

News Release | Tsunami Preparedness Week | High Ground Hike

March 30, 2022

Nuxalk Nation co-hosting Virtual High Ground Hike

Nuxalk Nation – Nuxalk Nation is joining several coastal and Island communities, from Stewart to Victoria, in hosting Virtual High Ground Hikes and a selfie contest during Tsunami Preparedness Week, April 10 - 16.

"We're very pleased to be part of this event," shared Emergency Management Coordinator, Iris Siwallace. "We live in a seismically active zone, which makes tsunamis a very real risk. We all need to be prepared by knowing our tsunami-safe location and how to get there with our grab-and-go bags. Taking part in the 2022 virtual High Ground Hike is a fun way to prepare and practice."

The event, coordinated by PreparedBC and co-hosted by the Nuxalk Nation encourages residents to take a first step in preparing for a tsunami and have some fun in the process. It's easy to participate, and when you enter the #HighGroundSelfie22 contest, you could win one of 47 prizes from PreparedBC.

First, go to our tsunami-safe location. We have four, if you're at any of these areas:

The Harbour if there is time, up valley locations are located in Bella Coola, 4 Mile, or beyond North Grant Road. If there is no time, go west on North Bentick Forest Road beyond Sutley Point (but not down to BC Hydro site and picnic area).

Bella Coola 20 m elevation is above the Co-op store so people need to evacuate above the location, east to 4 Mile, or beyond North Grant Road.

4-Mile Reserve 20 m elevation is immediately north of Hwy 20 so residential areas are outside the tsunami zone.

Valley the river flood plain is 20 m above sea level at North Grand Road. People on the river flood plain west of North Grant Road should proceed to higher elevation areas.

Take a selfie at high ground (our tsunami-safe locations).

Then, between April 10-16, post your selfie to Facebook or Twitter, tag @PreparedBC and use the hashtag #HighGroundSelfie22.

Win even more prizes, being given away locally, when you also include the hashtag #NuxalkHGH

"A tsunami caused by a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake could hit the B.C. coast in as little as 15 minutes, which is why it's critical to practice getting to high ground," said Siwallace. "A prepared community is a resilient community. We hope to see lots of selfies from our tsunami-safe (high ground) location(s)."

Visit Nuxalk Nation EOC Information on Facebook or the Central Coast Regional District's (CCRD) website www.ccrd.ca to learn more about:

- the #HighGroundSelfie22 contest
- Nuxalk high ground location(s)
- Nuxalk evacuation route(s)
- Nuxalk tsunami notification process
- Nuxalk tsunami notification zone

Learn more about tsunami preparedness:

- PreparedBC: www.gov.bc.ca/PreparedBC

For more information, contact:

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