



Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Preparedness essential in an emergency

On October 20 at 10:20 a.m., millions of people worldwide will practice how to “Drop, Cover and Hold On” during Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills. City of Vernon Emergency Management staff are reminding citizens to be prepared for all emergencies, including earthquakes. Earthquakes are happening in the North Okanagan region and although fairly localized and minor, it is important to know what to do. This information is also important for those who travel to areas of greater risk, such as the Lower Mainland or Vancouver Island.

Major events such as earthquakes or large storms can also affect local utilities, services and the ability to move from place to place on a provincial scale, and preparedness is essential. Grab ‘n go bags and vehicle emergency kits should be refreshed to reflect the winter season. Ensure that your family is prepared to shelter in place in your home for a minimum of 72 hours and potentially longer. Consider food, water, cooking methods and heat sources if there is a loss of electricity, water or other utilities.

For more information on earthquake preparedness, visit www.shakeoutbc.ca. For information on preparing for an emergency, visit www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/preparedbc.

In the event of an emergency affecting our community or local region, City of Vernon will be providing up-to-the-minute information on its website (www.vernon.ca) as well as Facebook and Twitter.