

Emergency Management Oceanside Supports Flooding Situation

During the extreme weather and flooding in mid November, Emergency Management Oceanside activated emergency reception centres in Parksville and Qualicum Beach. The centres provided short-term assistance to residents in the Regional District of Nanaimo who were forced to leave their homes because of flooding. Areas affected were Martindale Road, Parksville and Cedar Grove Campground, Qualicum Beach. As well, the emergency support services reception centre accommodated residents from Halalt First Nation near Chemainus who were displaced because of flooding.

Under the Provincial Statement of Emergency, in anticipation of further flooding, Emergency Management BC requested local governments to support the possibility of additional evacuations. Emergency Management Oceanside responded to the request by setting up a reception centre in the Parksville Community Centre on November 26; the reception centre in the PCC remains in place. EMO services were on notice to provide support if required.

At any time, Emergency Management Oceanside is prepared to provide group lodging support to our residents as well as those evacuated from anywhere in the province should the need arise. Our volunteers are qualified and available to setup group lodgings when required. EMO relies on the ongoing support of community volunteers for two crucial programs, Oceanside Emergency Support Services and the Oceanside Emergency Communications Team. We wish to sincerely thank our volunteers for their dedication and ongoing support of these programs.

As well, EMO appreciates our local businesses which support the emergency support services function - Parksville Quality Foods, Qualicum Foods, Save-on-Foods, Shoppers Drug Mart, The Medicine Shop, SOS Thrift Shop, Smitty's Restaurant, Gary's Bistro, and Oceanside Taxi. Oceanside Emergency Support Services is also supported by the accommodation sector - Bayside Oceanfront Resort, Casa Grande Inn, Qualicum Beach Inn, Ocean Crest Motel, Skylite Motel, Paradise Seashell Motel, and Coast Parksville Hotel.

Emergency Management Oceanside is a partnership between the City of Parksville and the Town of Qualicum Beach to provide emergency support and disaster services to residents of the Parksville-Qualicum Beach region. Information about emergency services in the Parksville-Qualicum Beach area, as well as how to volunteer, please refer to EMO's [website](http://www.emergencyoceanside.ca).

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