



ICS FAQ

June 28, 2016

ICS was first implemented in Canada on a large scale by the Province of British Columbia in the mid 1990s. In 2002 the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre introduced the CIFFC ICS Canadian Version doctrine and complete set of training materials to the wildland fire community across Canada.

In 2009 CIFFC was preparing to update the Canadian wildland fire ICS curriculum. At that time the Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) was also reviewing their need to provide a single all hazard command and control system that would meet their long term provincial emergency management needs.

Other ICS Canada member agencies also include:

Manitoba Office of the Fire Commissioner, Nova Scotia Emergency Management Office, PEI Emergency Measures Organization, Search and Rescue Volunteers Association of Canada, Ground Search and Rescue Council of Canada. There are several other interested jurisdictions and recruitment to the initiative is ongoing.”

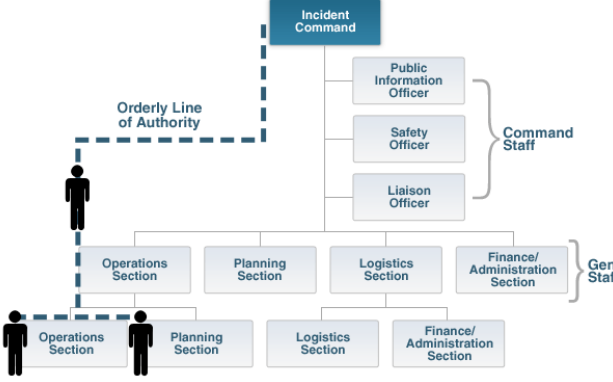
<p>What is ICS?</p>	<p>“The Incident Command System (ICS) is a standardized on-site management system designed to enable effective, efficient incident management by integrating a combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure.</p> <p>The ICS is used to manage an incident or a non-emergency event, and can be used equally well for both small and large situations.”</p>	<p>http://www.icscanada.ca/</p>
<p>What is the background for ICS in Canada?</p>	<p>Brought to the Province of British Columbia in the mid 1990s.</p> <p>In 2002 the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre, as part of its mandate to its provincial, territorial and federal members, introduced the CIFFC ICS Canadian Version doctrine and complete set of training materials to the wildland fire community across Canada (all provincial, territorial and federal agencies responsible for wildland fire management).</p> <p>In 2009 Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) began updating their system and used ICS as their go to system.</p>	

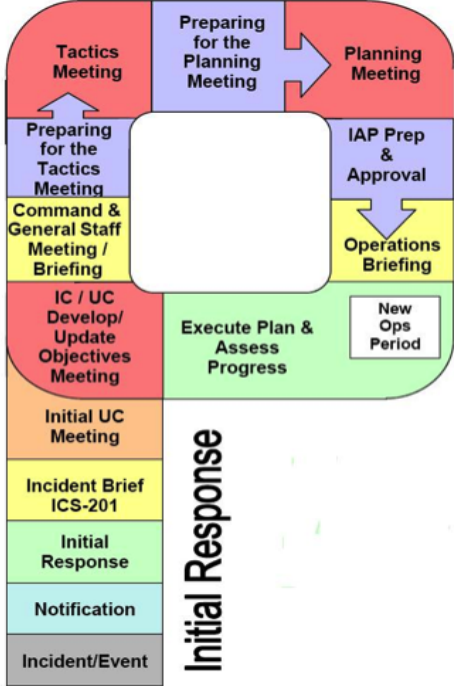
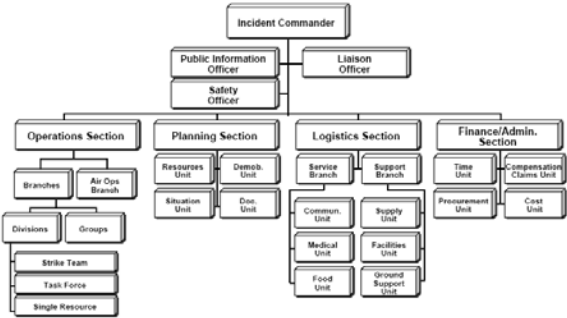


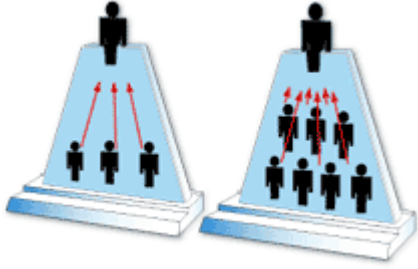
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Overall Key Features of ICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common terminology • Establishment and transfer of command • Chain of command and unity of command • Unified command • Management by objectives • Incident Action Planning and the IAP • Modular organization • Span of control • Resource management • Incident Locations and Facilities • Integrated communications • Information and intelligence management • Accountability • Dispatch/Deployment 	ICS 300 Training Manual- ICS Institute- EMSI
Common Terminology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Organizational Elements ➤ Position Titles ➤ Resources ➤ Support Facilities 	
Establishing and Transferring Command	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial response: Command established at the beginning of incident by highest ranking on-scene authority - Expanding or long-term incident: Command can be safely transferred to higher ranking or better qualified authority 	
Unity of Command	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All personnel report to ONE supervisor • Receive work assignments only from their supervisors 	

<p>Chain of Command</p>	 <pre> graph TD IC[Incident Command] --- CS[Command Staff] subgraph CS PIO[Public Information Officer] SO[Safety Officer] LO[Liaison Officer] end IC --- GS[General Staff] subgraph GS OS[Operations Section] PS[Planning Section] LS[Logistics Section] FAS[Finance/Administration Section] end OS --- OS2[Operations Section] PS --- PS2[Planning Section] LS --- LS2[Logistics Section] FAS --- FAS2[Finance/Administration Section] %% Orderly Line of Authority OL[Orderly Line of Authority] OL --- OL_person[Person] OL_person --- OS2 OL --- IC </pre>	
<p>Unified Command</p>	<p>Co-management of incident Overlapping jurisdictional/agency responsibilities Coordination of efforts Responsive community- based response organization</p>	
<p>Management by Objectives</p>	<p>Management decides specific objectives that are required. The command leads the team by providing direction and the team manage incident</p>	

<p>Incident Action Planning and the IAP (Initial Action Plan)</p>		<p>“Initial” Action Plan : Based on Standard Operating Procedures. Tactical Reference manuals Response plans.</p> <p>Provides responders with Clear directions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specific Actions to take - Resources to be used - Communication and - safety considerations.
<p>Modular Organization</p>		<p>Org structure based on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Size, time and complexity of incident - Specifics of the hazard environment created by the incident - Incident planning process and incident objectives. <p>Smaller incidents may only require a smaller team.</p>

Span of Control		<p>Usually between 3 and 7 subordinates</p> <p>Optimally does not exceed 5 subordinates.</p>
Resource Management	<p>Include: Personnel Team Equipment</p> <p>Managed through: Common Terminology Clear Definition Standard organizing Status tracking</p>	
Incident Locations & Facilities	<p>Incident Command Post Joint Information Center Incident Base Heli-base(s) Helispot(s) Camp(s) Staging Areas(s)</p>	<p>It is vital to have common well known places for each. Using the same language for everything allows for things to be put together faster.</p>
Integrated Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Common Terminology <p>Interoperability through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hardware - Planning- processes/procedures <p>Use of Network to facilitate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chain of command - Operations - Support 	
Information & Intelligence management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collect - Organize - Analyze - Evaluate - Display - Brief 	
Accountability	<p>Maintained through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incident Check-in - IAP- Division/Group Assignments - Span of Control - Unity of Command 	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Personal Responsibility- - Unit logs- Resource Tracking	
Dispatch/Deployment	Personnel and Equipment respond: Only when requested by and ordered to the ICS Org. by appropriate authorities and following established processes.	