



Emergency Support Services

Suite 300 – 4545 Lazelle Ave
Terrace, BC V8G 4E1
250-615-6100
essdirector@rdks.bc.ca

MEDIA RELEASE

Mobile ESS Unit Rolling in the RDKS

June 20, 2018 – First of its kind Mobile Emergency Support Services (ESS) Unit debuts in the Skeena Valley as part of the Regional District of Kitimat Stikine’s commitment to increasing access to ESS services.

Funded by the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund and the RDKS with in-kind support from the City of Terrace, the fully operational mobile unit is a self-contained satellite Reception Centre, as well as, a safe and efficient mode to transport ESS supplies, emergency equipment and volunteers to designated Reception Centres (RC).

“The need for ESS has never been more apparent as recent flooding and wildfire events have indicated. Designed to save time and deliver high quality ESS care, the Unit will be ready to hit the road anywhere, anytime and comes with a highly trained and experienced team of ESS Responders”, said Naomi Gourlay, ESS Director for the RDKS.

Complete with its own power source, heat/AC, hardware and connectivity, Reception Centre tools and resources, emergency supplies and equipment and basic amenities, it also provides a respite area for ESS Responders to sleep and prepare their own meals which is especially important in areas where accommodation may not be available.

“This project builds upon our own emergency preparedness by providing an innovative new resource that will deliver ESS support to member municipalities and remote areas of the RDKS, as well as, communities throughout the province if requested. We are excited about the increased level of ESS capacity and operational efficiency that the Unit will bring to our region.” said Philip Germuth, RDKS Chair.

ESS staff will also be offering specialized training that focuses on the role of ESS in large-scale emergencies, how to effectively manage a Reception Centre and integrate the Mobile Unit into a response.

People forced to evacuate their homes in BC may receive short-term assistance from ESS. ESS services include registration, family reunification, referrals for basic necessities such as food, clothing and lodging, accurate and up-to-date information, emotional support and emergency pet care. A Reception Centre is a safe place where people can go to access these services.

For More Information Contact:

Naomi Gourlay, ESSD RDKS
C: 250-641-5842
E: essdirector@rdks.bc.ca
[Facebook.com/essrdks](https://www.facebook.com/essrdks)



Regional District of
Kitimat-Stikine



Regional District of
Kitimat-Stikine