



September 2011

### The Great British Columbia ShakeOut

The September 9, 2011 earthquake off the coast of British Columbia serves as a critical reminder that we live in an active seismic zone. And while we are fortunate that no one was injured, the recent earthquakes in places like Japan, New Zealand and Haiti demonstrate the devastation that can result and how important earthquake preparedness and drill practice for protecting every individual, family, community, business and organization in the province.

The Province of British Columbia considers earthquake awareness and emergency preparedness as important education for all British Columbians and we encourage you to take part in Canada's largest earthquake drill on October 20, 2011.

ShakeOut BC provides a timely and relevant opportunity for us to practice the "Drop, Cover, Hold On" method of protecting ourselves during an earthquake. The one minute drill will be simultaneously practiced by many business and government offices, as well as schools and agencies all across the province of a measure of strengthening the security and resiliency of the people of our province.

More than 470,000 people registered and participated in the first ShakeOut BC drill and we hope the second drill will build on that success with your participation.

I encourage all British Columbians to register in the largest earthquake drill to be conducted in North America by visiting [www.ShakeOutBC.ca](http://www.ShakeOutBC.ca), where you can also access more information and resources on emergency preparedness, including how to prepare a family emergency plan, create an emergency supply kit and get involved in community preparedness efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shirley Bond".

Shirley Bond  
Solicitor General