



CREST

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# Why CREST?

- A wide range of entities use the CREST system because they need to interoperate together.
- Having a single entity dedicated to providing secure reliable public safety grade communications is cost effective & the safest option.
- 7 highly trained electrical engineers and communication technicians, available 24/7, manage the 3000 radios on the system and the 7 dispatch centers equipment.

# GROWTH SINCE INCEPTION



**2003**

**2023**

- **Transmission Towers**

**10**

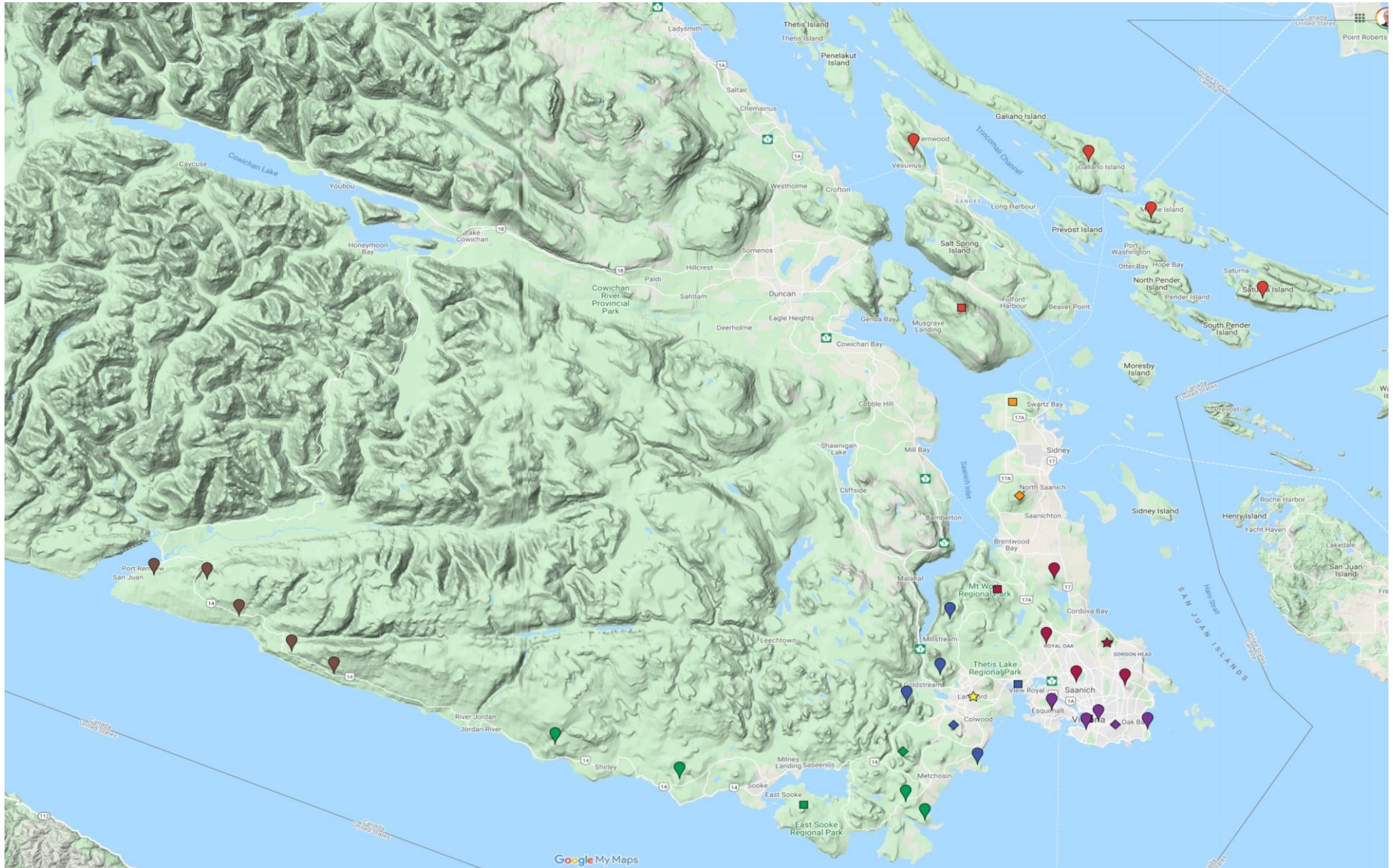
**35**

- **Agency users**

**36**

**50**

# CREST System 2023



# PERFORMANCE BY THE NUMBERS (ANNUAL) 2022

CREST

- **Total Transmissions *10,067,183***
- **System Availability *99.9992%***
- **Average Calls Per Hour *1,149***
- **Radios in Service *2,994***

# 2020 & 2023 User Survey

The logo for CREST, consisting of the word "CREST" in a white, bold, sans-serif font on a dark grey rectangular background.

- **Overall Radio System & Equipment 88.6\***
- **Mobile Radio (Coverage/Clarity) 91.6\***
- **Portable Radio (Coverage/Clarity) 89.4\***
  - **Technical Support 96.6\***

**\* Respondents who were satisfied or very satisfied (possible score of 100)**

# CRD Service Fee vs CREST Budget



	<i>CRD Service Fee</i>	<i>CREST Budget</i>
<b>2005</b>	<b>\$1,584,305</b>	<b>\$3,040,572</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>\$1,602,549</b>	<b>\$5,622,081</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>\$1,400,999</b>	<b>\$6,776,664</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>\$1,681,602</b>	<b>\$7,778,130</b>

*The CRD service fee as a percentage of the overall CREST budget has declined dramatically over time. Conversely the service delivered by CREST has grown year over year.*



The CRD is mandated to provide emergency communications.

CREST was formed as an independent service provider of emergency communications to fulfil that responsibility.

- Initially a 911 “call answer” levy on telephone landlines was the primary method of funding collected by the CRD and allocated to CREST. It was thought at the time (2001) that the province would mandate a call answer levy on all devices (cell & landline) and that revenue would be available to fund CREST operations.



# Call answer levy

**A cell phone levy has been discussed and studied repeatedly by the province.**

- UBCM has called for a province wide cell phone levy for 20 years. Resolutions to that effect were passed in 2004/09/11/12/21/22. **It is on AGAIN (SR2) at this year's UBCM.**
- Eight of the 12 provinces/territories have had a cell phone levy for quite some time ( the average monthly charge currently in Canada is just over a \$1).
- CREST has advocated for a provincial cell emergency levy since our inception.
- Should a cell phone levy be legislated in BC, it is likely those funds would flow to the CRD (& other regional districts), not directly to CREST.



# Comments - Questions?