

Jodi Manz-Henezi, BSc, BA, MA-DEM

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Jodi is currently working as the Academic Chair for the Emergency Management Program at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT), a Leading Polytechnic. Prior to that, Jodi worked in healthcare in a leadership role specializing in Executive Education and Coaching, Leadership Development, Organizational Development, Employee Development, Change Management and Team Effectiveness. Her specialty was in working with multi-disciplinary teams, in a high stakes environment, to help them be more effective together – a concept that can be directly applied to the field of EM! She also supported a variety of E/DM work in the organization from education development and training, to providing back up to senior leadership for the Zone EOC. Jodi is also a longtime volunteer with the Canadian Red Cross, both as a DM responder and a DM educator, and has on the ground experience supporting affected individuals and communities in the Southern Alberta floods and Fort McMurray wildfire. Jodi holds a Bachelor's degree in Ecology and another in Classical Studies from the University of Calgary, as well a Master's Degree in Disaster and Emergency Management from Royal Roads University, where she was also the recipient of the Chancellors Award for Highest Academic Distinction. Her area of interest is around social innovation and increasing resiliency for “ends of the spectrum” populations (youth and the elderly). Jodi is also very interested in exploring the ecological constructs around disaster and how systems connect to either promote or reduce vulnerability.

Jodi continues to provide awareness and preparedness education in her community along with her two children, who were recognized as two of the youngest volunteers in the Red Cross. She will be participating in the discussions with other Academic Program Leaders to better understand the post-secondary needs and challenges for formalized EM training in Canada and she will also be co-chairing the Young Professionals Committee with Bettina Falloon. Jodi currently resides in Lacombe, Alberta with her children and RCMP husband. In her spare time she is apprenticing in the art of stained glass, and focuses on creating/recreating images of “*mother nature and all her power*” and is currently working on a tribute piece for the Fort McMurray wildfire.

Jodi can be contacted by email at: jodim@nait.ca