

December 15, 2021

Chief Jim Harris
Seabird Island First Nation
2895 Chowat Rd
Agassiz BC, V0M 1A0



File: 0400-70

Dear Chief Harris:

Re: Atmospheric River and Landslide and Rescue

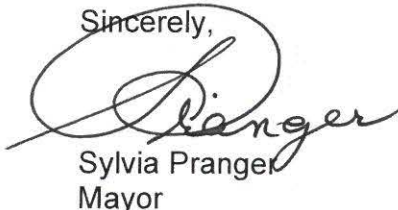
Special thanks to you and your team at Seabird Island Band for the assistance provided on the evening of November 14 and the days following this horrific storm and landslide. The Agassiz and Seabird Island Fire Departments were challenged with a major landslide event involving hundreds of vehicles and people. In the early hours of the event when the situation was unfolding and extremely dynamic, you called Fire Chief Basten to offer the band office gym as a reception centre for the stranded, and to provide your personal bus to transport those without a vehicle was a great relief.

This type of community support at key times, such as this, relieved some of the pressures of the situation, which allowed the rescue team to concentrate on the task at hand, to provide rescue for those in danger in the slide debris field.

Earlier that day and prior to the landslide event, Councillor Alexis Grace was in contact with Fire Chief Basten with regards to some localized flooding occurring at Seabird Island homes. It is always impressive with how Seabird Island cares for its community members, whether it is the heat of the summer or fall / winter storms. Fire Chief Basten was able to connect with the Public Works Manager, Art Andrew, and the Seabird Island Fire Department to investigate and to help mitigate the flooding. Unfortunately Fire Chief Basten was called away due to the occurrence of the Lougheed Highway landslide and he was unable to follow up with Councillor Grace.

In closing, I want you to know that the seamless coordination of emergency services from both Seabird Island and the District provided me with great confidence that the safety of its residents and visitors are always a priority. Seabird Island Fire Department should be commended for their dedication and support for all their assistance. It makes us all proud to see both our communities working together. Please convey our thanks to your staff.

Sincerely,



Sylvia Pranger
Mayor

c: G. Basten, Fire Chief
M. Van Laerhoven, Deputy Fire Chief / Emergency Coordinator