

Executive Summary

Introduction

The Regional District of Kitimat – Stikine (RDKS) Emergency Management Program has been established to provide for an integrated and effective approach to emergency preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation. The Emergency Plan and its appendices form the basis of the Emergency Management Program. The Emergency Plan provides the policies and procedures for responding to and recovering from any emergency that may occur within Regional District boundaries.

The Emergency Plan is based on the BC Emergency Response Management System and is intended to meet the requirements of the *Emergency Program Act* and Regulation. The policies and procedures contained within this document are also intended to work cooperatively with other internal and external Emergency Plans, agency partners and emergency responders.

Program Purpose & Mission

The purpose of the RDKS Emergency Management Program is described in the following mission statement:

The purpose of the Regional District of Kitimat – Stikine Emergency Management Program is to maintain a comprehensive and cooperative program that reflects all components of emergency management in order to protect people, property and the environment in the event of an emergency or disaster.

Program Goals & Objectives

The goals of the Regional District of Kitimat – Stikine (RDKS) Emergency Management Program are as follows:

- To provide a comprehensive emergency management program that includes assessing and mitigating risks and planning for response and recovery;
- To maintain an updated Emergency Plan that is complimented by training and exercising; and,
- To work cooperatively with member municipalities, neighboring local governments and local, regional, provincial and federal response agencies.

The objectives of the program are as follows:

- Establish and maintain a cooperative program organization;
- Continually assess risks;

- Mitigate risks;
- Plan for response;
- Plan for recovery;
- Ensure preparedness; and,
- Evaluate and renew the program.

Emergency Plan and Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) Activation

The Regional Board has provided authority to the Emergency Program Coordinator, Chief Administrative Officer and/or Incident Commander to activate the RDKS Emergency Plan, and subsequently, the Emergency Operations Centre. Two (2) locations for the EOC have been identified: the Regional District Board Room in Terrace and the Thornhill Fire Hall in Thornhill. Use of the either Emergency Operations Centre facility will be determined by the circumstances, location, nature and severity of the emergency and/or disaster.

Use of the Emergency Plan, its Hazard Plans and Supporting Documentation

The RDKS Emergency Plan provides guidelines, policies and procedures for activating and managing an Emergency Operations Centre and responding to specific emergencies as identified in the Hazard, Risk & Vulnerability Analysis. Also contained in the document is a listing of supporting documents that can be referenced during EOC activation as well as a contact and resource directory for individuals, organizations and businesses that may provide assistance to the RDKS during EOC activations.

The RDKS will train its staff and volunteers to effectively utilize the Emergency Plan during emergencies and disasters and maintain the Emergency Plan and its two identifiable EOCs in a state of readiness.