



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 21, 2024

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**ACRD offers condolences to families of those lost in Sarita River washout**

ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT – The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District would like to offer heartfelt condolences to the family and loved ones of the two individuals lost because of the Sarita River washout on Bamfield Road.

“Our hearts are with the community of Bamfield and the families of those impacted by this tragedy,” explains John Jack, chair of the ACRD Board of Directors and Chief Councillor of Huu-ay-aht First Nations. “The atmospheric river weather caused many challenges throughout our region this weekend, but it is unthinkable that the washout on the Bamfield Road has had such a tragic end.”

The RCMP issued a news release earlier today stating that two separate missing persons reports led to the discovery of two vehicles submerged in the Sarita River. One individual travelling from Port Alberni to Bamfield was located deceased a short distance away from his vehicle. The RCMP are currently recovering the second vehicle, which they suspect will contain the other missing person, who was travelling from Bamfield to Victoria.

The RCMP are asking people to stay away from the Sarita River in this area (approximately 58 kilometers) as water is flowing fast and is susceptible to flooding during high tides. The full release can be found at: [RCMP in British Columbia - Bamfield road washout turns fatal](#).

“The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District acknowledges that further discussions are necessary with First Nations, the province of B.C., and industry partners to address public safety,” Jack explained. “We urge people to respect the RCMP’s warning and avoid this area.”

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