

Divisional Moves / Name Changes

The origin of Emergency Management in NL can be traced back to the 1950's with the implementation of the Civil Defence Act being administered by the Department of Provincial Affairs. In 1962, the Civil Defence Act was replaced by the Emergency Measures Act and was administered by the Emergency Measures Division of the Department of Provincial Affairs. The responsibility for emergency management was transferred to the Department of Justice in 1972 and the division was renamed the Emergency Measures Organization (EMO). It was around this time, that EMO assumed responsibility to support police agencies in Ground Search and Rescue Operations through the provision of air support. In 1986 EMO was transferred to the Department of Municipal Affairs and remained there until 2007, however the Department's name did change to the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs in 1989. 2007 saw the creation of a separate agency, Fire and Emergency Services NL (FES-NL), reporting to the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs. In 2009, the Emergency Services Act was proclaimed and FES-NL remained under the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs until 2014 at which time the Agency was moved to the Department of Justice and Public Safety. In 2015, FES-NL was moved to the Department of Municipal Affairs. The Agency was abolished in 2016 however, the emergency management function continued to be delivered under the Fire, Emergency and Corporate Services branch by the Emergency Services Division (ESD). The ESD remained under the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment until its most recent move to the Public Safety and Emergency Services Branch, Department of Justice and Public Safety, in 2020.

1950's	Emergency management administered by the Department of Provincial Affairs.
1962	Emergency Measures Division of the Department of Provincial Affairs.
1972	Emergency Management Division renamed Emergency Measures Organization and moved to the Department of Justice.
1986	EMO moved to the Department of Municipal Affairs
2007	Creation of FES-NL agency under the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs
2014	FES-NL moved to Department of Justice and Public Safety
2015	FES-NL moved to Department of Municipal Affairs.
2016	FES-NL was abolished and operated as the Emergency Services Division under the Fire, Emergency and Corporate Services branch of Department of Municipal Affairs.
2020	The Emergency Services Division moved to the Department of Justice and Public Safety under the Public Safety and Emergency Services Branch.