

Wednesday, October 15, 2019

### Greater Victoria Schools participate in *ShakeOutBC*

**VICTORIA, BC** – Students and staff across the school district will *Drop, Cover, and Hold* on for two minutes in the Great British Columbia Shakeout province-wide earthquake drill on Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, at 10:17 a.m. Schools and offices participate in the *ShakeOutBC* drill annually to best prepare for a damaging earthquake.

“Seismologists are clear that a massive earthquake could impact our region at any time,” shared Board Chair Jordan Watters. “It is important that we educate our students and staff and best prepare through regular practice so we are ready in the event of a natural disaster. The more prepared we can be, the more calmly and safely we can respond.”

The Shakeout Drill Procedure:

- **DROP** to the floor
- Take **COVER** under a desk or sturdy piece of furniture. Make sure to protect your head and torso.
- **HOLD ON** to the piece of furniture until the shaking stops (once the shaking stops count to 60 before you get up to allow things to settle).

The school district prioritizes student and staff safety. As part of schools’ safety plans, students and staff participate in a minimum of two earthquake drills throughout the year. In addition, schools take part in reunification drills to help students and families plan in the event of an emergency.

For others who wish to participate, they can register at: [www.shakeoutbc.ca/register/](http://www.shakeoutbc.ca/register/)

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**For more information, please contact:**

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One *Learning* Community

