

Exercise Coastal Response Lessons Learned

Carol McClintock
Executive Director,
Organizational Learning & Public Education, EMBC

Exercise Concept

- First provincially led full-scale exercise (\$1.2M)
- High degree of realism, moving people and equipment
- Key Objectives:
 - Activating and testing elements of BCs Earthquake Immediate Response Plan
 - Strengthening stakeholder relationships



Planning Timeline

Top

Exercise

Planning

Conference

Initial Table Main EOC Final Work Continues

Exercise

Planning

Conference

Planning

Conference

Key Functions



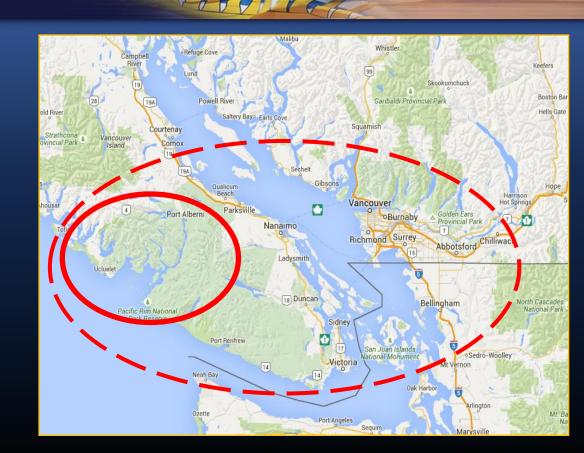
Participation

- Over 65 gov't agencies and NGOs, 600+ Emergency Management personnel, and 300+ volunteers from Port Alberni, Ucluelet, Bamfield
- Training audience: PECC, PREOCs, and EOCs
- Observer program with international participation



Scope of Play

- Provincial impacts
- Localized play



EOC, PREOC, PECC









Health



Ucluelet, Bamfield



705



HUSAR



Roll Out

DAY 1	DAYS 2-4
Magnitude 9 earthquake & tsunami	Relief resources continue to augment locally
BC Immediate Response Plan activated	Provincial staging areas become operational
PECC/PREOCs activated to level 3	Relief efforts focussed on regional impacts
Requests for additional assistance made	Increased agency coordination/participation
Emergency relief deployments begin	Federal relief efforts flowing into BC





Evaluation

- Structured process
- External lead evaluator
- Numerous means of feedback/observations
- Regular debrief sessions planned into events



Lessons Learned

- Interagency cooperation is key to success
- Increased staffing capacity needed to sustain operations
- Catastrophic plans require more refinement
- Upgrading of tools, technology and information management
- Ongoing joint training and exercising is critical

Specifically



AAR Report

Key Points

- Successful overall, validated specific items of IRP
- Participation exceeded expectations, particularly with partnered exercises
- Validated the planning process, template for future exercise cycle
- Effectively practices EM staff in process and procedures
- 12 months is too short a time frame for proper planning, need 24 to 36 months
- Conduct jointly planned Exercise rather than separate exercises
- Identified numerous areas for improvement, focus of this conference



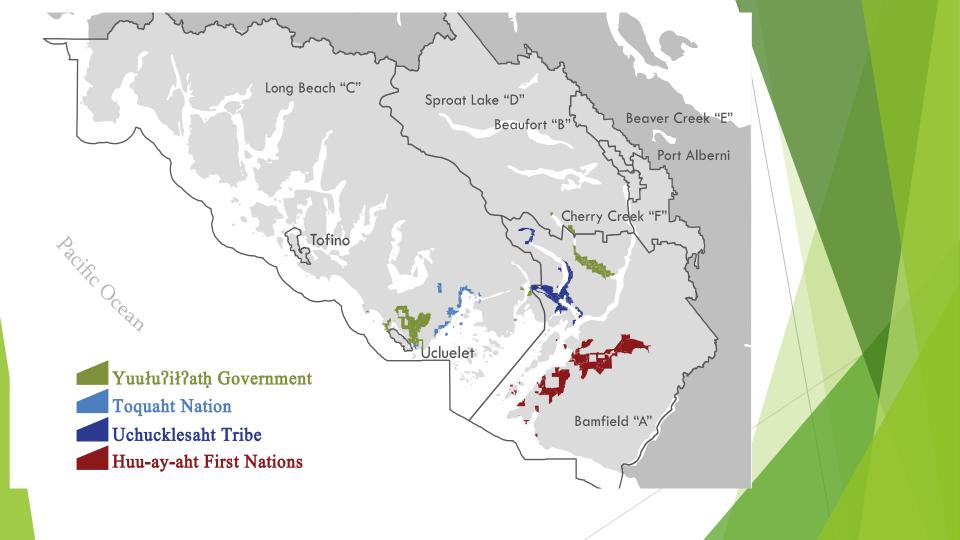
Next Steps

- 3-4 November Improvement Plan Coordination Conference Completed
- 7 November Ministries/agencies commence work on internal IPs
- 15 December Individual Draft Ministry IPs submitted to WG
- 15 January Draft Collective Govt Draft IP circulated to all stakeholders for comment
- February (TBA) Improvement Plan Final Conference
- 1 March Final Govt IP circulated to all stakeholders for final review
- 31 March Final Govt IP released













Local agencies.....

Sproat Lake Fire Western Forest Products BC Hydro Rescue
North Island College Port Alberni Fire Rescue
Port Alberni Port Authority Port Alberni Fire Rescue

Tseshant First Nation Av Search
Arrowsmith Amateur Radio Salvation Army
Catalyst Paper Hupacasath First Nation

Coast Guard Auxiliary BC Ambulance
RCMP Red Cross Red Cross
FLNROBeaver Creek Fire
BC Transit
Fortis Gas



Exercise Coastal Response What was at play?

Emergency Operations Centre

- ▶ 4 days, 10 hour days, 2 shifts/day, 25 personnel per shift
- Regional District, City of Port Alberni, volunteers and professionals, supplemented with mid island partners
- ▶ Tons of support evaluators, controllers and tutors mid island, Justice Institute, Vancouver, Callian, EMBC

Throughout the Region

Tseshaht First Nation, Bamfield, Ucluelet

Salvation Army, Red Cross, Amateur Radio, Port Alberni Fire, Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire

..... 300 Volunteers

Linked to provincial and federal exercises

































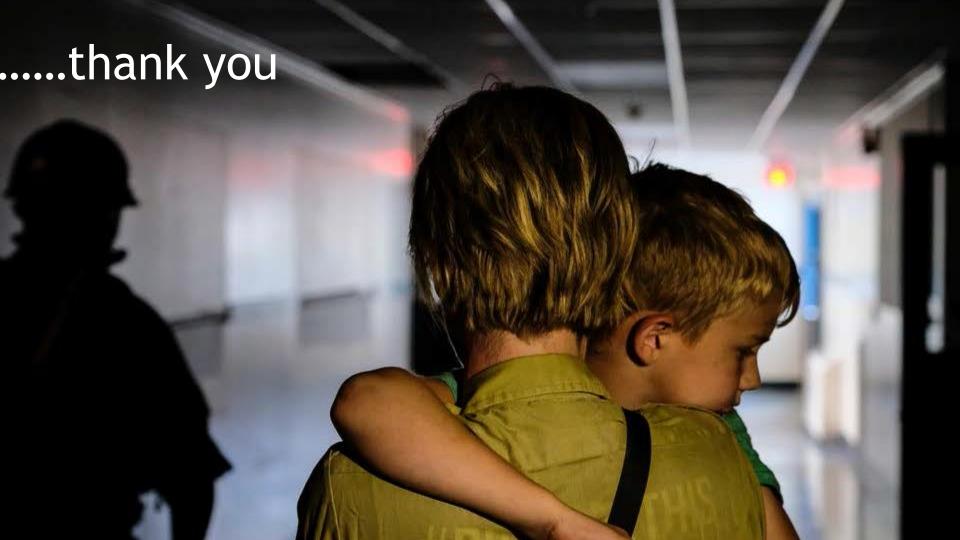


Lessons learned

- ► Engaged policy group, and all levels of local government staff
- ▶ Volunteer and community engagement, good support, team building first lots of lead time enabled broad public engagement!
- Paperwork and process tested to the limits
- Very realistic
- Involved the organization in a meaningful way- with support and fun
- ► Final report due by end of the month equipment, training, organization, bylaws
- Managing who is in and who is out
- living within your means and making it meaningful
- Coordinating across the scenario







We're in it Together

