

Emergency Preparedness Week in Parksville - May 2-8

Parksville, BC – Emergency Preparedness Week (EP Week) is an annual event held across Canada during the first week of May. EP week from May 2 to May 8 will be recognized in Oceanside with a regional approach to a number of activities that include emergency operations and communications demonstrations on Thursday, May 6 from noon to 3 pm at the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre.

The goal of EP Week for the City of Parksville is to raise awareness to the importance of being prepared - personally, as a family and in the workplace. Three simple steps can help us prepare for all types of emergencies - having an emergency kit; making an emergency plan; and identifying risks where we live.

Said Mayor Ed Mayne, "While emergency preparedness is a shared responsibility among all levels of governments, preparing ultimately starts at home." EP week this year is focused on helping individuals prepare to cope on their own for at least the first 72 hours of an emergency.

This year, Emergency Preparedness Week will expand on previous year's activities. A display will be set up for the week in the atrium at the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre (PCTC), 100 Jensen Avenue East with information regarding the City of Parksville Emergency Program, Emergency Social Services and Emergency Communications Teams. The display will provide take home information on personal preparedness and the critical role of volunteers and how to volunteer for one of the groups that support emergency response.

May 6 Activities

In addition to the week-long display, the City of Parksville will open the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) to the public again this year with the addition of a portable Emergency Social Services (ESS) Registration Centre and a portable Emergency Communications Team (ECT) display. The interactive displays will be open to the public for viewing and questions from noon to 3 pm on Thursday May 6, 2010. The ESS and ECT displays will be held on the grass behind the PCTC and the EOC will be set up in the Forum of the PCTC. On behalf of the Town of Qualicum Beach and the Regional District of Nanaimo, The City of Parksville invites all residents of District 69 to attend, ask questions and learn how to be prepared for an emergency.

If you are unable to attend and would like further information, please visit www.parksville.ca for information and links to provincial and federal emergency preparedness websites (www.getprepared.ca).

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For more information:

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