

## CANADA'S HEALTH CONCERNS FROM CLIMATE CHANGE AND VARIABILITY

Health Concerns	Examples of Health Vulnerabilities	Voluntary Sector Role
Temperature-related morbidity and mortality	- Cold and heat related illnesses - Respiratory and cardiovascular illnesses - Increased occupational health risks	Examples: - Community outreach during summer brownouts (e.g., promoting use of malls & community centres)
Health effects of extreme weather events	- Damaged public heath infrastructure - Injuries and illnesses - Social and mental health stress due to disasters - Occupational health hazards - Population displacement	Examples: - Falls prevention programs & kits - Family reunification projects
Air pollution-related health effects	Changed exposure to outdoor and indoor air pollutants and allergens     Asthma and other respiratory diseases     Heart attacks, strokes, and other cardiovascular diseases     Cancer	Examples: - Community response to air quality alerts
Health effects of water- and food-borne contamination	- Diarrheas and intoxication caused by chemical & biological determinants	Examples: - Providing feeding and hydration stations
Vector-borne and zoonotic diseases	- Changed patterns of diseases caused by bacteria, viruses, and other pathogens carried by mosquitoes, ticks, and other vectors	Examples: - Public information - Regional response teams (i.e.: for Avian flu pandemic, West Nile Virus, SARS)
Health effects of exposure to utraviolet rays	- Skin damage and skin cancer - Cataracts - Disturbed immune function	Examples: - Community training, information seminars - Mole inspection stations at city beaches
Population vulnerabilities in rural and urban communities	- Seniors - Children - People with chronic diseases - People with low incomes - Homeless people - Northern residents - People with disabilities - People living off the land	Examples: - Timely response to addressing special health needs of diverse populations (e.g., culturally appropriate responses; age-specific programs) - Provision of appropriate clothing and bedding (e.g. after floods, severe weather)
Socio-economic impacts on community health 8 well-being	- Loss of income and productivity - Social disruption - Diminished quality of life - Increased costs to health care - Health effects to mitigation technologies - Lack of institutional capacity to deal with disasters	Examples: - responding to crises: post-crisis; crisis prevention (e.g., natural disasters)