

2017 Spring Flooding – Call for Proposals

Heavy rains have been causing flooding events in many parts of Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia. Over 145 communities in Quebec and Ontario have been affected by flooding with over 1,500 people forced to evacuate their homes. Evacuations have also taken place in British Columbia with communities affected by floods and mudslides due to heavy rainfalls and spring run-off.

The Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction invites proposals under its Quick Response Program, which allows social scientists to quickly deploy to a disaster-affected area in the aftermath of an extreme event to collect perishable data. Candidates who would like to apply for funding through the program must submit a three-page research proposal (maximum) consisting of a title, research question(s), proposed methods as well as a description of how data will be collected under potentially difficult local conditions. This submission must include a budget and a CV of the applicant(s). The proposed budget must cover research related expenses (e.g. travel to the affected area, accommodations, research assistants, etc.). It is also the responsibility of the researcher(s) to ensure that they abide by their institution's research ethics guidelines involving human subjects.

To help guide researchers through the proposal process, potential research topics that may receive funding through the Program include:

- Identification of opportunities during recovery to increase resilience to future events;
- Evacuation planning and communication of evacuation orders;
- Evacuation orders vs. residents' perceived danger;
- Evacuation order compliance;
- Household-level recovery issues;
- Communication between emergency management officials and residents;
- Communication of information about property damage;
- Communication between insurance companies and policyholders;
- Effectiveness of local emergency management networks;
- Networks and partnerships formed between various groups as part of the disaster relief process;
- Social media use during disasters;
- Understanding the spatial planning and reconstruction of affected households/neighbourhoods;
- Adoption of climate change adaptation and mitigation measures in the built environment;
- Health issues of residents and relief personnel;
- Community recovery and household recovery capacity;
- Options for reducing the risk of future events;
- Other topics as proposed by the researcher(s).

Note that these topics are provided for illustrative purposes and applicants are encouraged to submit applications concerning any social science topic associated with disaster events. While this call for proposals is open specifically for the 2017 Spring Flooding, ICLR welcomes quick response research proposals for other disasters at any time.

Please consult the following link for more information about the application process. For additional questions and to submit a proposal, please contact Sophie Guilbault of the Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction.

<http://www.iclr.org/quickresponse.html>

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