

Dam Safety Regulation: A collaborative approach

2017 AIPA Water Conference
November 22, 2017 – Lethbridge, AB
Javid Iqbal, Manager Dam Safety
Alberta Environment and Parks

Presentation Outline

- **Who we are? and What we do?**
- **Why dam safety is important?**
- **What is the plan to ensure safety of dams?**
- **Where are we heading?**

Alberta 

Who we are? and What we do?

Who we are? and What we do?

Dam Safety Team

- **Operations Infrastructure Branch (OIB),
Operations Division, Alberta Environment and
Parks**

www.damsafety.alberta.ca

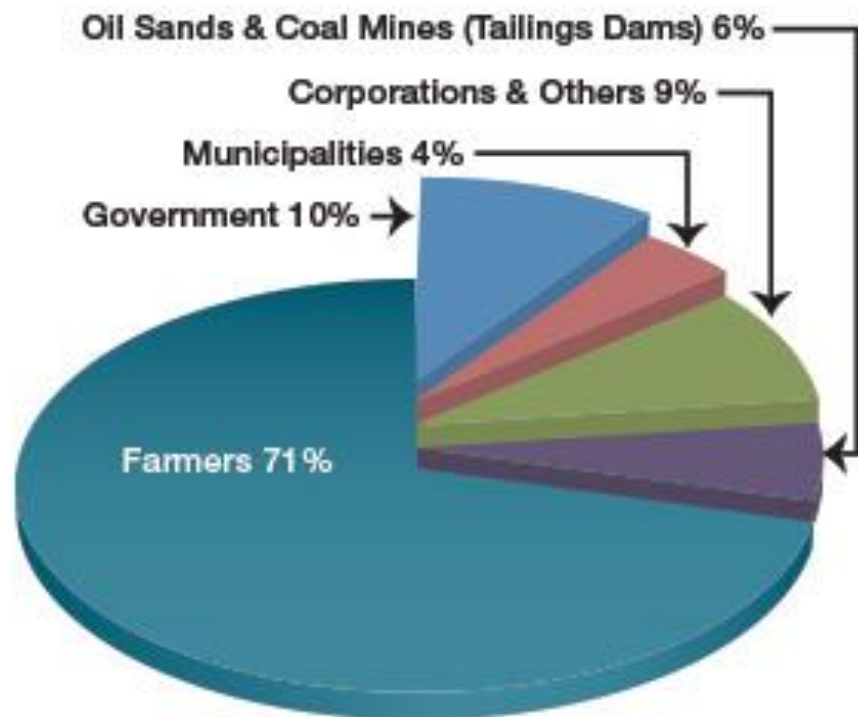
Who we are? and What we do?

Dam Safety Team

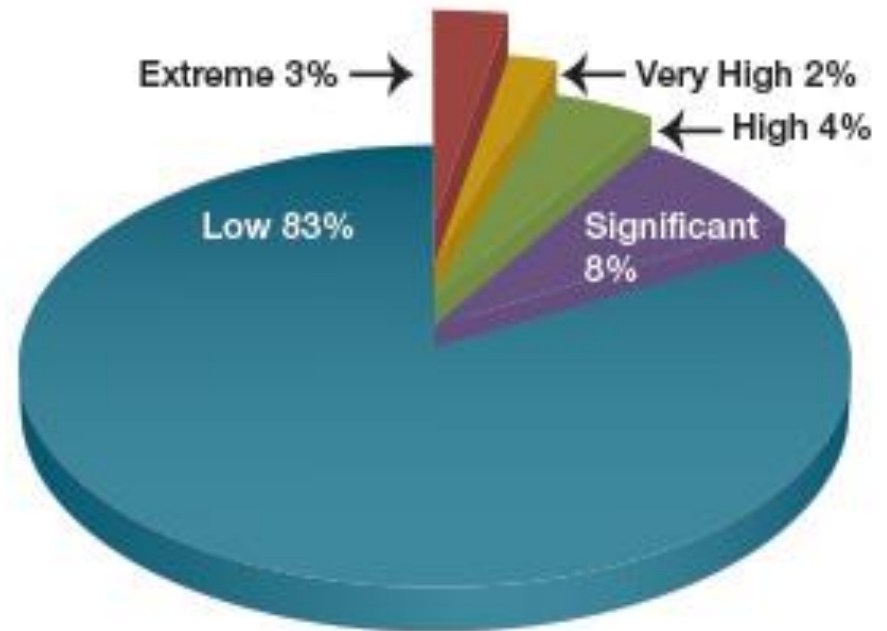
- **Regulate safety of dams in Alberta**

Who we are? and What we do?

Dam Safety Team



Alberta Dams Ownership

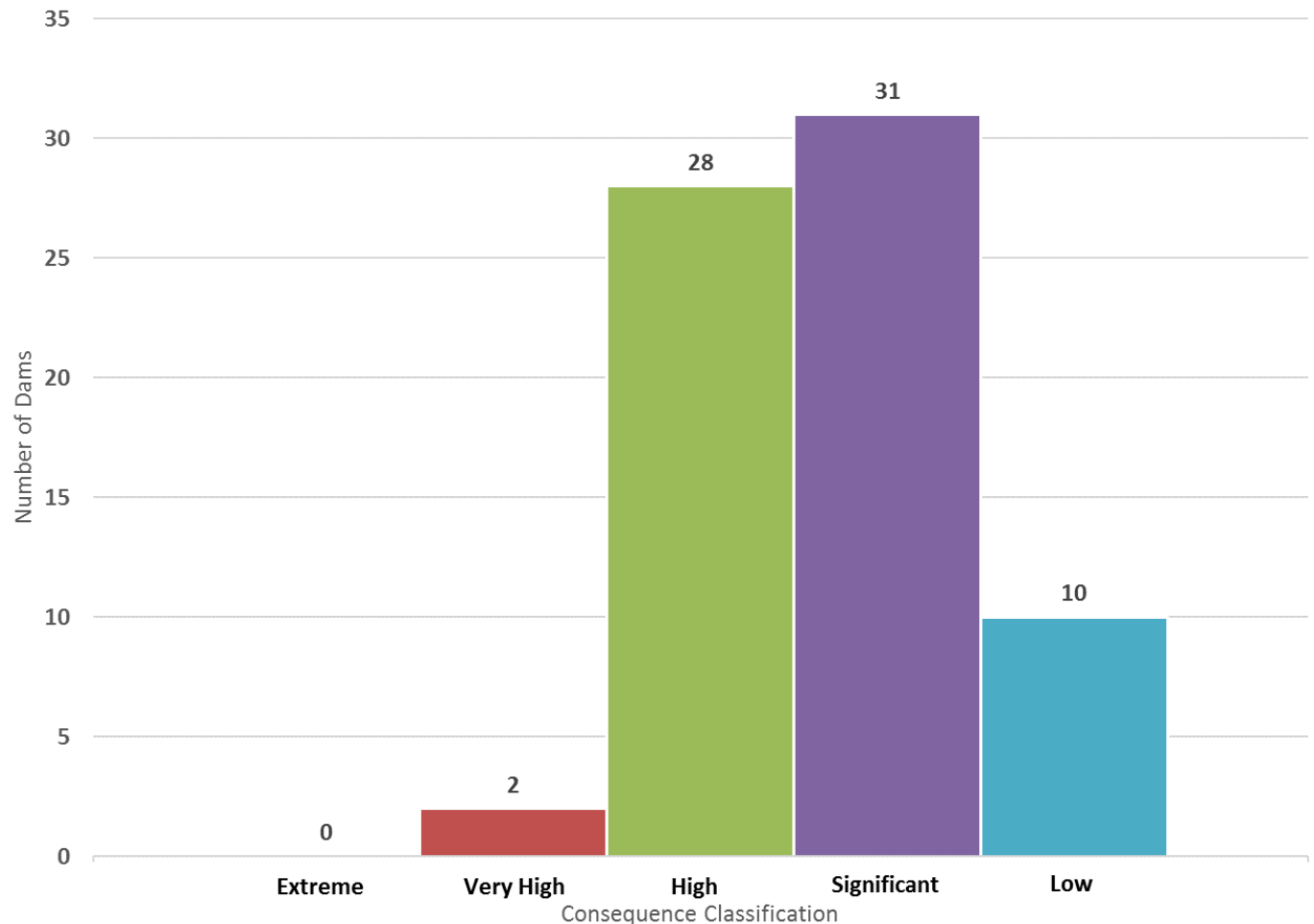


Inventory of Dams in Alberta by Consequence Classification

Who we are? and What we do?

Dam Safety Team

- Irrigation Districts



Who we are? and What we do?

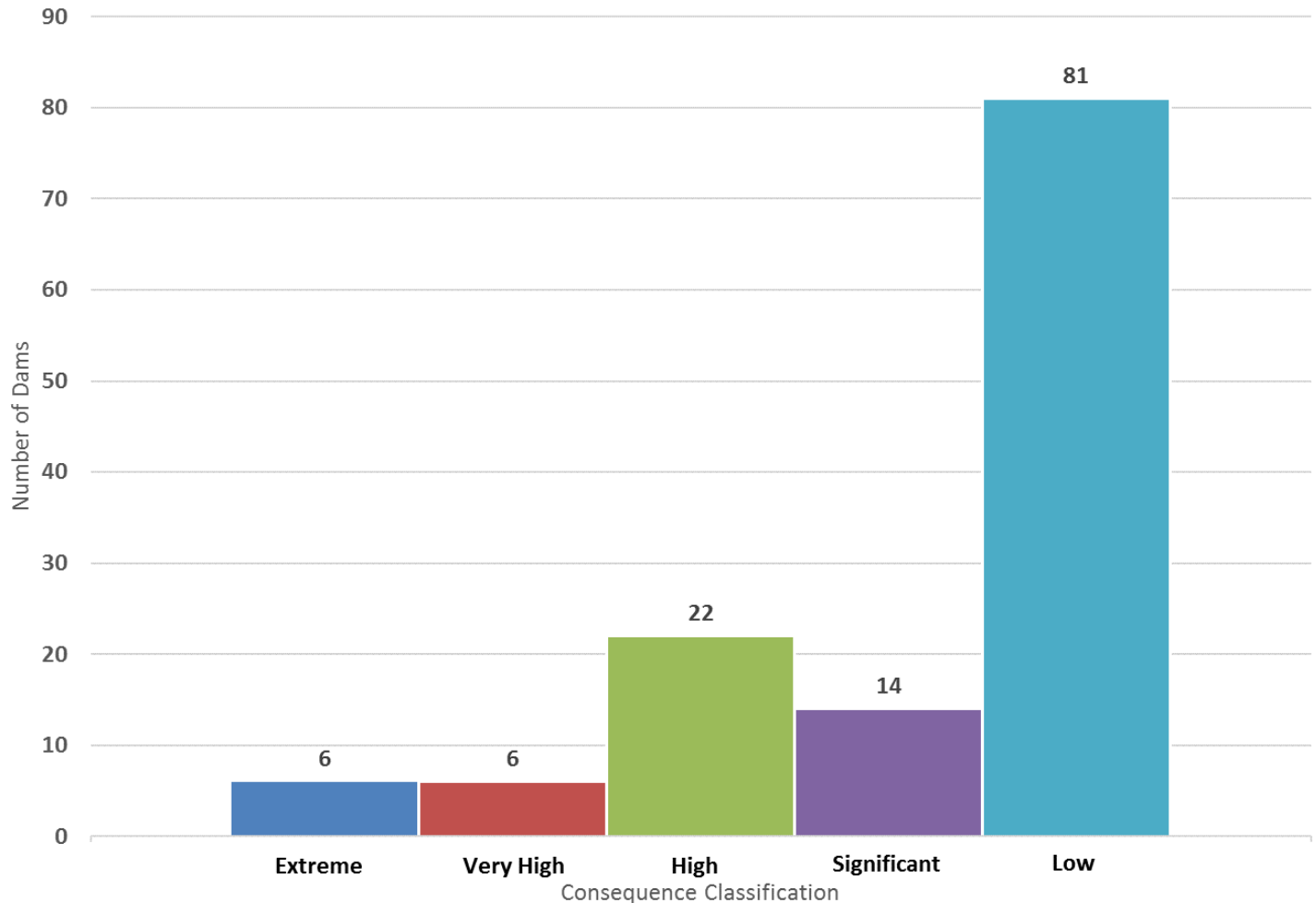
Dam Safety Team

- Provide technical support to our operations staff for development and implementation of Dam Safety Management Program for the dams that are owned and operated by the Department

Who we are? and What we do?

Dam Safety Team

- GoA
Dams



Why dam safety?

Why dam safety?

Importance of Dam Safety

- To ensure public safety
- To minimize environmental and economic losses
- To ensure reliable supply of water
- To ensure sustainable water supply with aging infrastructure and climate change

What is the plan?

What is the plan?

Building a Collaborative Culture

- **By shaping our culture intentionally so that organizations and individuals that have different cultures can be aligned to the goals that we are trying to achieve by finding unifying themes**

What is the plan?

Building a Collaborative Culture

- i.e. modifying regulatory activities in a way that is aligned with the goals we are trying to achieve; because if we continue doing things one way because that is how we have always done it; there is a huge disadvantage *if we are trying to achieve something radically different,*

What is the plan?

What is changing?

- Moving from regulation with a check list
to
regulation with heart and mind approach



What is the plan?

What is the difference?

- **It means that instead of using a check list to ensure regulatory compliance we are working on reinventing our stakeholder engagement processes to enhance education on dam safety management and prevention of dam safety incidents**

What is the plan?

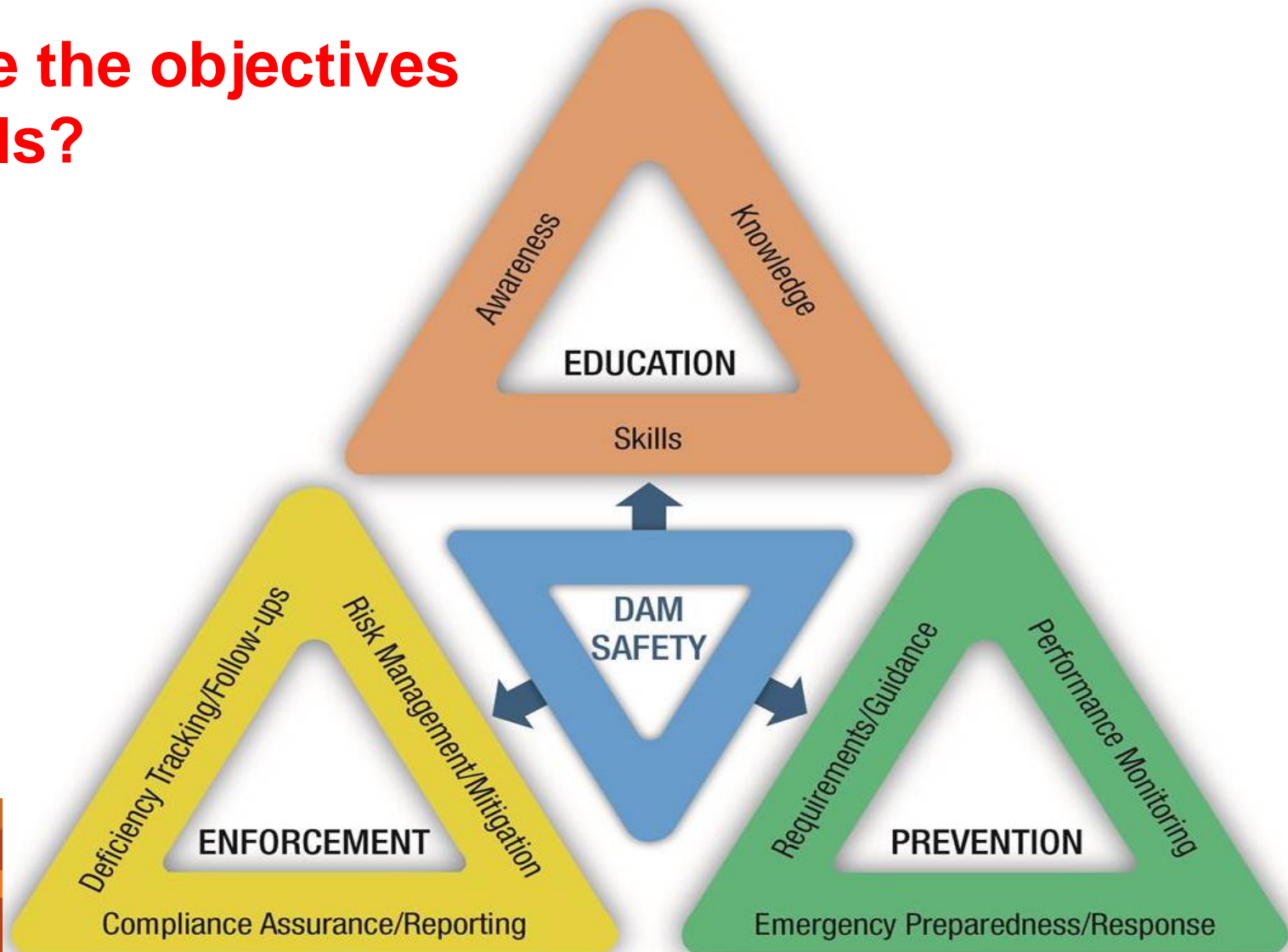
What are the objectives and goals?



Alberta

What is the plan?

What are the objectives and goals?



Alberta

Where are we heading?

Where are we heading?

Education?

- **Setting-up a committee to plan and deliver Annual Alberta Dam Safety Seminar and Technical Workshops**
- **Targeted technical workshops will be arranged on OM&S and emergency management**

Where are we heading?

Prevention?

- **Ensuring that regulatory requirements are clear, consistent and measureable**
- **Performance monitoring by developing tools for supporting activities and sharing information**
- **Emergency preparedness and response**

Where are we heading?

Enforcement?

- **Upgrading dam safety database for tracking deficiencies and follow-ups**
- **Risk informed decision making for dam safety risk management/ mitigation**
- **Reporting on compliance assurance**

Thank you!

Website: www.damsafety.alberta.ca

Email: dam.safety@gov.ab.ca