

## BE PREPARED TO RESPOND TO A MAJOR EARTHQUAKE

Did you know that more than 1,200 earthquakes are recorded each year in the province of B.C.?

The coast of B.C. is considered to be a high-risk earthquake zone. In this region, tectonic plates are moving apart, sliding past one another and colliding. It is the movement of these plates that causes small earthquakes (daily), potentially damaging earthquakes (decades apart), and some of the world's largest earthquakes (centuries apart).

Earthquakes strike without warning, so it is important to be prepared.

### PREPARE YOUR FAMILY

- Know the safe spots in each room - against inside walls, under sturdy tables, desks etc.
- Know the danger spots - windows, mirrors, hanging objects, fireplaces etc.
- Practise family drills. Physically place yourself in safe locations. This is especially important for children.
- Learn first aid and CPR.
- Keep a list of emergency numbers.
- Prepare an emergency kit with supplies for at least 72 hours.



## KNOW WHAT TO DO IN THE EVENT OF AN EARTHQUAKE



**DROP! COVER! HOLD ON!**

After the shaking stops, count to 60.

Once it is safe to do so, immediately leave the evacuation area and go to higher ground – do not wait for an official warning.

The evacuation map on the opposite side indicates the safe areas in white and green.

During a major earthquake:

- DO leave the evacuation area (move to higher ground).
- DO stay tuned to local media for updates.
- DO follow the instructions of authorities.
- DO take your emergency kit that is accessible and properly stocked.

Following a major earthquake, some flooding will likely occur as BC Hydro lowers the reservoir as soon as possible to protect the dam. Many areas near or below the dam may flood in about one hour. In the event of a dam failure, water may arrive in about 30 minutes (see chart).

The City of Campbell River, Strathcona Regional District, and BC Hydro work together on emergency planning for earthquakes. BC Hydro has a capital upgrade plan for the Campbell River hydroelectric system over about 20 - 30 years to reduce the current potential downstream risks to people and property from a major earthquake.

To find out more about these hazards and how to become better prepared, please visit the Strathcona Emergency Program website at [www.strathconard.ca](http://www.strathconard.ca). For more information on BC Hydro's Campbell River system, please contact [steve.watson@bchydro.com](mailto:steve.watson@bchydro.com).

## EVACUATION AREAS FOR A MAJOR EARTHQUAKE

Upstream of the Campbell River there are three BC Hydro hydroelectric dams. Following an earthquake, damage to the dams could result in major water flows within the City of Campbell River and require evacuation of the area. See map on opposite side.

The type of major earthquake that would put the dams at risk is one that causes considerable damage to ordinary buildings – including fallen walls, broken solid stone walls, and twisting or falling chimneys.

### PROJECTED FLOOD LEVEL AND TIMING

LOCATION	MAX WATER LEVEL RISE	WATER ARRIVAL TIME
John Hart Generating Station	20 m	20 min
Hwy 19 Bridge (over Campbell River)	11 m	30 min
Hwy 19 Bridge (over Mohun Creek)	16 m	2 hr, 40 min
Discovery Harbour Shopping Mall	4 m	1 hr, 20 min
Shoppers Row	4 m	1 hr, 40 min
Argonaut Road	1.5 m	2 hr, 30 min

- Maximum Water Rise: The highest level of water in the area after the worst case earthquake and dam failure scenario.
- Water Arrival Time: The initial water arrival under the worst case scenario.

Please refer to the evacuation map and be prepared to respond immediately following a major earthquake. This includes understanding the risks of remaining within flood areas following a major earthquake.

## KEEP AN EMERGENCY KIT IN YOUR HOME AND CAR

A portable emergency kit will be necessary following any emergency and should be a key part of your preparation. A standard emergency kit provides supplies for the first 72 hours. Check your kit twice a year to replace expired supplies, including food, batteries, and medicines. Whether you purchase a kit from a retailer or make it yourself, here is a partial list of what it should include:

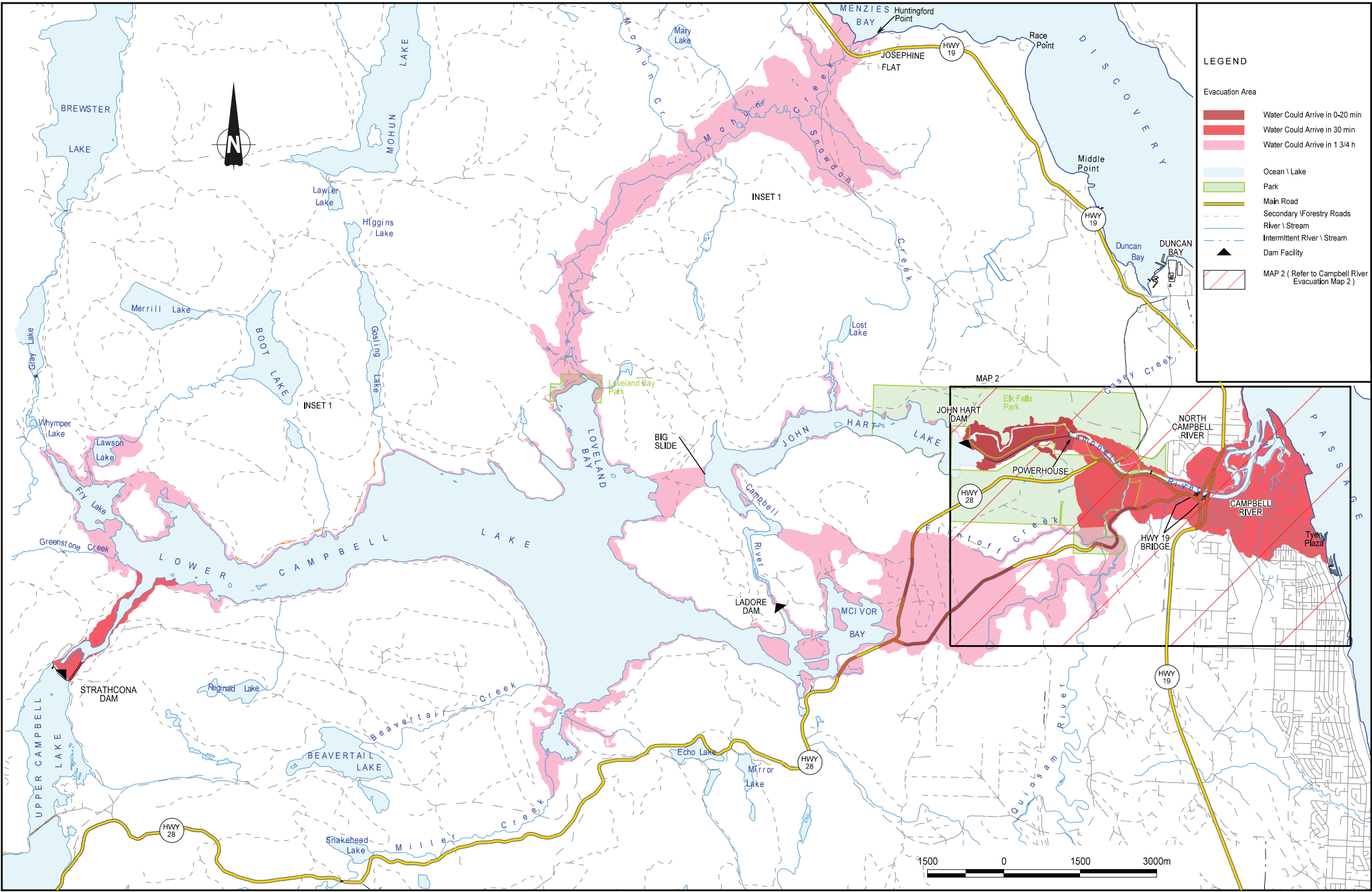
- Water: at least two litres of water per person, per day
- Food: energy bars, and dried foods that won't spoil
- A manual can opener
- First aid kit
- Medications, including prescription and painkillers
- Flashlight
- Batteries
- Radio
- A multi-function tool
- Keys for your house and vehicles
- Cash: include smaller bills
- A printed copy of your emergency plan
- Photocopies of personal documents



Emergency kits should be packed in a sturdy backpack or duffle bag and stored in an easy-to-reach location. For more information on preparing your family for an emergency, visit [www.embc.gov.bc.ca](http://www.embc.gov.bc.ca) or [www.getprepared.ca](http://www.getprepared.ca)

# REGIONAL EARTHQUAKE EVACUATION MAP

## EARTHQUAKE EVACUATION INFORMATION FOR THE CAMPBELL RIVER DAM SYSTEM



Working together to promote emergency preparedness in the Strathcona Regional District

Note: The flood areas show the worst case scenario of the John Hart or Strathcona dams failing. Also indicated, in either situation, is the fastest time of potential water arrival.