





PNW - CBCG

November 29, 2017

EMBC (SW PREOC) – Agency Room
14292 Green Timbers Way, Surrey, BC



PNW – CBCG Agenda

- Opening remarks and introductions
- History and success stories to date
- Relevance of our operational philosophy
- Service over Self principle
- Recent Mt. Baker training initiative
- Decision on the future of the Group
- Focus of the Group going forward
- Need to nominate a new Canadian Co-Chair



PNW – CBCG History

- Creation of the Group in 2008
- Resolve radio interference issues
- Continuation of local interest over time
- Involvement in 2010 Olympics
- Presentation to World Health Conference
- CrossBorder 2014
- Last meeting was Dec 05, 2013 at Ferndale PD?



Operational Philosophy

- Mission Statement:

“We stand ready to provide interoperable backup communications services to our stakeholders when normal systems are overloaded or have become inoperative.”

- Group meets quarterly to discuss ways amateur radio resources can be coordinated cross-border during an emergency or disaster in our respective areas. The development and maintenance of our cross border working relationships are critical to the ongoing success of the group and its objectives.



Service over Self

- Enfranchise the entire regions amateur community for a truly robust amateur radio emergency communications asset that can provide meaningful support to the communities
- Maintain trustworthy working relationship with EOC personnel under the important principle that amateur radio serves the EOC and not the other way around
- Maintain trust and mutual assistance protocols with our neighboring communities amateur radio personnel and programs
- Explore and promote new technologies that support EmComm and keep local amateurs up to speed on these platforms
- Training, training, and more training will ensure all amateur radio operators are well prepared



Mt. Baker EX

- Cross-border agencies testing response to a Mt Baker event
- On Nov. 15-16 national defense officials from both sides of the border will test their response to a scenario of volcanic eruption and crater collapse of Mt Baker.
- The national agencies involved will be the US Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate and the Canada Department of National Defense's Centre for Security Science. The exercise will be the fifth Canada-US Enhanced Resiliency Experiment (CAUSE V), according to a press release from county Emergency Management.
- Emergency Managers and first responders from both the U.S. and Canada will test their mutual capabilities and cooperation in response to such a lahar event. Local participants will include the Whatcom County Sheriff's office, U.S. Customs & Border Protection, as well as the cities of Abbotsford, Langley & Canadian Border Services Agency.
- At noon on the 16th after the exercise, a press release conference will be held in the Whatcom County Unified Emergency Coordination Center near the Bellingham Airport. People may see response equipment and personnel during the experiment, particularly in the Sumas area.
- For more information, call John Gargett, county deputy director of emergency management, at (360) 676-6681.



U.S.-Canada to Test Cross-border Communication for Disaster Response In Whatcom County

Posted on [2017-11-09](#) by [John Gargett](#)



The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) and Canada Department of National Defence's Centre for Security Science will conduct the fifth Canada-U.S. Enhanced Resiliency Experiment (CAUSE V) from Nov. 15 to 16, 2017. In this year's experiment, emergency management officials and first responder agencies on

both sides of the border will test their mutual capabilities and cooperation in response to a volcanic eruption and crater collapse scenario at Mt. Baker. There will be a press conference following the conclusion of the exercise.

Participants will include local first responders and emergency management agencies from Whatcom County, Washington in the U.S., the City of Abbotsford, City of Langley and the Township of Langley in B.C., U.S. Customs and Border Protection and Canada Border Services Agency. This experiment will use emerging tools for enhanced situational awareness and communications to plan for, respond and recover from this disaster.



Media Advisory: U.S.-Canada to Test Cross-border Communication for Disaster Response

- **Release Date:** November 1, 2017
- **For Immediate Release**
DHS S&T Press Office, [Gwen Bausmith](#), (202) 254-2296
- **WASHINGTON**—Emergency management officials and first responder agencies on both sides of the border between the United States and Canada will work together for an experiment in disaster response. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate and Canada Department of National Defence's Centre for Security Science will be conducting the fifth Canada-U.S. Enhanced Resiliency Experiment ([CAUSE V](#)) on November 15-16, 2017. This year's exercise scenario will be based on a volcanic eruption and crater collapse at Mt. Baker. Mt. Baker is an active volcano and closely monitored by the USGS. It is visible to local residents on both sides of the border.
- CAUSE V will take place along the border between the Canadian province of British Columbia (B.C.) and the state of Washington (WA). The scenario involving a (simulated) Mt. Baker volcanic eruption and subsequent mudflow was developed with help from the U.S. Geological Survey and will provide a realistic opportunity to test cross-border communications and interoperability between U.S. and Canadian first responder and emergency management agencies. Participants will include local first responders, emergency management agencies from Whatcom County, Washington in the U.S., the City of Abbotsford, City of Langley and the Township of Langley in B.C., U.S. Customs and Border Protection and Canada Border Services Agency. This experiment will use emerging tools for enhanced situational awareness and communications to plan for, respond and recover from this disaster.
- **Wednesday, November 16**
12:00 p.m. PST U.S. Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate and Canada Department of National Defence's Centre for Security Science will hold a joint press conference on the conclusion of the fifth Canada-U.S. Enhanced Resiliency Experiment ([CAUSE V](#)).
- Whatcom County Unified Emergency Coordination Center
3888 Sound Way
Bellingham, WA 98226



Canada-U.S. Enhanced Resilience Experiment Series (CAUSE) V

- The Canada-United States (U.S.) Enhanced Resiliency Experiment (CAUSE) series kicked off in 2011 after the two countries announced the U.S.-Canada joint declaration *Beyond the Border: A Shared Vision for Perimeter Security and Economic Competitiveness*. Between 2011 and 2017, four experiments took place on the U.S.-Canadian border—testing various communication technologies and information sharing tools—each time at a different location.
- Observers of this experiment will include the Federal Emergency Management Agency field office as well as FirstNet and U.S. Northern Command
- **Technologies/Procedures to be Tested Include:**
 - Wireless capabilities leveraging a 700 MHz Public Safety Broadband Network (PSBN)
 - Robots and human to Common Operating Picture (COP) applications
 - Pacific Northwest Emergency Management Arrangement (PNEMA)
 - Moving specialized resources and personnel across the Canada - U.S. border expediting the pre-vetting process



Future of the PNW – CBCG

- Need to nominate a new Canadian Co-Chair
- Role of ARRL to support activities?
- Real need for more cross-border work / activity
- EX activity between partners
- Relationship development between VECTOR or LMERCT and Pacific Northwest groups



Forward Focus of PNW – CBCG

- We can either lead or abandon the mission
- Opportunities to get mission before ARRL
- CBCG needs organization to succeed
- EX activity between partners
- VECTOR might lead cross-border radio EX activity with Northwest groups
- **No interest = No PNW CBCG**



