

What is an earthquake?

The B.C. coast is considered a high-risk earthquake zone. In this region, the earth's tectonic plates are moving apart, sliding past one another and colliding. It is the movement of these plates that causes earthquakes. The shaking motion of an earthquake is due to the sudden release of energy. The first sign of an earthquake may be a loud bang or roar. The ground may start to pitch and roll "like a ship on the ocean" for several seconds to several minutes. Over the following hours or days, aftershocks can follow.

What is a tsunami?

Tsunamis are a series of waves, most frequently generated by a major earthquake beneath the ocean floor. The time between crests of the waves can range from minutes to more than an hour. They range in height from a few centimetres to several metres. In the deep ocean, the waves travel about 800 kilometres per hour, but start to slow in shallower, coastal waters where their heights increase dramatically.

How can I prepare?

Have a plan: In addition to knowing your evacuation route to the nearest 'community safe zone', keep a 'grab-and-go bag' that is accessible to your family and will aid in the immediate aftermath of an earthquake or tsunami. The bag should help meet your family's food, water, health, shelter, communication, and travel needs for at least 72 hours. Suggested items include, but are not limited to:

- Ready-to-eat food and water
- Flashlight and batteries
- AM/FM radio
- Medication(s)
- Seasonal clothing
- Blanket
- Pen and notepad
- Cell phone charger
- Personal toiletries
- Small first aid kit
- Extra pair of glasses/contacts
- Cash in small bills
- Local map
- Whistle
- Out-of-area contact card
- Copies of important documents

In addition to having a 'grab-and-go bag', have a plan in place that can prepare you for, at least, the first 72 hours after an earthquake or tsunami (in case emergency assistance is not immediately available). PreparedBC has posted a guide on their website that can help you create such a plan. Information regarding this website is available at the front of this brochure.

How will I be alerted?

If there is a threat, Emergency Management BC will activate the Provincial Emergency Notification System, which notifies local communities and agencies. Emergency response plans are initiated at the local level as required. Throughout the event, official emergency information will be broadcast by radio, television, telephone, text message, door-to-door contact, social media, weather radios and outdoor sirens.

What should I do?

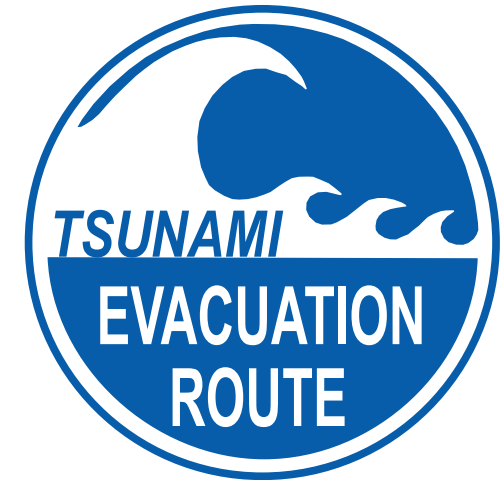
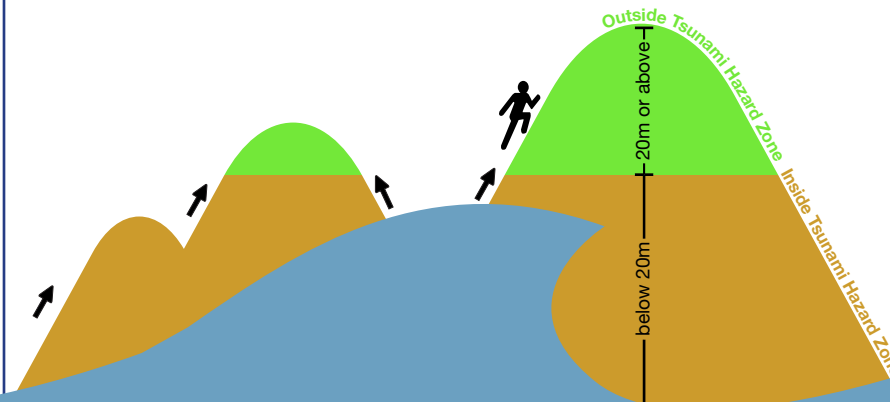
If you feel an earthquake: earthquakes are often a precursor to a tsunami. If you feel strong shaking, drop on your hands and knees (if you are able to), cover your head and neck, and hold on. Then move to higher ground.

After an earthquake or in case of an imminent tsunami: evacuate to Tofino's designated community safe zone, Community Hall and Emergency Reception Centre, located at 351 Arnet Road. If you cannot safely reach the Centre, evacuate to any safe area **outside the Tsunami Hazard Zone**.



Tofino Community Hall and Emergency Reception Centre

The recommended evacuation elevation during a tsunami is 20 meters above sea level. The map in this brochure highlights parts of Tofino that are 20 meters or above (**outside the Tsunami Hazard Zone**), and those that are below 20 meters (**inside the Tsunami Hazard Zone**).



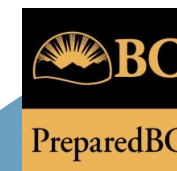
TSUNAMI EVACUATION ROUTE INFORMATION AND MAP

DISTRICT OF TOFINO,
BRITISH COLUMBIA

This brochure contains emergency preparedness information. It draws upon standards endorsed by the District of Tofino. If you would like more detailed information, please reference the following:

Visit PreparedBC at
www.gov.bc.ca/PreparedBC for
more detailed information on how
you and your family can get
prepared for an emergency.

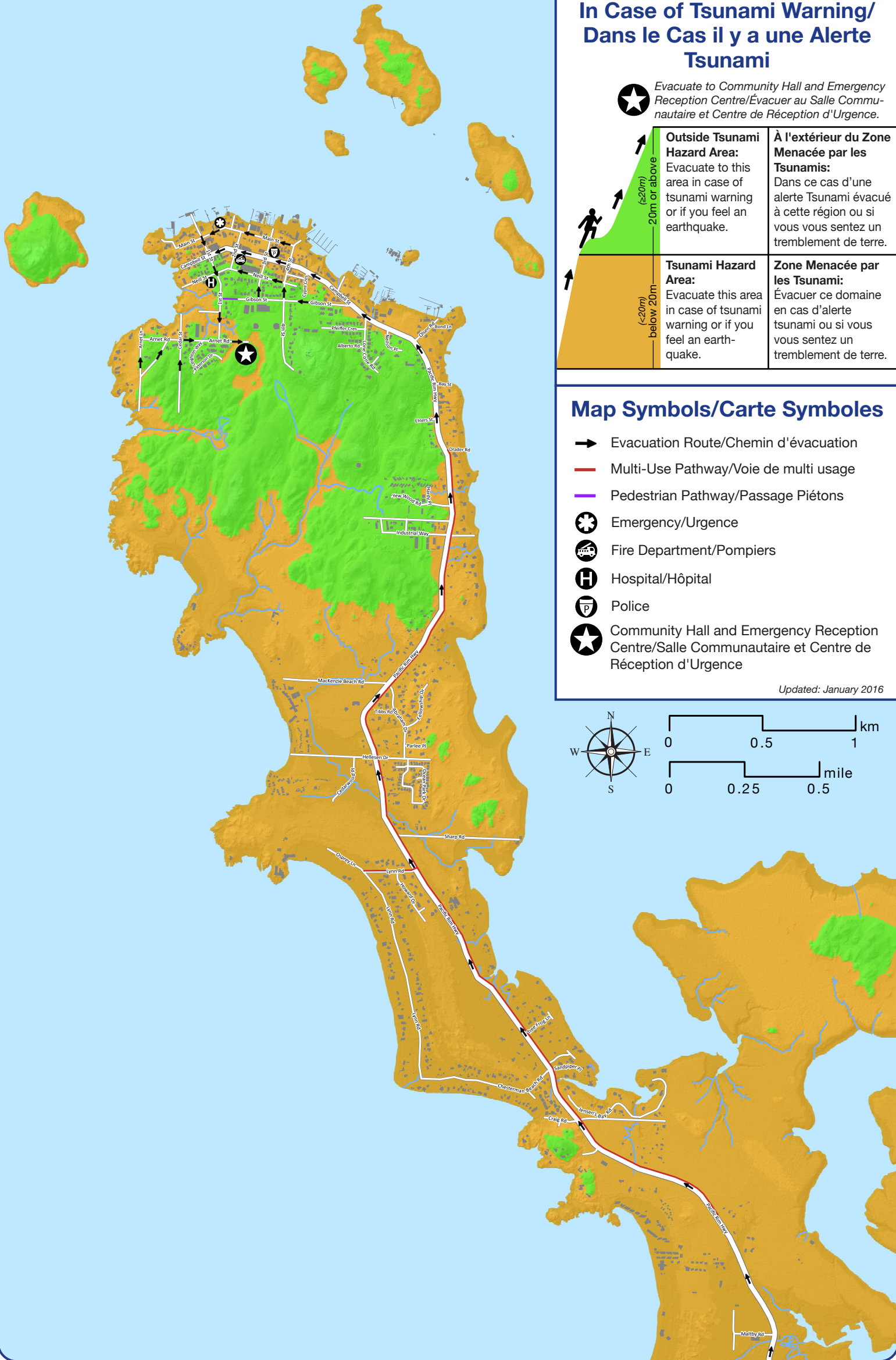
For local information, contact:
Emergency Program Coordinator
Municipal Office
(T) 250-725-3229 ext. 22
(F) 250-726-7838
(E) arodgers@tofino.ca





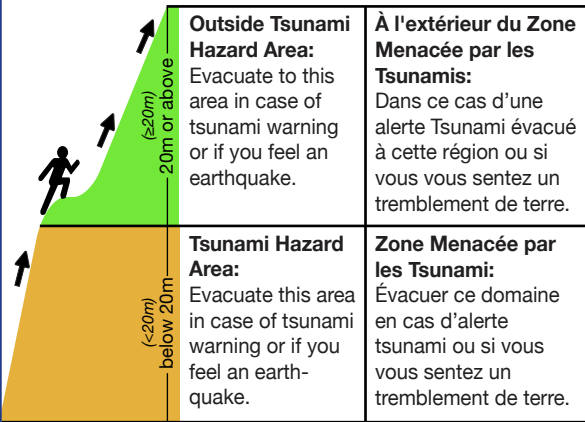
TSUNAMI EVACUATION MAP

DISTRICT OF TOFINO, BRITISH COLUMBIA



In Case of Tsunami Warning/ Dans le Cas il y a une Alerte Tsunami

★ Evacuate to Community Hall and Emergency Reception Centre/Évacuer au Salle Communautaire et Centre de Réception d'Urgence.



Map Symbols/Carte Symboles

- ➔ Evacuation Route/Chemin d'évacuation
- Multi-Use Pathway/Voie de multi usage
- Pedestrian Pathway/Passage Piétons
- ★ Emergency/Urgence
- 🚒 Fire Department/Pompiers
- H Hospital/Hôpital
- P Police
- ★ Community Hall and Emergency Reception Centre/Salle Communautaire et Centre de Réception d'Urgence

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