

December 6, 2019

**SRD Recognizes Volunteers Judy Hagen and Marg Carr For
Ten Years of Regional Emergency Support Services**

Campbell River, BC – The Strathcona Regional District (SRD) would like to show its appreciation to Quadra Island's Emergency Support Services Director Judy Hagen and Comox Valley's Emergency Support Services Director Marg Carr for ten years of service on the organizing committee for the Regional Emergency Support Services (ESS) Leadership Workshop.

Judy and Marg will continue to support ESS in their own community but have decided to step aside from the workshop organizing committee and pass the obligation for planning future workshops to North Island Emergency Preparedness (NIEP).

Both ladies are highly respected for their achievements by the Emergency Program Coordinators in their communities. "Judy has been my mentor since I came to the SRD and has been the cornerstone of building one of the most successful rural volunteer emergency programs in the province" says SRD Protective Services Coordinator Shaun Koopman. "I have had the pleasure of working directly with both Judy and Marg as their Emergency Program Coordinator during my time with the SRD and now with the Comox Valley Regional District. Both of them have a similar leadership style that has them always stepping forward to support ESS delivery and/or learning" says Comox Valley Regional District Emergency Program Coordinator Howie Siemens.

In 2015, North Island Emergency Preparedness (NIEP) was formed primarily to help with the ever increasing complexity of planning workshops that were relevant to the needs of ESS teams on the North Island. NIEP currently includes Alert Bay, Namgis First Nation, Gold River, Campbell River, Quadra Island and Comox Valley.

"The Strathcona Regional District wishes to express its gratitude to both Judy and Marg for the endless hours they have put into these leadership workshops" says Strathcona Regional District Chair Michele Babchuk. "Since 2012, these workshops have been held in the Campbell River area and as they evolved, they attracted attendance from all parts of Vancouver Island, Lower Mainland and the Interior. Our regional emergency program recognizes that disasters span political boundaries and it is crucial our communities plan and train together".

The 2020 Regional Emergency Support Services (ESS) Leadership Workshop will be planned by North Island Emergency Preparedness going forward. To find out more information about the many ways you can be involved in Emergency Support Services in your community, please visit www.srd.ca/emergency-management.

The Strathcona Regional District is a partnership of four electoral areas and five municipalities providing services to approximately 44,000 residents.

-30-

Media contact: Shaun Koopman, SRD Protective Services Coordinator
250-830-6702 | skoopman@srd.ca

Picture attached: Rick Wall (Chair, NIEP Society) acknowledged Marg Carr & Judy Hagen with flowers and appreciation for their ten years of service. From Left to Right - Marg Carr, Judy Hagen, Rick Wall and Fran McLean.