

NORTH ISLAND 9-1-1 CORPORATION

- serving the Regional Districts of Alberni-Clayoquot, Comox-Strathcona,
Mt. Waddington, Nanaimo (School District #69) and Powell River -

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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NORTH ISLAND 9-1-1 LAUNCHES PUBLIC WEBSITE

The North Island 911 Corporation has launched a website to provide the public with information about this uniquely-structured emergency response organization and to give useful information on using the service.

“This website will help explain what is – and is not – an emergency, and also outlines how emergency response for the coverage area is handled,” says Bill Matthews, president of the corporation. “North Island 9-1-1 provides an emergency communication link from our citizens and visitors to the emergency responders serving our geographic area.”

The North Island 9-1-1 Corporation was established in 1995 to manage provision of 9-1-1 to the Regional Districts of Comox-Strathcona (RDCS), Mt Waddington, Alberni-Clayoquot and a portion of the Nanaimo Regional District. The Powell River Regional District joined the service in 1999, and the Corporation has worked cooperatively to provide fire, police and ambulance response for those areas ever since.

“It is an emergency when life or property is in immediate danger or any serious crime is in progress. For example: if you smell smoke, see a fire, have a medical emergency, or see someone breaking into a building, that’s the time to call 9-1-1,” says Matthews.

It’s very important that the street numbers of homes and businesses are clearly visible in order for emergency vehicles to respond quickly if they are dispatched as a result of a 9-1-1 call. As well, in some areas such as the RDCS, computer mapping can immediately track the call as it comes in based on the house or business number. To view a similar computer mapping system, visit the RDCS website at www.rdcs.bc.ca and click on the IMAP icon.

For a full explanation of what constitutes a 9-1-1 emergency, how the calls are relayed, and practical tips on making 9-1-1 calls, visit the new website at www.nisl911.bc.ca. The website also has information on how free presentations can be booked for organizations and community groups in the 9-1-1 coverage area.

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