

Thursday, April 28, 2016  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



## **EP WEEK IS MAY 1 - 7, 2016: IS YOUR FAMILY PREPARED?**

**Welland, ON** – Natural disasters may be beyond our control, but there are ways to reduce the risk and possible consequences for whatever emergency we might face whether natural or human-induced.

Emergency Preparedness Week (May 1 - 7, 2016), encourages Canadians to be better prepared to cope on their own for at least the first 72 hours of an emergency while rescue workers help those in urgent need. This special week is a national effort of provincial and territorial emergency management organizations that is coordinated through Public Safety Canada.

Welland Fire and Emergency Services also encourages residents to take concrete actions and be better prepared for potential emergencies. Canadians expect governments to show leadership in dealing with emergencies, but we all still have a role to play. People who have prepared for an emergency cope better than those who have not: both during and after a major disaster. Get an emergency kit now because it can make a world of difference.

Welland's Chief of Fire and Emergency Service, Denys Prevost challenges the community to take action. "Preparing for emergencies is a personal affair and a family affair. Take a selfie of you and your family in front of your emergency preparedness kit and Tweet the picture and hashtag it #PrepareYourSelfie and #Welland," said Prevost. Citizens of Welland are urged to visit the City of Welland website at [www.welland.ca](http://www.welland.ca) for further information on Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Preparedness Week.

By taking a few simple steps you can become better prepared to face a range of emergencies anytime and anywhere. It is important to:

**Know the risks** – Although the consequences of disasters can be similar, knowing the risks specific to our community and our region can help you better prepare.

**Make a plan** –It will help you and your family know what to do.

**Get an emergency kit** – During an emergency, we will all need some basic supplies. We may need to get by without power or tap water. Be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours in an emergency.

The three preceding simple steps will better prepare you and your family to face a range of emergencies. Visit the Emergency Preparedness Week website at [www.getprepared.ca](http://www.getprepared.ca) for more information and resources to help you and your family prepare for all types of emergencies.

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WELLAND FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES  
636 King Street  
Welland, ON  
905-735-9922