News Release

North Shore Wide Emergency Exercise ‘Operation Windshield’ on Nov. 16

Nov. 3, 2015

North Shore Emergency Management (NSEM), the North Shore’s tri-municipal emergency agency is executing a North Shore wide large scale emergency simulation event that will cover land, sea and air. This will be the largest and most realistic emergency training exercise ever conducted in the three municipalities.

‘Operation Windshield’ is a full scale earthquake scenario drill planned by NSEM which will involve several departments of the City of North Vancouver, Districts of North and West Vancouver, as well as various regional, provincial and municipal agencies, utilities and volunteer organizations.

The exercise will be conducted in real time and will assess the response of fire crews and damage assessment teams among many other groups. Some of the participating agencies are Coast Guard Canada, Emergency Management BC, Port Metro Vancouver, CN Rail, BC Ambulance, Lions Gate Hospital, North Shore Rescue, TransLink, BC Ferries, and others.

“This will be the largest multi-agency exercise NSEM has ever conducted, and the most realistic,” says Mike Andrews, Emergency Planning Officer, North Shore Emergency Management Office. "Operation Windshield will test our rapid damage assessment ability, GIS systems, transportation logistics, technology, marine operations, air resources and inter-agency coordination. NSEM has conducted many exercises involving our North Shore municipalities over the years and this will be the most visible to the public as it will engage emergency response vehicles, marine vessels, drones and helicopters.”

The City of North Vancouver and Districts of North and West Vancouver are committed to emergency preparedness and supporting their communities in the event of any crisis situation. This NSEM event will further prepare the North Shore municipalities and responding agencies for their role as leaders and key resources in the event of a real emergency.

Members of the media are invited to observe and participate in the emergency training exercise.

The public is encouraged to be informed of real emergencies by following North Shore Emergency Management on Twitter and sign up for RapidNotify. Information about emergency preparedness and workshops at www.nsemo.org

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