

Emergency Services
Revised March 2022

PURPOSE

To assist in providing emergency services on Gabriola.

POLICY

(A) If the Government of British Columbia or the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) declares a state of emergency, or if either anticipates that a state of emergency is imminent, that involves Gabriola, the Gabriola Senior Citizens Association (GSCA) may be asked to turn the Rollo Seniors Centre (Rollo) over to Emergency Social Services (ESS) for use as a Reception Centre as specified in a License of Use Agreement with the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) dated April 1st, 2018.

OR

(B) If Gabriola sustains an undeclared emergency such as a power outage or severe weather conditions, the GSCA President or designate may approve the opening of Rollo as a Hospitality Centre.

(C) Rollo maintains an Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

PROCEDURE

(A) Once a request is made to the GSCA President/designate by the RDN, under the License of Use Agreement, all regular programs at Rollo will be cancelled and the use of the centre will be turned over to ESS. The Reception Centre would be used for whatever ESS may deem necessary in response to an emergency.

A key has been assigned to ESS as well as a building door code. No ESS materials are normally stored at Rollo.

There is no agreement committing any Rollo member to provide support for the operation of the Reception Centre and neither is there any agreement that ESS may use Rollo equipment and supplies. Access to assistance, equipment and supplies may be granted by the GSCA President/designate at the request of ESS. There is no agreement to reimburse the GSCA for use of Rollo by ESS.

Under the License of Use Agreement, access will be granted to ESS by the GSCA to Rollo for occasional practice drills. Under this agreement, the RDN also maintains the backup generator at Rollo, including providing fuel for its operation during power outages.

The responsibility of the RDN to respond to emergencies is defined in the provincial *Emergency Program Act*, RSBC 1996, Chapter 111.

(B) A group from Gabriola may request approval of the GSCA President/designate to set up a Hospitality Centre at Rollo:

in the intervening period between an emergency being declared and ESS arriving at Rollo.

OR

if an undeclared emergency exists on Gabriola.

If the President/designate agrees that establishment of a Hospitality Centre is warranted, then the rental coordinator will ensure groups scheduled to use Rollo are notified that the building will be unavailable to them while the Hospitality Centre is operating.

The Hospitality Centre may serve as a location for Gabriola residents to warm themselves, charge handheld communication devices and to get a drink of water, tea or coffee and a snack.

(C) An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is maintained above the suggestion box. A GSCA Director is assigned responsibility to

maintain the AED. The AED is accessible to any member of the public who may be nearby and who would benefit from its deployment whenever the Rollo Seniors Centre is open.