

## **Dear Prince of Wales Island Community Representative,**

Craig Emergency Services has worked with several entities on the island to put into place a Mass Emergency Alert System, called Omnilert. Currently, several departments, such as our fire and EMS personnel, Craig school staff, Craig school parents, and City of Craig employees (as well as several other emergency service responders from Klawock, Hydaburg, Hollis, etc.) are part of the island emergency alert system.

The goal with this system is for our 24-hour dispatch center to be able to communicate with as many communities as may be affected by a natural disaster or other emergency easily and quickly. However, the system is versatile enough that we can target the entire island or only Fire and EMS groups with descriptive notifications. The Omnilert system enables Dispatchers to send multiple types of messages to numerous parties simultaneously. This system sends automated messages to any user or group that is part of the system in the case of an emergency. The system sends text messages, can leave a voice message on a land line, and/or sends an email, and can work with social media and electronic warning systems, such as Craig's tsunami warning system.

We are sending this letter to each of the Island's communities in the hope that you will want to participate in the Omnilert program, and be able to contribute a small amount of money (around \$200.00 ea.) to fund the program. Initially, grants funded the startup for the system here on POW. However, we cannot count on grant monies to fund the Omnilert system indefinitely, and we need to come up with a solid funding scheme so that we can continue to use the system, which has already proved beneficial to volunteer EMS and Fire staff. The grant we have now runs out in September, 2017.

During the February meeting of the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), we will discuss more about the Omnilert system and the associated costs or possible funding options.

The meeting will take place on **Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at the Craig City Hall.**

If you are interested in learning more, please send a community representative to this meeting, or you can call in to the meeting via a conference line **(800-315-6338, code 63275#)**. You can also email us for more information at: **craigalaskaems@gmail.com**. Here is a link to the Omnilert website: <http://www.omnilert.com/about/resources/>

Thank you. We look forward to being able to serve all our island communities with Omnilert!

Sincerely,

Chaundell Piburn

