



January 15, 2009

Regional District Prepares to Implement 9-1-1 Emergency Telephone Service

Installation of the telecommunication network that will bring 9-1-1 service to most communities within the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine is now in its final stages. Once active, over 90% of the population of the RDKS will benefit from the emergency telephone service

On February 4, 2009, the 9-1-1 system will be turned on and residents living in Stewart and in the areas of Terrace, Kitimat, and the Hazeltons including Kitwanga, Kispiox, and Moricetown will be able to access emergency services with just one number.

As part of its mandate, the RDKS has embarked upon an education campaign aimed at bringing the 9-1-1 message to students throughout the Coast Mountain School District. In co-operation with the primary and elementary schools in the district, emergency service personnel from participating RCMP detachments, BCAS stations, and Fire Departments will be attending general assemblies over the final two weeks of January 2009 to talk to the children about the importance of 9-1-1 emergency telephone service. The RDKS is providing the schools with materials to help the children take that message back home to their families. There will be colouring books for the Kindergarten to Grade Three students along with flyers and wristbands for all of the students K to Grade 7.

Also as part of its preparation, the RDKS along with emergency service representatives is encouraging local residents to make sure that they have their correct street address posted. The address should be displayed prominently so that it can be easily seen from the road – day or night. If residents are unsure of their correct address, they can simply contact the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine or their local municipal or village office.

Of special note is some rural areas of the Regional District are not located within a fire protection area and do not have a responding fire department. 9-1-1 service will not change this – rural residents should determine if they live within a fire protection area and whether a 9-1-1 fire call will dispatch a responding fire department.

For more information contact:
Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine
Suite 300 4545 Lazelle Avenue
Terrace, BC V8G 4E1
250-615-6100 ph
250-635-9222 fax
1-800-663-3208
info@rdks.bc.ca
www.rdks.bc.ca