

# Regional Emergency Management Emergency Preparedness & You



Dan Stovel

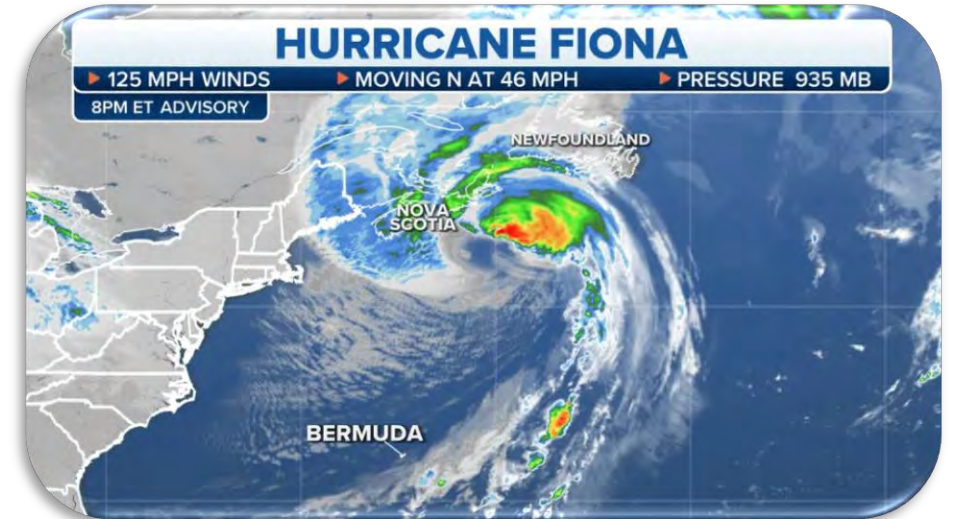
Regional Emergency Management Coordinator

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# Agenda



- Regional EM Background
- Preparing for an Emergency
- Key Principles
- Kings REMO Programs
- Q&A



Tropical Storms/Hurricanes



Wildland Fires



Floods



Power Outages



Blizzards

# Why a REMO



## Large-scale emergencies know no boundaries

- Hurricanes
- Floods
- Power Outages
- Winter Storms
- Pandemics







# Impact of Severe Weather



***“Damage from Fiona is significant”***

# Kings REMO - Benefits



- **Dedicated** EM work effort
- **Consistent** EM Planning across County
- **Enhanced** Communications
- **Shared** Resources
- **Collaborative** approach to Emergency Management
- **Regional** Agreements
- **Consistent** EM Awareness & Education Programs



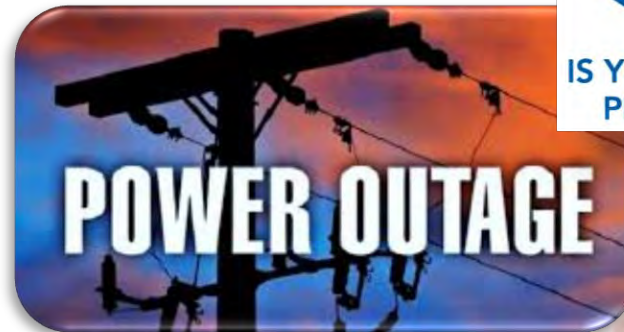
**Strategic Outcome: “A Safe & Resilient Kings County”**

# Preparing for an Emergency



## How would you:

- Look after your family for a minimum of 72 hours?
- Cope without power or tap water?
- Contact your family and receive information





# Emergency Preparedness Fast Fact



- Although the majority of Canadians believe that having an **emergency plan and emergency kit** are important.....

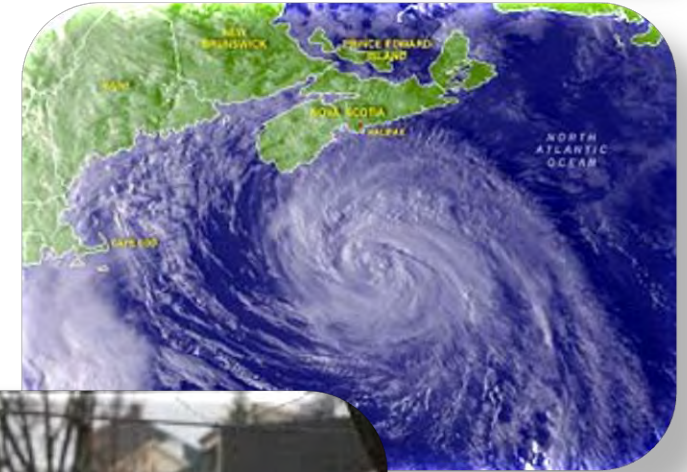
....***Only a small minority*** have actually created them



# Common Misconceptions



- **Most emergencies are short-lived**
- **I won't ever have to deal with an emergency where I live**
- **There are a lot of emergencies I just can't prepare for**





# Getting Prepared – 3 Key Principles



- **Know the Risks**



- **Make a Plan**



- **Get a Kit**

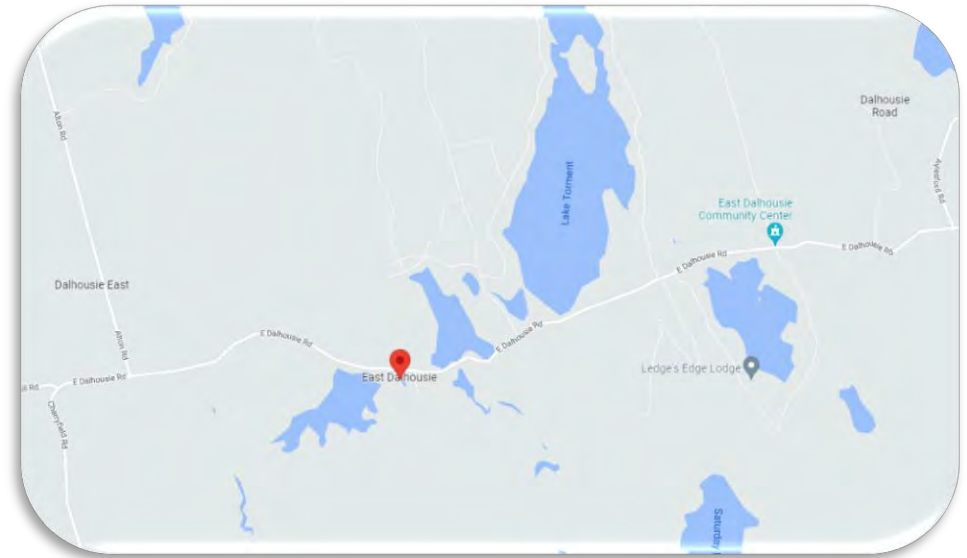


# Step 1: Know the Risks



## Know your Region

- The consequences of emergencies can be similar, but **knowing the risks** in your region can help you better prepare



## Step 2: Make a Plan



### You aren't prepared until you make a Plan

- Use your '*Emergency Preparedness Guide*' as an outline ([www.getprepared.gc.ca](http://www.getprepared.gc.ca))
- Photocopy your Plan
- Keep copies of your plan in a safe and memorable place



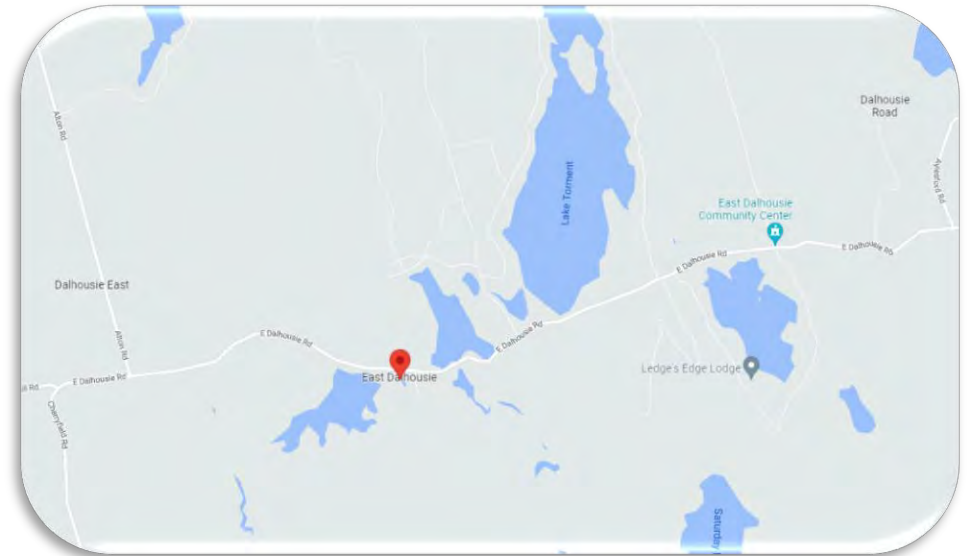


# Step 2: Make a Plan



## Your Family Plan

- Emergency Exits
- Designate a Family Meeting Area
- Escape Routes from neighbourhood
- Ensure help for people with special needs



## Step 2: Make a Plan



### Other Helpful Hints:

- Choose an out-of-town contact person
- Make arrangements through friends or community centres
- Practice your Plan!
- Review your Plan annually



## Step 3: Prepare a Kit



To prepare for an emergency that could last **72 hours** or more, what would you put in a kit?





# Step 3: Prepare a Kit



- **Basic Items:**



# Step 3: Prepare a Kit



Prepare **at least two kits**

One for **home**

**Minimum of  
3 days (72 hours)**



# Step 3: Prepare a Kit



Prepare **at least two kits**

One for **home**, and

A Smaller **portable kit** to take with you if you have to leave suddenly

**.....One for each member of your family  
“Emergency Go-Bag”**





## Step 3: Prepare a Kit



### **Special Items** to Consider:

- Medications
- Eyeglasses
- Food for pets
- Games & Toys for children
- Diapers & Formula



## Step 3: Prepare a Kit



**Don't forget Copies of Important Documents – for example:**

- List of important numbers
- Home Insurance Papers
- Vehicle titles, leases, loan documents
- Passports
- Social Insurance cards
- Birth Certificates
- List of medications – Doctors phone numbers
- Home Inventory List



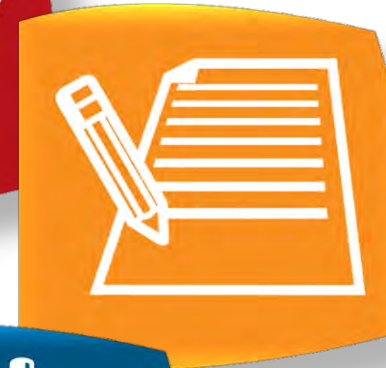


# Remember the 3 Principles

- **Know the Risks**



- **Make a Plan**



- **Get a Kit**





# Kings REMO Programs



- Emergency Preparedness Websites: Kings REMO Website
- MOU/Agreements
- Comfort Centres
- Emergency Email Notification System
- Alert Ready
- I am Responding
- Vulnerable Persons Registry
- Kings REMO Social Media
- Community Outreach



Websites	MOUs Agreements	Comfort Centres	Emergency Emails	Alert Ready	I am Responding	VPR	Social Media	Community Outreach
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# Kings REMO Website

- Home
- Committees
- Preparedness
- Know the Risks
- Make a Plan
- Get a Kit
- Resources
- Contacts
- Comfort Centres
- FAQs
- Vulnerable Persons Registry

Monday, September 30, 2019  
Kings Regional Emergency Management Organization  
Launches a New Website



Websites	MOUs Agreements	Comfort Centres	Emergency Emails	Alert Ready	I am Responding	VPR	Social Media	Community Outreach
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# Emergency Preparedness MOUs / Agreements

## Transportation

- Kings REMO – Kings Transit Authority, 2019-10-23



## Regional Emergency Management Mutual Aid

- Kings County – Annapolis County, 2022-05-19
- Kings County – Lunenburg County (Draft)
- Kings County – West Hants (Draft)



Websites

**MOUs  
Agreements**

Comfort  
Centres

Emergency  
Emails

Alert Ready

I am  
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VPR

Social Media

Community  
Outreach





# MOU / Agreements

## Comfort Centres

- Kings REMO – 24 Comfort Centres in Kings County
  - Community Groups support activation of Centres

Comfort Centre	Address	Hours	Status
Aylesford & District Fire Hall	1083 Park St, Aylesford		CLOSED
Berwick & District Fire Hall	300 Commercial St, Berwick		CLOSED
Black Rock Community Centre	4078 Black Rock Rd, Whites Corner		CLOSED
Canning Multicomplex	977 J. Jordan Rd, Canning		CLOSED
Centreville Community Hall	1951 Highway 359, Centreville		CLOSED
Coldbrook Lions Club	1416 South Bishop Rd, Coldbrook		CLOSED
East Dalhousie Community Centre	1481 E Dalhousie Rd, Springfield		CLOSED
Greenwich Fire Hall	9798 Highway 1, Greenwich		CLOSED
Halls Harbour Fire Hall	3586 Highway 359, Halls Harbour		CLOSED
Kentville Fire Department	463 Main St, Kentville		CLOSED
Kentville Recreation Centre	348 Main St, Kentville		CLOSED
Kingsport Lloyd Memorial Centre	29 Main St., Kingsport		CLOSED
Kingston & District Fire Hall	570 Sparky St, Kingston		CLOSED
Kingston Lions Club	1482 Veterans Lane, Kingston		CLOSED
Lake Paul/Lake George Community Centre	3083 Aylesford Rd, Lake Paul		CLOSED
Millville Community Hall	659 Victoria Rd, Millville		CLOSED
New Minas Fire Hall	6 Jones Rd, New Minas		CLOSED
New Minas Louis Millet Centre	9489 Commercial St, New Minas		CLOSED
Port Williams Community Centre	1045 Highway 358, Port Williams		CLOSED
Valley Search and Rescue	177 Middle Dyke Rd, Port Williams		CLOSED
Waterville and District Fire Hall	1415 County Home Rd, Cambridge		CLOSED
White Rock Community Centre	1542 White Rock Rd, White Rock		CLOSED
Wolfville School	19 Acadia St, Wolfville		CLOSED
Woodville Community Centre	342 Bligh Rd, Woodville		CLOSED



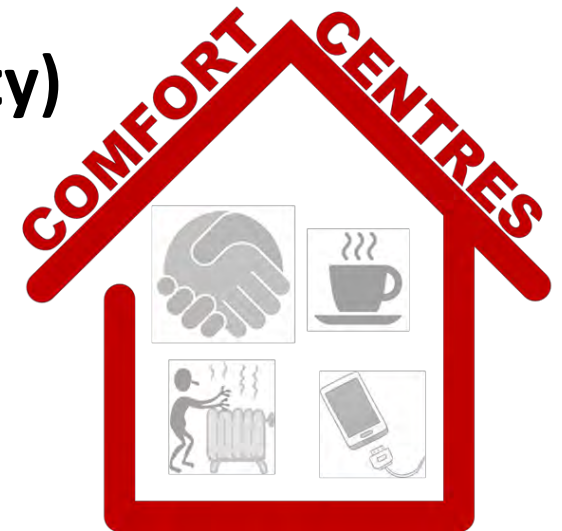




# Comfort Centres

## References:

- **Kings REMO Comfort Centre Policy** (Policy signed by 4 Municipal Units)
  - Town of Wolfville, Policy 230-001, 2018-09-18
- **Memorandum of Understanding (Kings REMO-Facility)**
  - All 24 Comfort Centres



Websites

MOUs  
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Emails

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# Comfort Centres



- Place to get Warm
- Re-Charge devices
- Use Washroom
- Get a Warm Drink
- Check on each other – share information
- Get updates on weather & Power resumption



**Not Overnight Shelters**

Websites

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# Comfort Centres - Communications



- The opening of a Comfort Centre will be announced by Kings REMO through:
  - News Releases
  - Local News media, commercial TV & radio
  - Local Municipal Websites
  - Social Media
  - NS EMO & NS 211
  - Emergency Email Notification System
  - Kings REMO Website



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# Emergency Email Notification System



- Subscription based service
- Emails sent to all subscribers **'bcc'**
- Advance notification of significant weather conditions and Alerts that may impact Kings County
- General Emergency Preparedness information



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# Alert Ready [www.alertready.ca](http://www.alertready.ca)



[HOME](#) [WIRELESS](#) [ALERT TYPES](#) [RESPONSIBILITIES](#) [TEST SCHEDULE & ALERTING INFO](#) [FAQ](#) [CONTACT US](#) [FRANÇAIS](#)



Your phone  
has the power  
to save a life.

## Testing in NS:

- **2 mandatory tests per year**
  - **May**
  - **Nov**



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# I am Responding (IaR)

- Employed by all Fire Departments
- **REMO contract** for 3 years recently renewed until 2025
- **Emergency Text Messaging**
- Establish up to 50 'Groups'
  - CAOs (ECC Managers)
  - Regional EM Advisory Committee & Regional EM Planning Committee
  - Elected Officials
  - Municipal Staffs
  - Fire Departments
  - **Comfort Centres**



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Centres

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Emails

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VPR

Social Media

Community  
Outreach

# Vulnerable Persons Registry



*“To increase the **safety** of residents living within their own **homes** who would be at greater risk during an emergency or disaster. To offer a **beneficial public service** that will continue our community’s commitment to increasing the safety of residents”*



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# Vulnerable Persons Registry

## Vulnerable Persons Registry (VPR)



Kings County, Nova Scotia

- Aims at improving the safety of residents living at home who would be at greater risk during emergencies
- Improves safety by providing key information to emergency response teams in order to help them be more aware when addressing large scale emergencies



**Registry is 100% Voluntary and Free**

[www.kingsremo.ca/vpr](http://www.kingsremo.ca/vpr)

2022-05-27

Kings REMO – Town of Wolfville Council & Staff

36

VPR Coordinator: [REMO\\_KingsCounty@countyofkings.ca](mailto:REMO_KingsCounty@countyofkings.ca) | 902-670-1514

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MOUs  
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Comfort  
Centres

Emergency  
Emails

Alert Ready

I am  
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Social Media

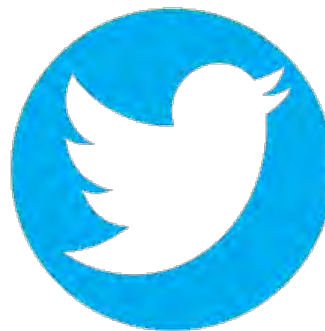
Community  
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# REMO Social Media

- “Social media offer the opportunity to **connect and cooperate** with the networked public, take advantage of the **capabilities and innovations of virtual volunteers**, and to reach people quickly with **alerts, warnings and preparedness messages**” (1)



(1) Social Media in Emergency Management, Defence Research and Development Canada, May 2014

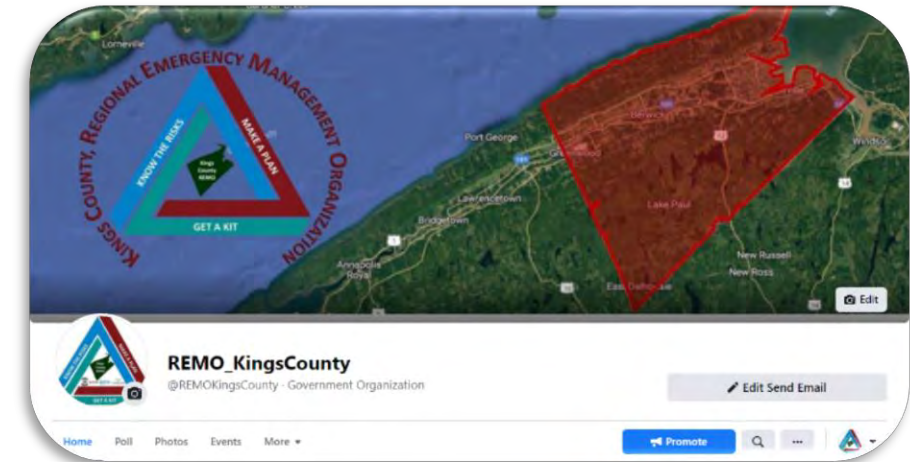
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# REMO Social Media



## Facebook Followers

- 3,654 2022-07-18
- **4,074 (+ 420) 2022-10-22**



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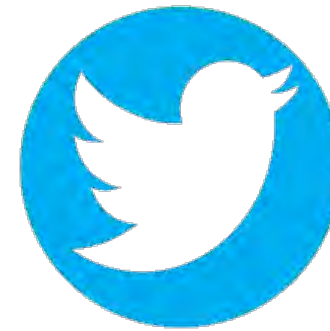
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**Social Media**

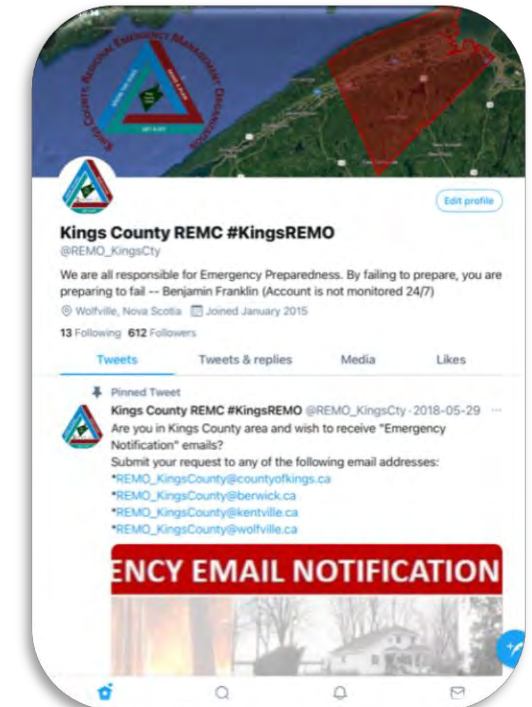
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# REMO Social Media



## Twitter Followers

- 764 2022-07-18
- **814 (+ 50)** **2022-10-22**



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**Social Media**

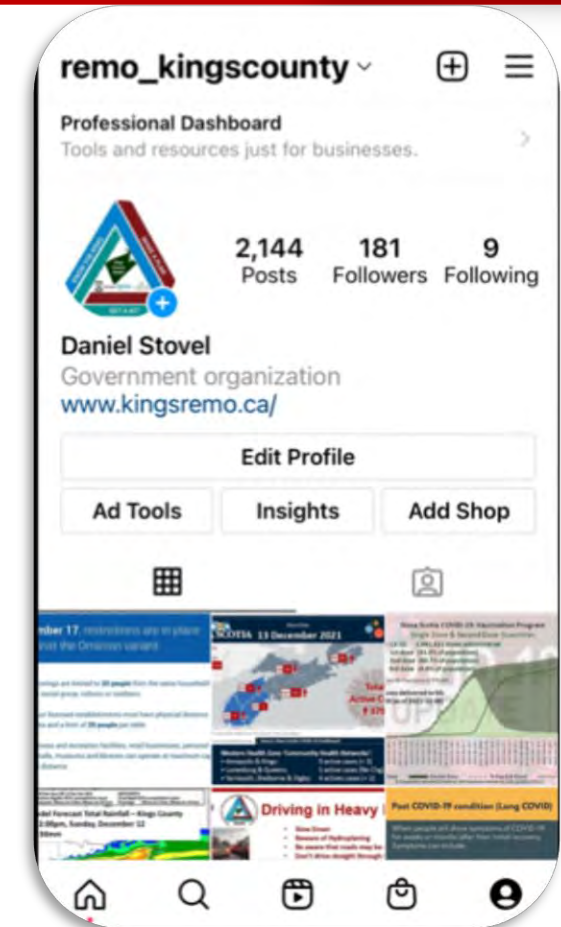
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# REMO Social Media



## Instagram followers

- 218 2022-07-18
- **236 (+ 18)** **2022-10-22**



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Centres

Emergency  
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VPR

**Social Media**

Community  
Outreach





# Kings REMO Community Outreach

## Emergency Preparedness Presentations

- 2018                16
- 2019                31
- 2020                10
- 2021                1 (COVID-19 impacts)
- **2022                6 (as of October 22)**



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# Kings REMO & Emergency Preparedness

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