

AHEAD OF THE STORM: Extreme Weather Resilience in the City of Toronto

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**Toronto Environment and** 

**Energy Office** 

AHEAD OF THE STORM: Preparing Toronto for Climate Change - Highlights

Environmental Applied Science and Management Symposium 2013 March 21, 2013

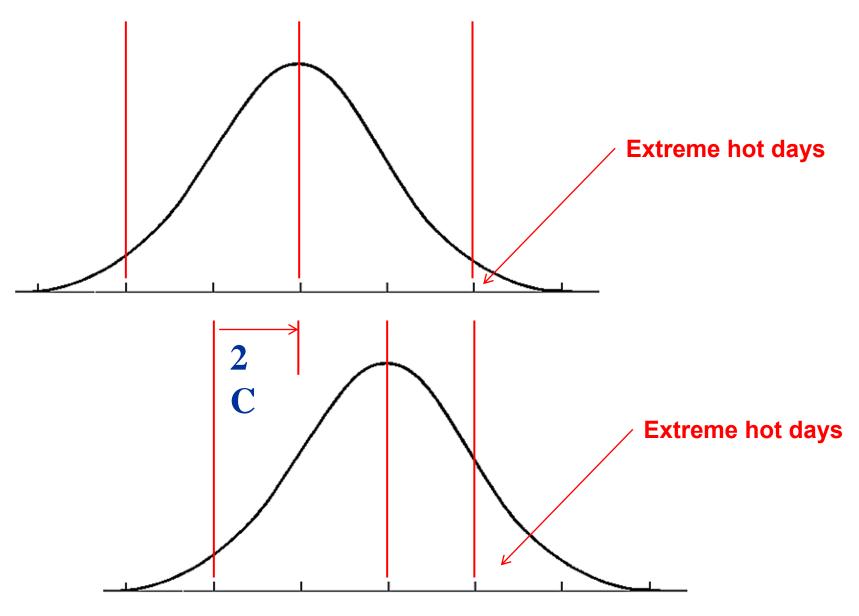








# **Climate shift**





# Canadian catastrophes

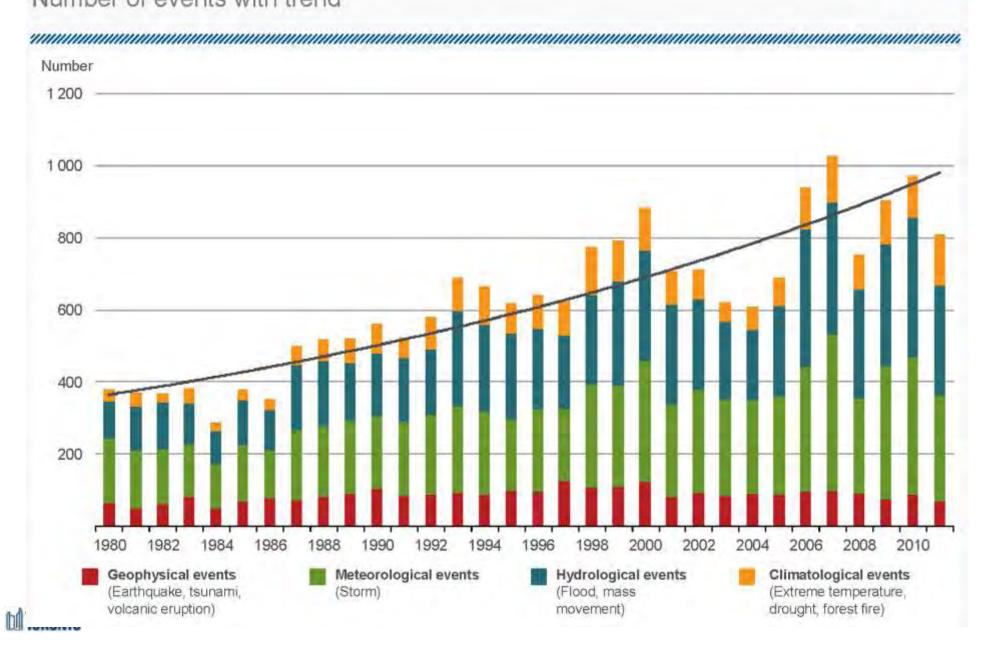




#### NatCatSERVICE

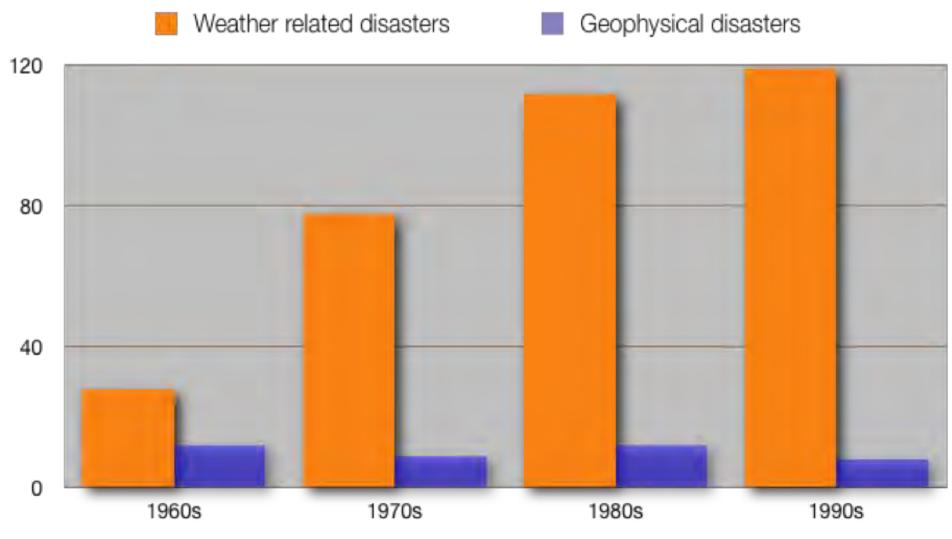
#### Natural catastrophes worldwide 1980 – 2011 Number of events with trend





# Canadian disaster damage

#### Number of events





## **Recent Canadian cats**

- Ice Storm (January 1998)
- \$2 billion (2005 dollars)
- Slave Lake wildfire
- \$700 million
- "Freaky Friday" GTA rainstorm (August 19, 2005)
- \$590 million
- Calgary area windstorm (July 2009)
- \$500 million
- Calgary hailstorm (July 2010)
- >\$400 million
- B.C. wildfires (Summer 2003)
- \$200 million
- Edmonton floods (July 2004)
- \$170 million
- Hurricane Juan (September 2003)
- \$115 million

**DA TORONTO** 

Source: ICLR 2011

# Model: 2040 in GTA » Changes in Precip.

#### **Snowfall & Rainfall**

- Less Snow & More Rain --in Winter
- More Rain in July (80%) & August (50%)

# Extreme Daily Rainfall > 25 mm

- Same Number of Storms in Summer
  - **BUT Much More Intense Storms !!**

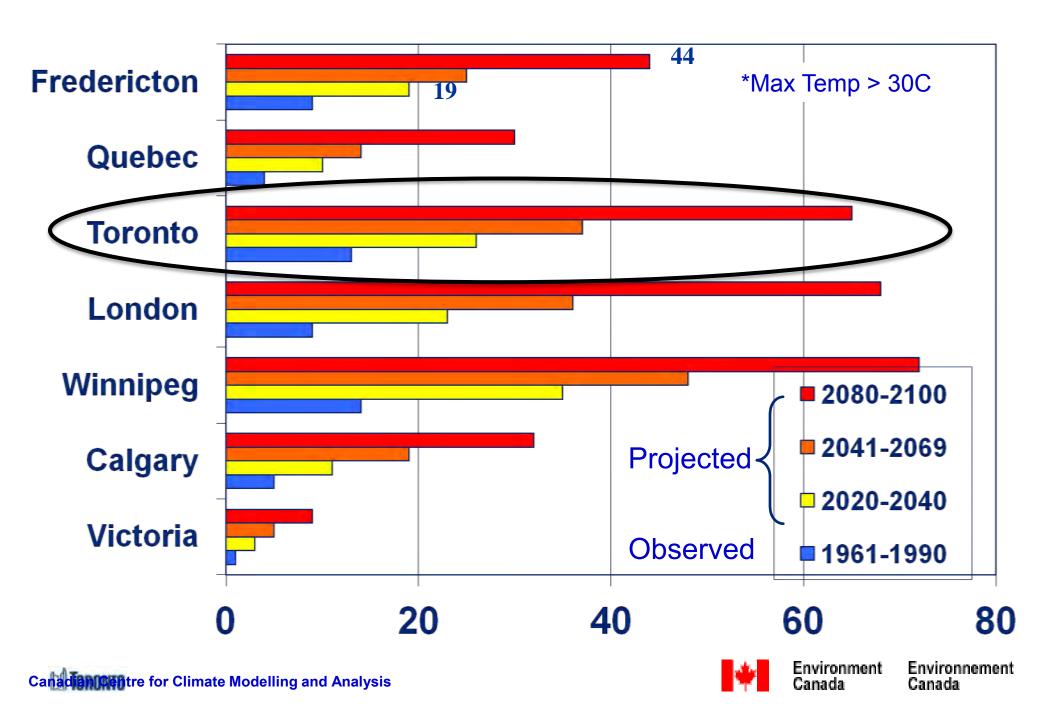


# Model: 2040 Warmer Temps

- Average annual temp increase by 4.4°C
- Average winter temp. increases by 5.7°C
- Average summer temp. increases by 3.8°C
- Extreme daily min. temp becomes less cold by 13°C
- Extreme daily max. temp becomes warmer by 7.6°C



### Number of hot days\* rising

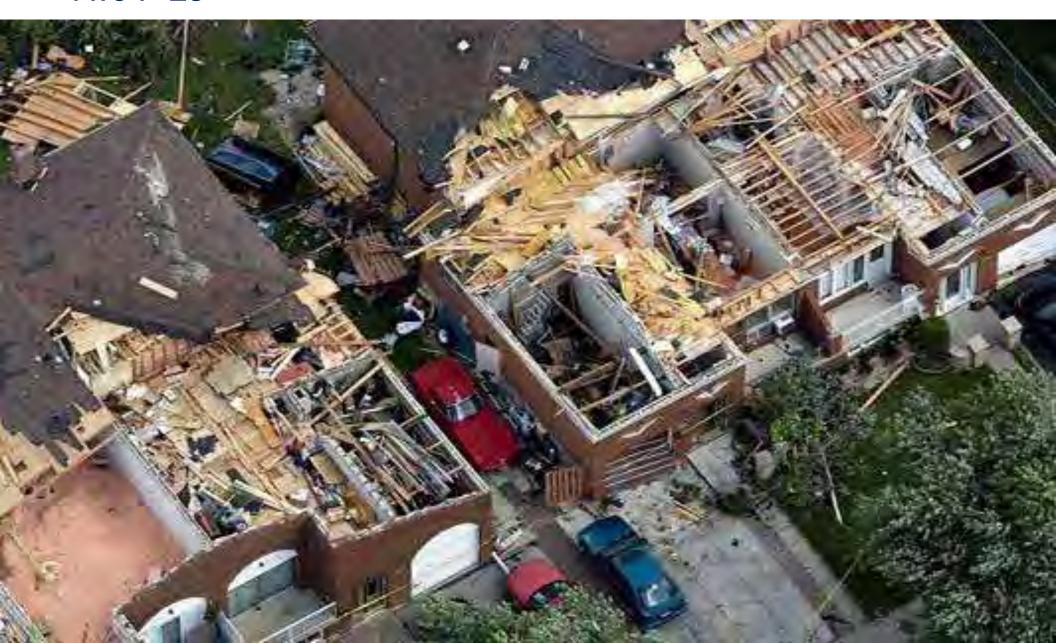






# Vaughan, Ont. tornadoes

August 20, 2009 Two F-2s



# **Damage to infrastructure**



# **Health risks**



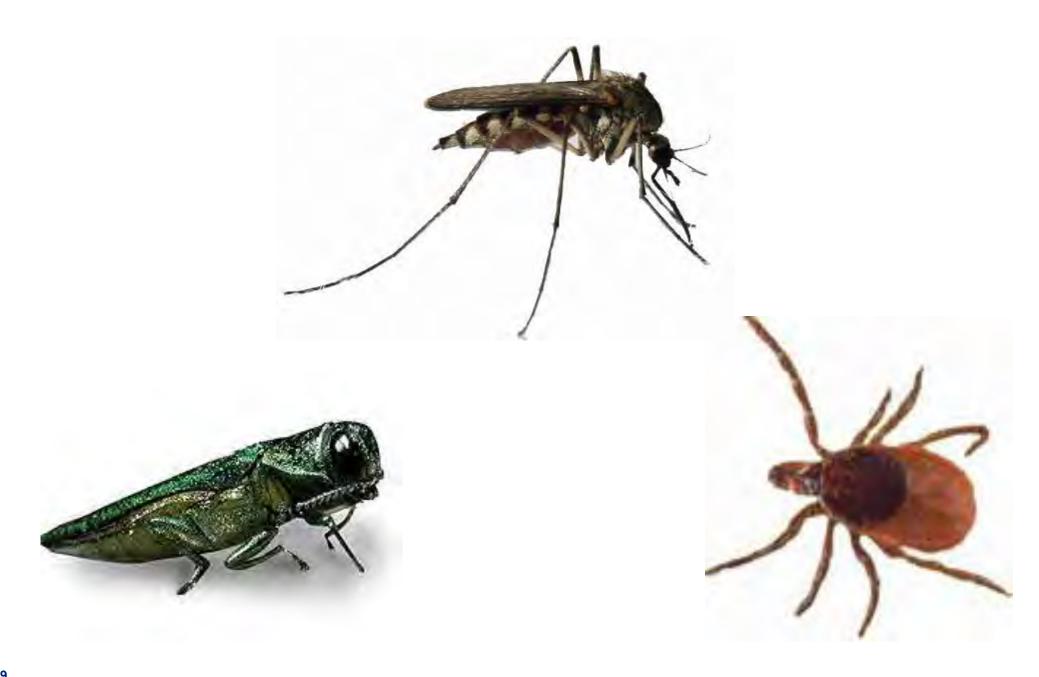




# **Vulnerable populations**



# Impacts on natural systems













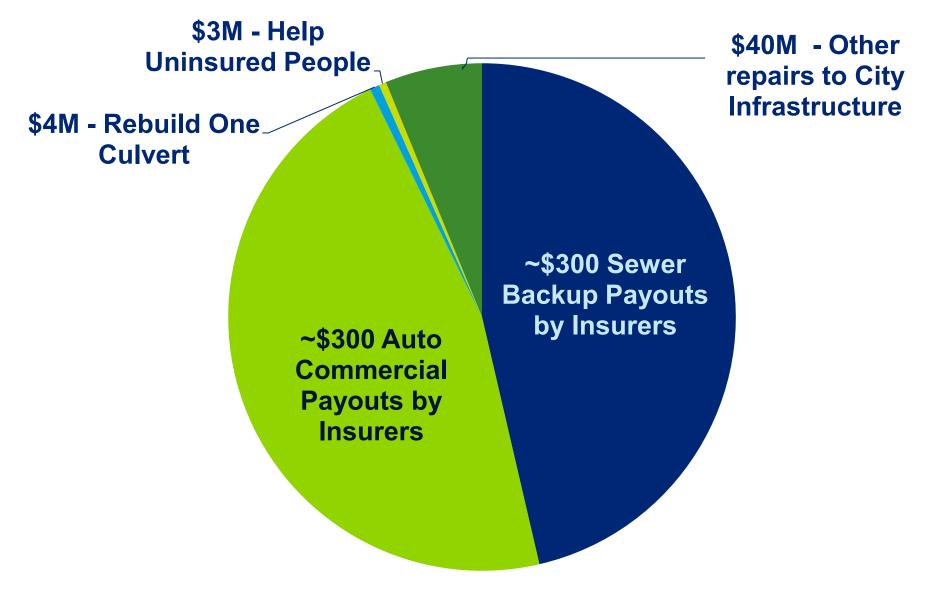








### **Toronto: August 2005 Storm**



TOTAL \$647 Million



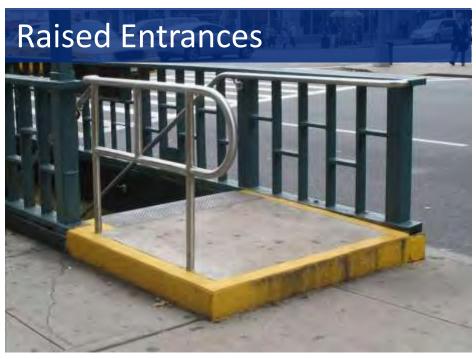


#### We are not alone



# **New York City**









#### **Toronto is Taking Action on Adaptation**



## Climate Change Risk Assessment

Process & Tool developed (Deloitte)

#### 2 Pilots completed:

Roads dept. & Shelter / Support

Roads dept.



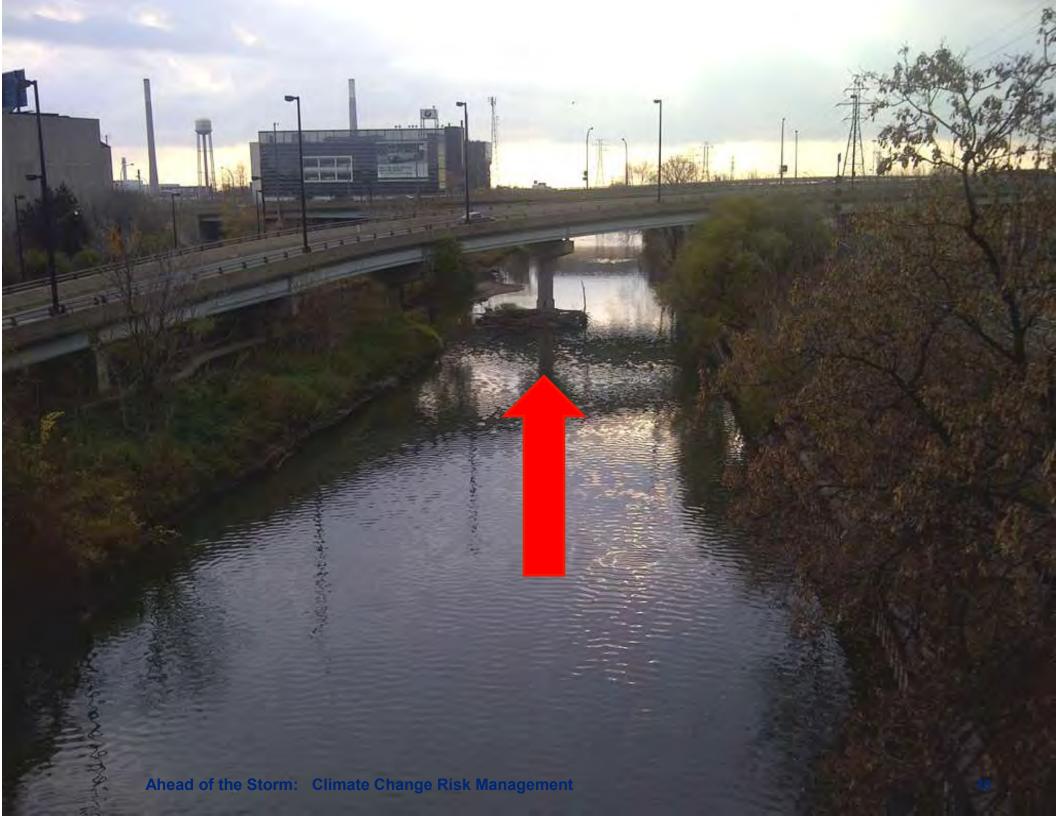
\$12.1 B replacement value

- time periods: now & 2040
- 7 extreme weather types
- 90 critical asset & service classes
- 15 workshops
- 1700 risk scenarios

















# Increasing the tree canopy

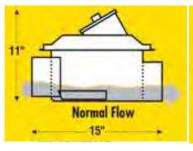


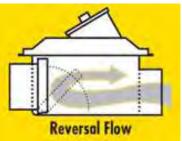
# Residential flood protection

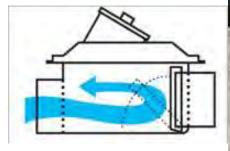


Lot grading

#### Sewer backflow valve







## **Green roofs**



# New collaboration: WeatherWise Partnership





## WeatherWise Partnership

## **60 Membership Organizations**

 Insurance, Banking, Telecom, Transportation, Electrical, Real estate, Water, 3 levels of gov't

## **Purpose**

 ID & manage risks due to extreme weather in Toronto region

### Focus for 2012

Regional electrical power system risk assessment

## City's Adaptation Responsibilities

- Air Conditioning Peaks & Blackouts Toronto Hydro
- Storms & Urban Flooding
  Toronto Water
- Culverts & City Roads
  Toronto Transportation
- Gardens & Trees
  Toronto Parks & Recreation
- Storms Toronto Region Conservation Authority
- People in Need Shelter, Support & Housing
- Street Ventilation (re Smog etc)
  City Planning



## **Adaptation Opportunities**

- Weather insurance products
- Investment risk analysis
- Infrastructure design
- Construction and rehab
- Water quality & quantity
- Risk management
- Climate Information

Insurance

**Banking** 

**Engineers** 

Construction

**Water Tech Companies** 

Legal & Consulting firms

**Scientists** 



#### **Conclusions**

- Our Future Weather Will Be Different with an increase in extreme weather events
- Greenhouse gas reduction actions are essential
- We Must Continue to Adapt to the Changes
- There are local & international <u>opportunities</u> for those with solutions



## Thank you

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www.toronto.ca/teo/adaptation

