



Emergency Response Assistance Canada
Assistance d'intervention d'urgence du Canada
1100, 744 – 4th Ave S.W. Calgary, Alberta T2P 3T4
Telephone: (587) 349-5880 Fax: (403) 543-6099 Web: www.erac.org

Message from ERAC President, Spencer Buckland



Season's greetings from all of us at ERAC.

Well it's been an amazingly productive year at ERAC. I'm so proud to be associated with our Plan Participant members, responders and our staff. First of all, I would like to congratulate and thank all of our valued response teams, Remedial Measures Advisors (RMAs) and Technical Advisers (TAs) for their commitment to working with ERAC and to meeting all of ERAC's training and assessment requirements to become approved response teams for more than 350 industry Plan Participants. Over the past year, our plan members have continued to support ERAC through their membership fees, allowing us to be in a position to provide fair and reasonable retainers to all of our responders. With your support, we are able to ensure they meet our training, assessment, regulatory and approval requirements.

It's encouraging to see just how much has been accomplished over the past year within ERAC. We've have seen development of new training, best practices guidelines, procedures, policies and dangerous goods response training and exercises. I want to say a special thank you to the ERAC staff who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes in support of a leading national emergency preparedness and response organization, who work on behalf of industry members and our responder network.

I would also like to thank all our supporters which include; CN Rail, CP Rail, Rail Association of Canada (RAC), Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) and the Canadian Fuels Association (CFA), and the Canadian Propane Association (CPA) who have been supportive of the Flammable Liquids and LPG ERAP program. A special thank you to; Irving Oil, Suncor Energy, Keyera Corporation, Eco Energy, Imperial Oil, CN Rail and CP Rail for the support of our Regional training and assessments.

This past year has seen our Board of Directors fully support the growth of ERAC in new services that our plan members have been asking for. These include, expansion into other ERAPable and non-ERAPable dangerous goods preparedness and response by road or rail and E2 Plans. We have also seen ERAC expand its role in training first responders in LPG Firefighting Awareness online training and LPG Level 1 Mobile Operations training, where ERAC brings the training to fire departments. We expect to see this continue to grow over the coming years in support of our Plan Participant's commitment to keeping first responder safe in response to both LPG and flammable liquids. I would like to take this opportunity to remind Plan Participants that if they would like to help support first responders with training in LPG firefighting, that they can sponsor firefighters in their jurisdiction to attend training or donate propane for the firefighting props used during the events. Lastly, ERAC had launched the Plan Participant Readiness and Review program as a value add, no cost program for our Plan Participants. The Readiness and Review program was designed to assist our Plan Participants with their organizations role, ERAC's role, capabilities and responsibilities, determine their organizations readiness, tailored ERAP awareness training and a follow-up survey.

None of these initiatives would be possible without the support of our Plan Participants, ERAC and Canadian Propane Association Board of Directors, LPG Operating and Flammable Liquids Technical Advisory Committees, first responders and industry and regulatory stakeholders.

Again, I want to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and happy holiday season.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Buckland', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Spencer Buckland MLT, MALT, QM/OE, CRSP
President
Emergency Response Assistance Canada (ERAC)