

November 25, 2021

Ms. Tara Richards
Deputy Minister of Emergency Management BC
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
via email: Emergency.Management.Deputy.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Ms. Tara Richards, Deputy Minister of Emergency Management BC,

This past week we have received many questions and inquiries from our Government Licensed Professionals (GLP) regarding whether Appendix H (Leave for Meritorious Service) of the current GLP-PSA Collective Agreement has been activated in support of the flooding and landslide emergency response. Our members, who come from various ministries, can bring professional, technical, or administrative skill sets that are necessary or transferable to support these events. Appendix H was activated this past summer and our members responded to the request to join TEAMS in support of the devastating forest fires. We are asking that Appendix H again be officially activated via written approval so that our members can support this provincial emergency.

As per Appendix H, the following guidelines establish the government's approach to granting regular full-time GLP members leave for meritorious service in response to emergencies:

"If the deputy minister responsible for the Provincial Emergency Program, in consultation with the deputies of the ministries directly impacted by an emergency situation, gives written approval to activate the recognition process regular full-time professional employees who perform duties outside their normal responsibilities will earn leave entitlement calculated on the following basis:

- *One hour for every hour worked above and beyond normal work hours during the regular work week; and one hour for every hour worked on a day of rest."*

In addition to activating Appendix H, we also ask the province to recognize and consider reevaluating the above compensation structure of Appendix H that is unfair relative to the overtime compensation for BCGEU members. Such compensation discourages professionals from responding to calls for participation on TEAMS and makes it challenging for the province to respond during emergency situations.

Thank you,



Scott McCannell
Executive Director

c: Stephen Brown, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
Lori Halls, Deputy Minister, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Secretariat
Kaye Krishna, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Rick Manwaring, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Resource Operations and Rural Development