

For immediate release July 29, 2022

REGIONAL DISTRICT TO LAUNCH NEW EMERGENCY ALERT NOTIFICATION SYSTEM Registration for SLRD Alert, now powered by Voyent Alert!, is open to the public

Pemberton, **BC** – The Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) has launched a new-and-improved emergency alert notification system for residents and visitors to the region.

Replacing the ePACT emergency alert notification system implemented in 2015, the SLRD Alert, powered by *Voyent Alert!*, will be in place as of Friday, July 29, 2022, allowing subscribers to receive emergency notifications by app, telephone, text (SMS) or email. The new system will improve the delivery, access and speed at which residents receive critical information during an emergency.

The SLRD will utilize this new notification system to issue evacuation alerts and orders, as well as other emergency-related communications. In the event of an emergency, telephone, text, email or mobile app messages will be sent to all registered contacts in the affected area. The system enables the SLRD to provide people with critical information in a variety of emergency situations, such as severe weather events, wildfires, floods, landslides and any other emergency events that could have an impact on people in the area.

This system is used extensively by local governments throughout the province; in the SLRD, the system is used by the District of Lillooet, the Village of Pemberton and the District of Squamish. The Squamish Nation and Lillooet Tribal Council also utilize this emergency alert notification system.

SLRD Alert provides emergency notifications for SLRD Electoral Areas. For emergency notifications in Squamish, Whistler, Pemberton and Lillooet, registration for those systems is required.

"We are pleased to improve upon our system for delivering emergency communications, not only to our rural residents, but also to visitors in the area," said SLRD Board Chair, Jen Ford. "We know first-hand the need to be able to communicate quickly in the event of an emergency, and we are excited to launch this service that is an important tool in our emergency communications toolkit."

Existing subscribers to the SLRD Alert notification system will be automatically moved to the new system, in compliance with privacy legislation. New subscribers can sign up at SLRD.bc.ca/SLRDAlert

Users are encouraged to install the *Voyent Alert!* app which can be downloaded from the <u>Apple Store</u> or <u>Google Play</u>.

Residents are also reminded to follow the SLRD on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u> and monitor the SLRD website for news and updates.

Residents with questions about the SLRD Alert, powered by Voyent Alert! can contact:

Michael Fusca Emergency Program Coordinator Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

Phone: 604-356-3082 Email: mfusca@slrd.bc.ca

-30-

About the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

Located in southwestern BC, the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) is a local government federation consisting of four member municipalities (the District of Lillooet, the District of Squamish, the Village of Pemberton and the Resort Municipality of Whistler) and four unincorporated, rural electoral areas (A, B, C, and D). Headquartered in Pemberton, which is the approximate geographic centre of the region, the SLRD delivers a wide range of local, regional and sub-regional services to approximately 47,245 residents (2021 Census).

Media Contact:

Vanessa Murphy
Communications Coordinator
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

Phone: 604-894-6371 x 260 Email: vmurphy@slrd.bc.ca