 2016 the South Taylor Hill area was evacuated due to wildfire
- In 2017 members of our team responded to Kamloops and Prince George to help with the major evacuation of Williams Lake

Our team also responds to smaller incidents such as house fires and floods providing lodging, food, clothing, emotional support, pet care and transportation as needed.

In large incidents we open a reception centre to provide a safe place, to register and support evacuees and to provide support until it is safe for people to return to their homes. Our mandate is normally to provide up to 72 hours of support to give people time to regroup.

The Taylor ESS team is a group of Volunteers with one goal. To be there to help others on one of their worst day of their lives. This sounds daunting but in fact we have lots of fun throughout the year learning and planning together how to respond and preparing our team and town so that we are ready when disaster strikes.

It takes a lot of people to open a reception centre so we are always looking for more volunteers. If you are interested in finding out more about ESS or would like to join our team, please contact the District of Taylor Deputy Fire Chief or email the Taylor ESS Director at Tayloressed@gmail.com.