



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FORUM AIMS TO PREPARE HAIDA GWAI RESIDENTS FOR A MAJOR TSUNAMI**

An upcoming forum looks to educate Haida Gwaii residents on emergency preparedness and tsunami hazards.

Tsunami public education forums scheduled for February 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in various communities throughout Haida Gwaii will include representatives from Emergency Management BC, Environment Canada and local governments.

In the past two years there have been two tsunami warnings triggered by earthquakes — one in October, 2012 and one in January, 2013.

The forum will include a presentation on the basics of tsunamis by Teron Moore, Seismic Specialist with Emergency Management BC, as well as detailed information on Environment Canada's Weatheradio - a network of radio transmitters stretching from the Gulf of Mexico into Canada's Arctic and from Newfoundland to Vancouver Island to provide continuous broadcasts of weather information and instant updates when weather threatens - from an Environment Canada weather services specialist, Anne McCarthy.

"The foundation of emergency management is predicated on the ability of individuals to ensure that they are prepared for emergencies on a personal level, in their homes and workplaces," said Maurie Hurst, northwest regional manager for Emergency Management BC.

A question and answer period will wrap up the forum, with Hurst and other officials from Emergency Management BC and Environment Canada fielding questions from Haida Gwaii residents.

The tsunami public education forum will take place in the various locations throughout Haida Gwaii on February 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The forum is open to everyone, and all Haida Gwaii residents are strongly encouraged to attend. For more detailed information on the upcoming emergency management forum in your community, please visit your community's website, the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District's website, or watch for information in upcoming issues of *the Observer*.

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#### **For more information:**

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