

Extreme Weather Response Summary

[Policy C620](#) formalizes and clarifies the City of Edmonton's role in the system-wide response to support vulnerable Edmontonians during extreme weather conditions. This policy builds on years of collaborative efforts with [Homeward Trust Edmonton](#) and other partners through the Sector Emergency Response (SER) program. The extreme weather response work also aligns with the City of Edmonton's [Homelessness and Housing Service Plan](#).

The City of Edmonton activates an [extreme weather response](#) when the weather is forecasted to meet the following thresholds:

- Extreme Cold: -20°C with wind chill or colder for three consecutive days or more.
- Extreme Heat: 29°C for daytime temperatures for three consecutive days with nighttime lows of 14°C or higher for three consecutive days or more.
- Poor Air Quality: An air quality health index score of 7 or higher for two consecutive days or more.

Extreme Cold Weather Response

- Provides overnight Winter Shelter Shuttles on two designated routes, with an additional route during activations.
- Temporary funding to support the [Al Rashid Mosque](#) which provides up to 50 temporary overnight emergency shelter spaces during extreme cold activations.
- Offers individuals respite from the cold when needed in open City facilities, such as recreation centres and libraries.
- Distributes [Winter Shelter Resource Cards](#) to connect people with services.
- Additional non-City resources and supports:
 - Emergency shelter spaces provided by the [Government of Alberta](#).
 - Sector emergency response - social agency partners provide expanded service provision during extreme weather responses.

Extreme Heat & Poor Air Quality Response

- Installs temporary water bottle filling stations across the city from mid-May to the end of September.
- Provides respite in open City facilities, such as recreation centers and libraries.
- Distributes bottled water and N95 masks during poor air quality activations.

- Offers Summer Resource Cards to help people access critical services.

Communication and Coordination

- Activations, deactivations and extensions of extreme weather responses are communicated through email to social agency partners, public service announcements, social media posts and website updates.
- Details are also posted on the [SER webpage](#) hosted by Homeward Trust Edmonton.
- The City continuously monitors weather conditions to determine the length of the response.