

December 19, 2024

## **UPDATE FROM THE CAO**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FROM LIONS BAY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE Wednesday, December 18, 2024, Time: 22:00hrs

## **Battani Creek Slide Update: Emergency Operations and Search Efforts**

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues its coordinated response to the Battani Creek slide, actively prioritizing public safety, addressing hazards, and advancing recovery efforts. This update provides an overview of the current status and ongoing operations.

Comprehensive site assessments and engineering evaluations have been conducted, including helicopter overflights of the Battani Creek drainage and impact area. Detailed geotechnical evaluations have informed the response, and a bridge structural engineer has assessed the site, allowing operations to proceed with Safe Working Load (SWL) parameters to be confirmed. On-site operations are advancing, with a danger tree contractor addressing high-risk trees in the debris flow area. Approximately 50 to 100 trees identified as hazardous are being mitigated to ensure safety. Heavy equipment has been staged at the site, with active work scheduled to continue.

Infrastructure restoration is underway, with BC Hydro working to repair damage and replace a power pole to restore essential services to affected areas.

Evacuee support is being provided to six individuals through Emergency Social Services (ESS) in collaboration with North Shore Emergency Management (NSEM). The EOC remains committed to ensuring displaced individuals receive the assistance they need.

On-site personnel, including geologists, BC Hydro staff, geotechnical engineers, and contractors, are actively engaged in the response. Security measures have been established to maintain safety, including restricted site access and a security presence at key locations.

The State of Local Emergency (SOLE) and associated evacuation orders have been updated to include additional areas around affected homes and active work zones to ensure public safety during operations.

The EOC remains focused on a well-coordinated and effective response to the Battani Creek slide. Public safety and risk mitigation are primary goals, and regular updates will be provided as the situation develops.

We extend our thoughts to all those affected by this incident and thank all partners, emergency

personnel, and volunteers for their continued efforts.

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For More information Please Contact:

Ross Blackwell, CAO

cao@lionsbay.ca 1-250-715-6928



## The Village of Lions Bay

400 Centre Rd. (off Crosscreek Rd.) | PO Box 141 Lions Bay, British Columbia V0N 2E0 CANADA

Reception: (604) 921-9333

Public Works voicemail: (604) 921-9833

Public Works after-hours on-call: (604) 290-1498

Bylaw Officer: (604) 834-3404

The Village of Lions Bay | 400 Centre Road P.O. Box 141 | Lions Bay, BC VON 2E0 CA

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