



Media Release

Victoria State Emergency Service

VICSES and Shepparton Search and Rescue work as one

Monday 13 May 2019

Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) and Shepparton Search and Rescue (SS&RS) have signed a new memorandum of understanding, securing an ongoing collaboration.

The new MOU replaces the previous commitment made five years ago.

The agreement will ensure that we can work as one, regarding day-to-day planning and emergency response, particularly when we see large scale emergencies affecting the Shepparton area.

Shepparton is a point of focus for VICSES, as it faces a high flood risk for a regional center of its size.

Shepparton has a long history of flooding, which includes events in 1870, 1916, 1974, 1993 and, most recently, in 2010, when 13 houses and 31 building were flooded and 620 houses were isolated.

VICSES is the control agency for flood, storm, earthquake, landslide and tsunami with over 5000 volunteers who help manage response to these emergencies and support communities when preparing for them.

SS&RS is a Shepparton based Volunteer Rescue Organisation which has been providing rescue services to their local community since 1972.

Quotes attributable to Tim Wiebusch, VICSES Chief Officer

“This MOU is about taking the partnership between Victoria State Emergency and Shepparton Search and Rescue to another level and it allows us to continue to provide a crucial service to the Shepparton community.”

“We’ve long recognised the excellent service Shepparton Search and Rescue provides during emergencies and we are keen to strengthen this relationship into the future.”

Quotes attributable to, Michael D’Elia, President of Shepparton Search and Rescue

The Shepparton Search & Rescue Squad is very pleased to be able to continue our strong relationship with VICSES, particularly the VICSES Tatura Unit who we work with on a regular basis with.”

This MOU shows a commitment by both organisations to work together and ensure the services provided to our community are of the highest quality, and what the community sees, is a seamless and efficient response to all emergencies”.

For more information, contact:

VICSES State Media Duty Officer
Phone: 1300 783 933
Email: media@ses.vic.gov.au