

# Mass Casualty Commission

PUBLIC PROCEEDING

||| MASS CASUALTY  
COMMISSION  
COMMISSION  
DES PERTES MASSIVES

MAY 10, 2022

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NOW SPEAKING

**Rachel Young**

SENIOR COMMISSION COUNSEL

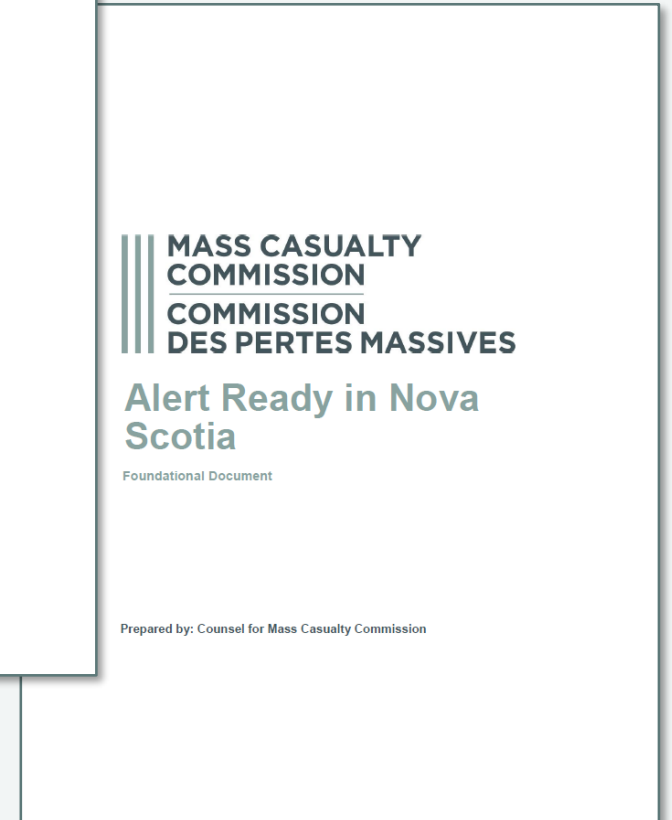
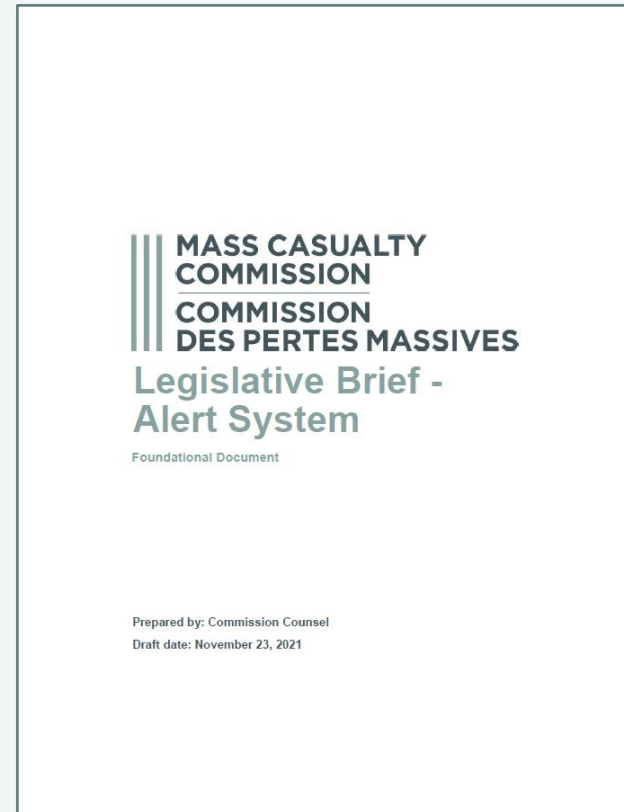
# Exhibits

## LEGISLATIVE BRIEF

- **Alert System**

## FOUNDATIONAL DOCUMENT

- **Alert Ready in Nova Scotia**



# Subject Matter

## AREAS OF FOCUS

- **A summary of the law applicable to the National Public Alerting System (also called “Alert Ready”).**
- **A summary of material reviewed to date by Mass Casualty Commission Counsel to the policy and roll-out of Alert Ready in Nova Scotia before, at the time of, and after the mass casualty.**
- **Focus is on the Alert Ready system prior to, during, and after the mass casualty.**

# Key Terms

<b>NSEMO</b>	Nova Scotia Emergency Management Office
<b>NAADs</b>	National Alert and Aggregation Dissemination System – secure infrastructure that enables public safety messages to be issued
<b>Last-Mile Distributors</b>	Responsible for making alerts available to the public; e.g TV, radio and internet providers
<b>IMD</b>	Incident Management Division
<b>Incident Management</b>	A set of procedures and actions taken to respond to and resolve critical incidents
<b>PSAP</b>	Public Service Answering Point

# Laws Surrounding Alert Ready in Canada

## Constitution

- Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms

## Federal

- Broadcasting Act
- Broadcasting Distribution Regulations
- Radio Regulations
- Television Broadcasting Regulations, 1987
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act
- Telecommunications Act

## Nova Scotia

- Police Act
- Emergency Management Act



# **Alert Ready in Nova Scotia** **(Prior to and during the mass casualty)**

# National Alert and Aggregation Dissemination System (NAADS)

**Alert Ready** is the public-facing name and associated website of the **National Alert and Aggregation Dissemination System (NAADS)**, which is the software/architecture that gives the ability to create and send alerts during emergencies.

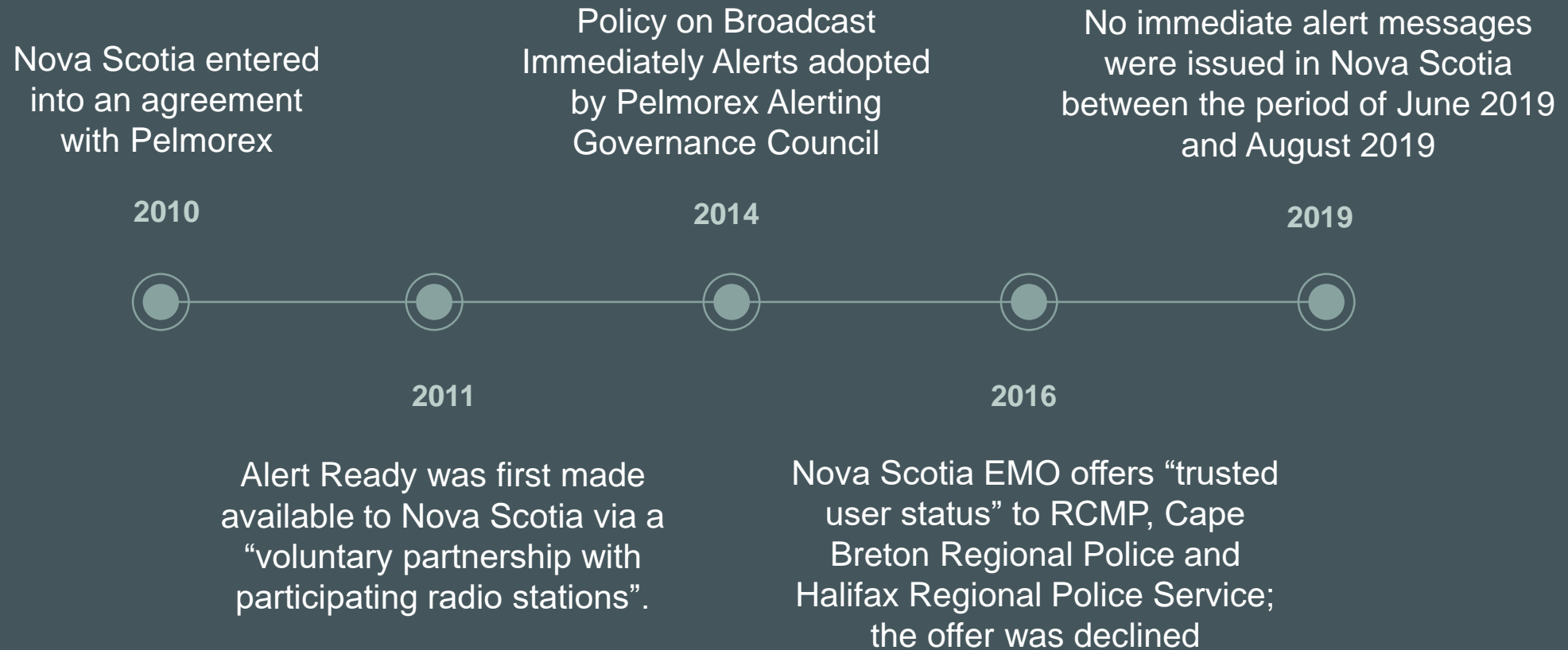
- Owned by **Pelmorex** and is operated on behalf of the federal government.
- Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) rulings require participation from last mile distributors in the Alert Ready system for radio and TV producers (2015) and wireless providers (2018).



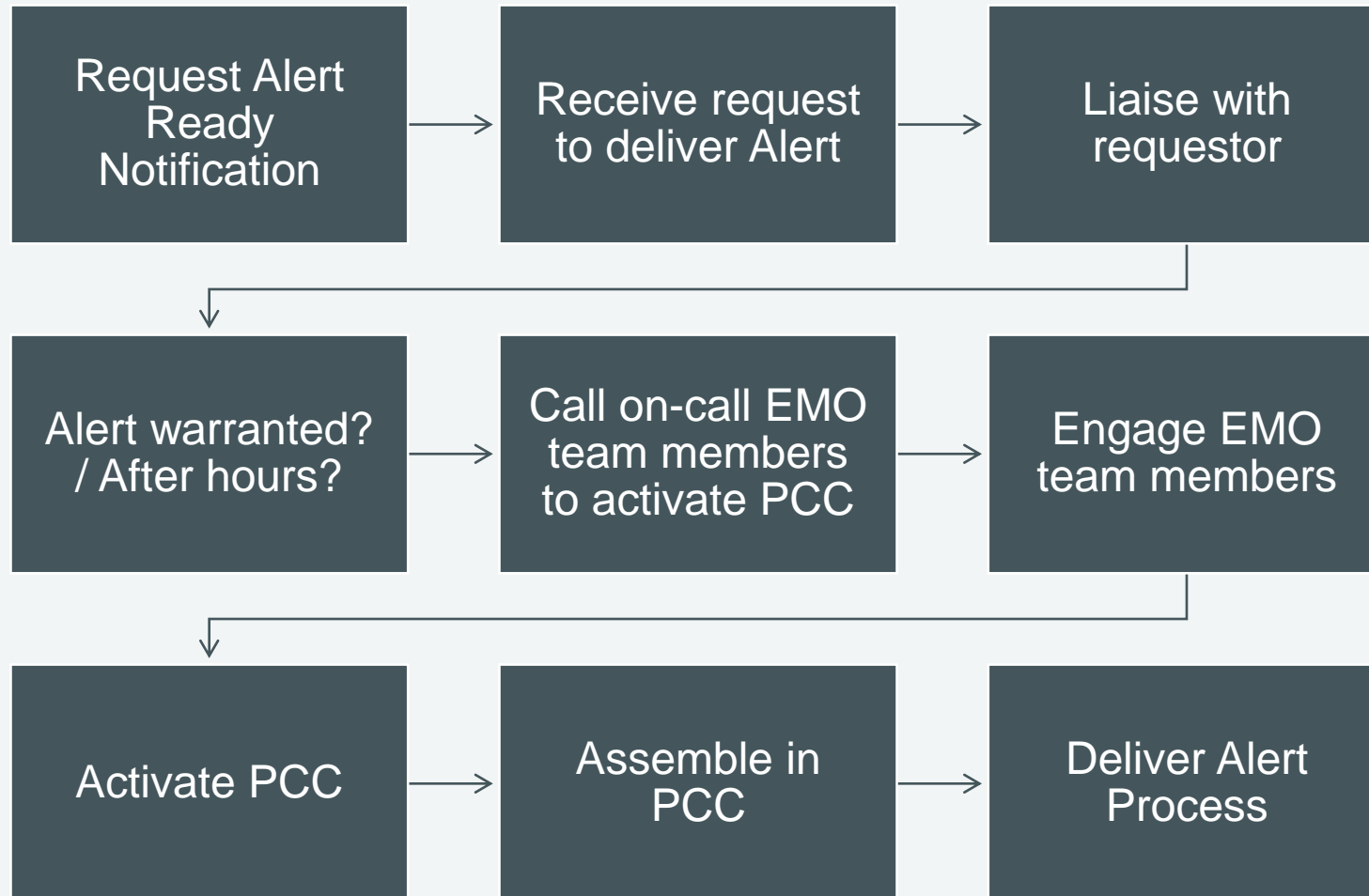
IMAGES SOURCE: CANADA'S NATIONAL  
EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM



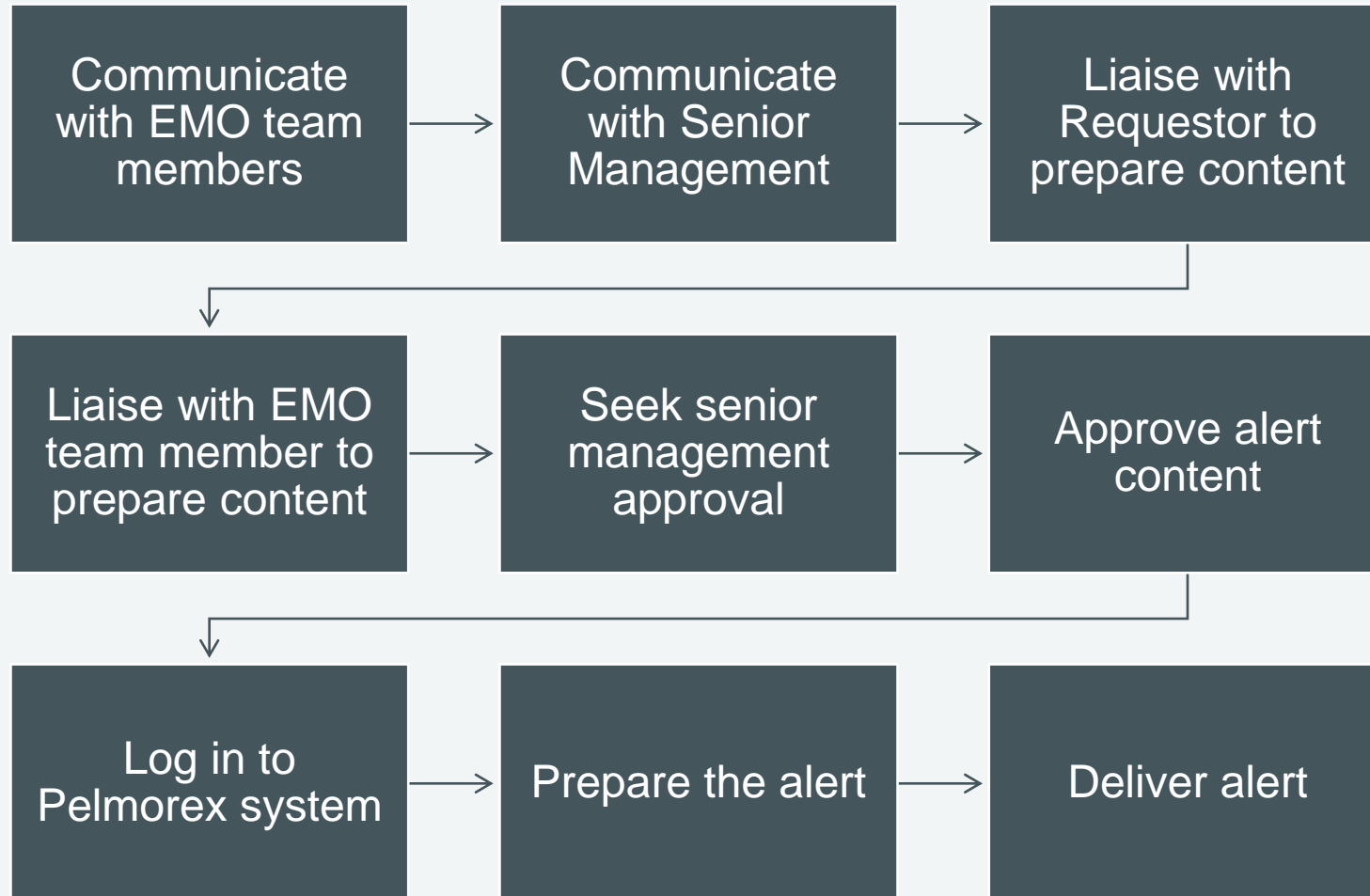
# Alert Ready in Nova Scotia (Prior to and during the mass casualty)



# Decide to Alert Process



# Deliver Alert Process





# **Alert Ready in Nova Scotia**

**(After the mass casualty)**

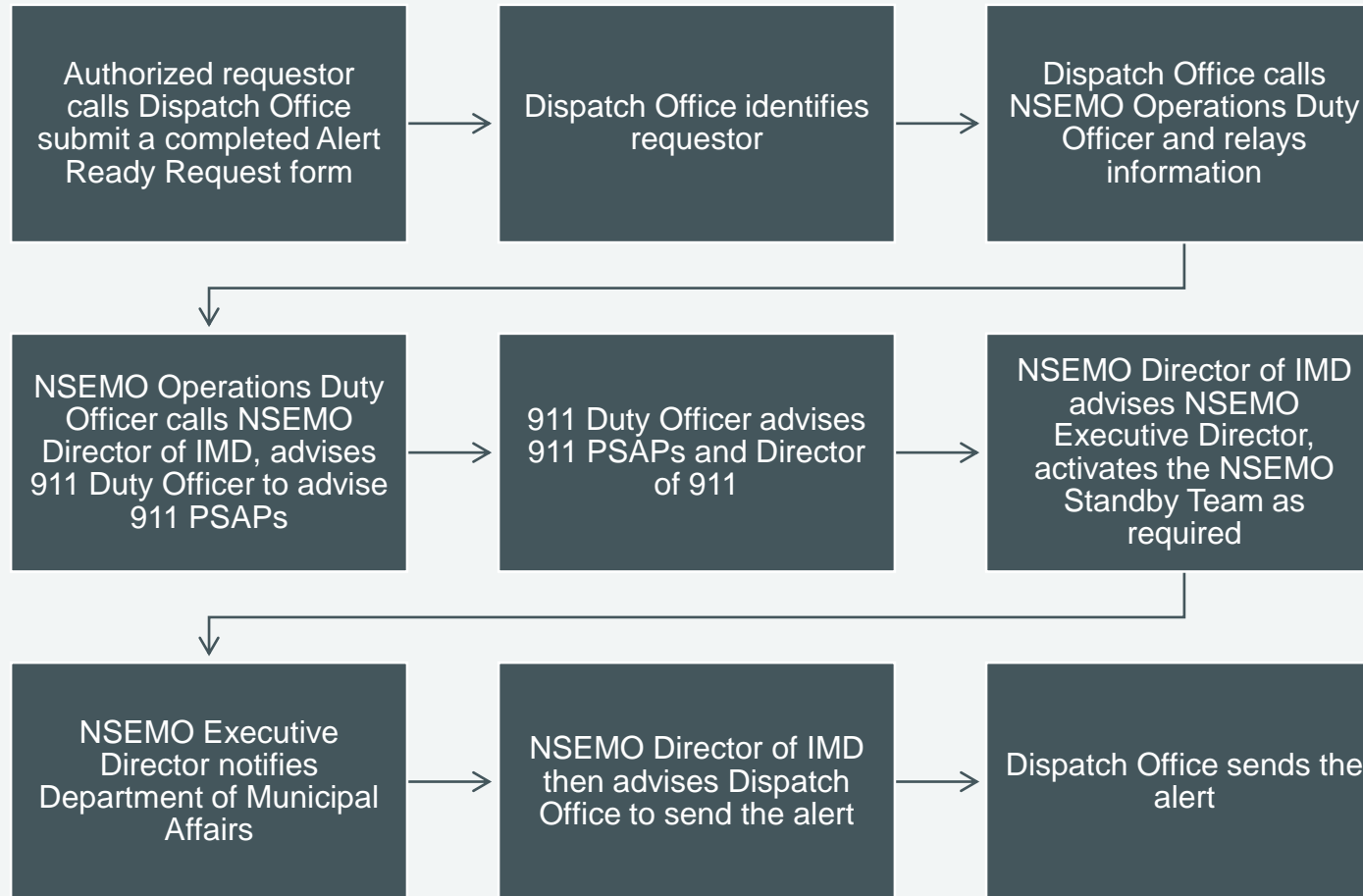
# Alert Ready in Nova Scotia

## (After the mass casualty)

2021

- Alert Ready messages are now distributed by the Nova Scotia Public Safety Field Communications' Shubenacadie Dispatch Office (“the Dispatch Office”). Requests for an Alert Ready message from Authorized Requestors are approved by NSEMO’s Director of Incident Management Division (“IMD”), or a delegate.
- The responsibility to maintain the alert from start to finish, including updates and cancellations, lies with the requesting organization, which must notify the NSEMO Operations Duty Officer when an alert is generated, updated, or cancelled.

# Requesting an Alert



# Alert Ready in Nova Scotia

(After the mass casualty)

Generating,  
Updating and  
Cancelling Alerts

Approval /  
Delegated  
Authority

NSEMO  
Responsibilities

Alert Issuers and  
Requestors

Training

# Alert Ready in Nova Scotia

(After the mass casualty)

## Broadcast Immediate Alerts

- A Broadcast Immediate Alert (“BI”) is for emergency situations where life and safety are under immediate threat, and time is critical.

## Non-Broadcast Immediate Alerts

- A Non-Broadcast Intrusive (or Immediate) Alert is generated when emergencies occur, or have the potential to occur, “that can affect the decisions people need to make as the situation has the potential to affect life and safety, protection of their property and or the environment.”





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