



PUBLIC NOTICE

January 23, 2018 Evacuation Statement

The early morning earthquake on January 23rd led to the evacuation of many coastal communities in BC and Alaska. The District of Stewart received notification of the event from Emergency Management BC at 2:57 am, and within minutes the District of Stewart commenced a full-scale evacuation of the community. This included activating the emergency warning sirens, initiating a OneCall recorded message to registered phone numbers, individually contacting and offering support to vulnerable individuals and conducting neighborhood sweeps with targeted door to door efforts by the RCMP, District of Stewart staff and community volunteers.

Evacuees were directed to a designated area of high ground on Highway 37A past the turnoff to Clements Lake where BC Ambulance waited on stand-by to assist with medical emergencies.

At 4:23 am the District of Stewart received notification that the Tsunami warning was cancelled, and residents were safe to return home. At that time, the District of Stewart turned off the emergency sirens, advised First Responders and sent an updated message through OneCall.

The District of Stewart would like to thank all the residents that responded to our evacuation efforts. Your ability to act quickly yet remain calm and orderly is appreciated and will save lives in the event of a true disaster.

For any household that did not receive notification of the emergency:

Please contact the District of Stewart to add or update your information to our emergency contact list: (250) 636-2251

The District of Stewart is currently revising our community's Emergency Management Program and improving our capacity to Plan, Respond and Recover from local emergencies.

For more information or to get involved with a planning committee:

please contact the District of Stewart's Emergency Program Coordinator, Kimberly Jewkes at: (236) 749-2012