

Add a tsunami evacuation drill to ShakeOut!

First, find out if you live, work or play in a tsunami hazard area

- If you feel shaking and are near the coast, you may be in a tsunami hazard area.
- Your local government may have more information about the level of risk that your community faces.
- View notifications options from West Coast and Alaska Tsunami Warning Centre:
<http://wcatwc.arh.noaa.gov>
- Check out the BC Tsunami Notification Zone Maps and find out what zone you're in:
http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services-/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/embc/tsunami_zone_province_final.pdf

Add a tsunami drill to your ShakeOut drill

- Register in advance for ShakeOut and decide if you will add an organized tsunami evacuation drill to follow the "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" earthquake drill.
- To prepare for the tsunami drill, determine if there is an evacuation plan in place for your site. Contact your building manager, school district, and/or community emergency management department to find out the recommended procedures.
- Identify an area on high ground to where you can safely relocate.
- Walk your evacuation route prior to the drill. Make sure there are no potential hazards that may prevent you from using this evacuation route safely.



After the tsunami drill

- Plan to have snacks or refreshments at the relocation site.
- Host a safety information fair and invite local emergency response groups to share emergency preparedness tips and resources.
- Plan interactive educational tsunami activities and distribute information pamphlets.

Know the warning signs

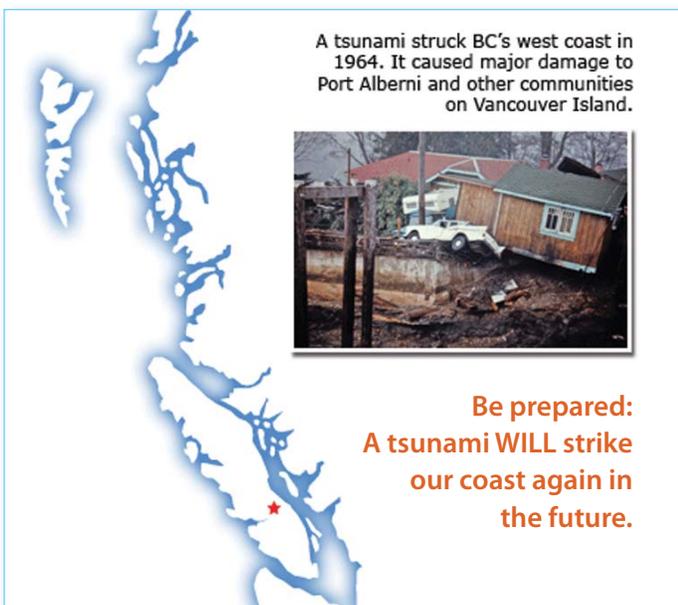
- A strong earthquake along the coastline is one of nature's tsunami warning signals. Do not stay in low-lying coastal areas if you feel a strong earthquake. Do not wait for an alarm of notification; move to high ground immediately.
- Tsunamis are sometimes preceded by a noticeable and unnaturally rapid drop in sea level as the ocean retreats seaward and exposes the seafloor. A roar like an oncoming train may sometimes be heard as the tsunami wave rushes toward the shore.
- A tsunami is not a single wave, but a series of waves. Do not return to an evacuated area until an All-Clear notification is issued by local authorities. Do not approach the shore after the first wave as higher waves are likely to follow.

Learn how your community will broadcast official tsunami emergency information

- Official tsunami warnings may be broadcast by radio, television, telephone, text message, door-to-door contact, social media, weather radios, and/or outdoor sirens.
- During a tsunami, give local police and emergency responders your full cooperation.
- All official warnings to the public must be taken very seriously, even if the tsunami does not generate a large wave.

Be prepared

- Learn about the tsunami risk in the coastal areas where you live, work and play.
- Be familiar with tsunami evacuation signs in some areas on the coast.
- Assemble a small evacuation kit or “Grab and Go Bag” (essential documents, medications, flashlight, portable radio and batteries, water, snack, warm clothes) and keep it easily accessible.
- Prepare a reunification plan with your family. Decide when and where you will meet if you are separated. Designate an out-of-area relative or friend for the individuals in your family to call if it is not possible to meet at your reunification spot.
- Make plans for how to address any needs or disabilities you might have.



Contact emergency response groups in your area

- Find out if other organizations, agencies, or schools in your area are participating in a tsunami drill.
- Even if you are in an area that does not require evacuation, volunteer to work at relocation sites, comfort stations, or animal care facilities in your area. Learn the potential needs of your community.
- Share ideas and coordinate resources. For example, your elementary school may need to evacuate to another school, church, or business; coordinate with them to work out details such as how to enter the site and where to assemble.

Important online resources

Tsunami information:

- West Coast and Alaska Tsunami Warning Center: <http://wcatwc.arh.noaa.gov>
- Tsunami education, including K-12 curriculum, activity sheets and booklets: www.embc.gov.bc.ca/em/tsunamis/home.htm
- International Tsunami Information Center: <http://itic.ioc-unesco.org/index.php>
- Emergency Management BC tsunami Information: www.embc.gov.bc.ca/em/hazard_preparedness/Tsunami_Preparedness_Information.html

Preparing for earthquakes:

- The Great British Columbia ShakeOut: www.shakeoutbc.ca
- Municipal and Regional Emergency Management Offices



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