



Fifth Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas

March 7 - 9, 2017 | Montreal, Canada | #SendaiAmericas

Towards Risk Informed Sustainable Development

Logistics Note Media

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Canada 

 **UNISDR**
The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



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Overview

The Fifth Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas (RPA), hosted by the Government of Canada and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), will be held in Montréal, Quebec, on March 7 - 9, 2017.

The RPA will be the first to be held since the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) 2015-2030 in March 2015.

The main focus will be on identifying how governments, civil society leaders, technical and scientific institutions, the private sector and media can drive the implementation of activities and actions to meet the expected targets of the Sendai Framework while building capacity in the region.

A Ministerial and High-Level Authorities meeting will also take place during this Fifth Session. Both meetings, the RPA and the High-Level segment, will mark the first opportunity for governments and stakeholders in the Americas to discuss and agree on a Regional Action Plan to support the implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Americas.

For more information about the RPA please visit the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas [website](#).

Conference venue

The RPA will be held at the [*Palais des congrès de Montréal*](#).

Entrance to access conference: 201 Viger Street West

For more information on how to access the *Palais des congrès* please review the [Accessibility Plan](#).

Agenda and media itinerary

The conference agenda outline is available [here](#). Some portions of the program may be closed to the media. The agenda and media itinerary will be updated at a later date.

To stay up-to-date on social media, follow [@UNISDR_Americas](#) (available only in Spanish) and [@Safety_Canada](#) on Twitter, [@UnisdrLasAmericas](#) (available only in Spanish) on Facebook and follow [#SendaiAmericas](#).



Registration

General registration policy

All media representatives are required to apply [online](#) by February 17, 2017 to access the media centre and to attend the RPA.

The organizing committee will review all applications. In the days following their application, media representatives will be informed via email of the status of their request. Media representatives may attend the RPA only if the response indicates that their application has been accepted. We suggest applicants not make travel arrangements until after receiving an acceptance of their application.

For more information on the status of an application please contact rpa@eird.org.

Distribution of badges

Identity badges will be required to access the conference sites and events. This badge must be worn at all times and must be clearly visible for purposes of access control.

Upon presentation of a photo ID, media representatives may pick up their badge in the lobby of the *Palais de Congrès* on March 6, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and on March 7 from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Lost or stolen badges

If a badge is lost or stolen, the holder must immediately advise the event organizers at the information desk located on the 5th floor of the *Palais des congrès*.

Visas

All media representatives must possess valid travel documents and, where necessary, a visa for entry into Canada. Please be advised that the application process to obtain a visa to travel to Canada is independent from the application process for the RPA. Travelers should apply as a business visitor by clicking [here](#).

For current information on which countries require visas to travel to Canada, please visit the Government of Canada [website](#). It should be noted that airlines will not allow a passenger to board the plane without a valid visa, and visas cannot be obtained upon arrival in Canada.

Visa-exempt foreign nationals are expected to have an [Electronic Travel Authorization](#) (eTA) to fly to or transit through Canada. Exceptions include U.S. citizens, and travelers with a valid Canadian visa.

To find out what else you may need to know before visiting Canada, please refer to the [Visit Canada](#) section of the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada website.



Accommodation

It is the responsibility of each media representative to book their respective hotel rooms.

A [list](#) of suggested hotels is available at a special rate for the RPA participants. When booking accommodations, please reference the “Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas 2017”.

The hotels are within 2 to 10 minutes walking distance of the *Palais des congrès*. Hotels such as Le Westin, Hyatt Regency and InterContinental are also accessible from the *Palais des congrès* via underground walkways.

Media centre

The media centre will be located at the *Palais des congrès* and the hours of operation will be 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (time to be confirmed).

The media centre will provide registered media with a work space and Internet access.

Media liaison officers will be on-site to provide information on media activities, coordinate interviews and provide any necessary information to media representatives.

Interpretation

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in French, English and Spanish for the opening and closing ceremonies, plenary sessions, parallel sessions, consultation sessions, official statements, and the Ministerial meeting.

Internet

Wi-Fi internet access for media will be available on-site at the *Palais des congrès*.



Telecommunications

Phone Devices

Cellular telephones and other wireless devices: Visitors should contact their existing cellular service providers to ensure that Canadian wireless service providers are included in their primary roaming list. The primary GSM carrier in Canada is Rogers Communications and the primary CDMA carriers are Bell Mobility and Telus Mobility.

Calling abroad from Canada: The code to make international calls from Canada is 011(followed by the country code + applicable number).

Radio Communications

If you are bringing equipment and require radio communication during the event, you must obtain authorization from the Government of Canada and register your equipment. Wireless microphones/audio equipment are included in this authorisation requirement. To do this, media must contact, through their Embassy:

Spectrum Management and Telecommunications
Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada
Tel.: 1-855-465-6307
Fax: 1-705-941-4607
Email: ic.spectrumenod-spectredeno.ic@canada.ca
Hours of operation: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (ET)

Contact Information

If you require any further information about logistics for the event, please contact:

Patricia Skinner
Summits and Official Events, Office of Protocol
Global Affairs Canada
Tel.: 1-343-203-2398
Email: Patricia.Skinner@international.gc.ca

If you require any other information please refer to the [contact list](#) on the RPA website.