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## INFORMATION BULLETIN

For Immediate Release  
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Jan. 5, 2005

Office of the Premier

### **B.C. HONOURS AND REMEMBERS TSUNAMI VICTIMS**

VICTORIA – On Dec. 29, 2004, Premier Gordon Campbell expressed condolences and support for those affected by the massive earthquake and subsequent tsunamis that have claimed over 145,000 lives to date.

At that time Premier Campbell announced the Province would contribute an \$8 million aid package to the Canadian Red Cross, providing immediate assistance to the region.

Today government announced that a book of condolence for victims of the Dec. 26 tragedy will be available for signing weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. until Friday, Jan. 14 in the main reception hall at the legislative buildings in Victoria. The honourable Iona Campagnolo, Lieutenant Governor, will be the first signatory at 2 p.m. this afternoon. Flags at government buildings will be flown at half-staff until sunset on Sunday, Jan. 9.

People unable to sign the book in person can send their message of condolence in one of four different ways. They can:

- Sign the electronic book of condolence on the government website at <http://www.gov.bc.ca> online.
- Fax their message toll-free to 1-888-771-5066.
- Send an e-mail to [protocol@gems9.gov.bc.ca](mailto:protocol@gems9.gov.bc.ca)
- Send a card or letter via regular mail to:

Book of Condolence  
Protocol and Events Branch  
PO Box 9422 STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, B.C., V8W 9V1

On Sunday, Jan. 9 at 4 p.m. a candlelight vigil honouring and remembering those affected by the devastating earthquake and tsunamis will begin in Vancouver on the beach at English Bay in front of the beach house (corner of Denman St. and Beach Ave.) to demonstrate the international support for the relief efforts in Asia. People will be able to sign the book of condolence at the vigil.

A web page on the government site highlighting B.C. actions and providing links related to SE Asia disaster relief will be available starting this afternoon. Visit [www.gov.bc.ca](http://www.gov.bc.ca) and click on “Tsunami Disaster Relief.”

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1 backgrounder(s) attached.

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