

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Emergency Preparedness Week is May 2 to May 8, 2021**

*Emergency Preparedness: Be Ready for Anything!*

#### **Summary**

Being prepared is important and something the whole family can do. As Emergency Preparedness Week approaches, the City of Nanaimo is encouraging residents to prepare for an emergency by making a kit, drafting up a plan and signing up for the City's Voyent Alert! Emergency Notification System.

Natural disasters may be beyond our control, but there are ways to reduce the risk and the impact of whatever emergency we might face - whether natural or human-induced. By taking a few simple steps, you can become better prepared to face a range of emergencies – anytime, anywhere. It is important to:

- Know the risks – Although the consequences of disasters can be similar, knowing the risks specific to our community and our region can help you better prepare.
- Make a plan – It will help you and your family know what to do
- Get an emergency kit – During an emergency, we will all need some basic supplies. We may need to get by without power or tap water.

From May 2 to May 8, the City of Nanaimo encourages residents to take concrete actions to be better prepared. Experience has shown that individual preparedness goes a long way to help people cope better - both during and after a major disaster. It can make a world of difference.

For more information about how you can prepare for emergencies and to make a kit, visit [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/emergencykit](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/emergencykit) or the Province of BC website [www.gov.bc.ca/preparedbc](http://www.gov.bc.ca/preparedbc).

*Strategic Link:* Providing information and resources for residents to be prepared for an emergency supports a livable community.

#### **Key Points**

- Emergency Preparedness Week is a national event coordinated by Public Safety Canada.
- The City of Nanaimo is encouraging residents to make a kit during this week or check their kits if you already have one.
- Emergency Preparedness: Be Ready for Anything! Know the risks in the community and prepare for emergencies.
- Voyent Alert! can send emergency information a variety of ways. Residents can choose to receive a push notifications through the Voyent Alert! smartphone app, an email, text or a phone call are also options should

there be a local emergency impacting City of Nanaimo residents. Visit [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/alerts](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/alerts) to learn more and sign up.

## Quotes

"As citizens we have to work together and support the collective response to COVID-19 and reduce the risks found in our community. We realize now more than ever how important it is to prepare for the unexpected. Many City of Nanaimo residents have started to build an emergency kit and there is no time like today to complete it. A few simple actions will help you build upon all of the hard work you already have in place".

Leonard Krog  
Mayor  
City of Nanaimo

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