



Professional Engineers
and Geoscientists of BC

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For Immediate Release

News Release

APEGBC AFFIRMS ITS COMMITMENT TO DISASTER REDUCTION IN BC

VANCOUVER—Today marks the UN’s International Disaster Reduction Day, and the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (APEGBC) is affirming its commitment to disaster reduction in B.C. Through APEGBC’s Seismic Peer Review Committee and the Association’s partnerships with the Ministry of Education and Western Diversification, APEGBC formally supports and endorses the efforts of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in the critical public safety initiative of earthquake safety in schools. APEGBC is working with the design community and the University of British Columbia in the development of standardized, performance-based seismic risk assessments and retrofit design concepts for seismic upgrades of schools in B.C.

APEGBC’s efforts in seismic safety upgrades to schools in B.C. parallel the UN’s 2006 Disaster Reduction theme of “**Disaster Risk Reduction Begins at School**”. APEGBC and its members offer their knowledge, expertise and experience in establishing safe school environments to protect the health and welfare of the B.C.’s youth.

In 1989, the General Assembly of the UN designated the second Wednesday of October as the International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction to promote a global culture of natural disaster reduction, including disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness.

Founded in 1920, APEGBC is the licensing and regulatory body for professional engineers and geoscientists. With over 23,000 members, APEGBC is one of the largest professional associations in BC. From mineral exploration to seismic safety, APEGBC is dedicated to protecting the public and the environment through setting and maintaining high standards of entry and professional practice. APEGBC regulates the professions of engineering and geoscience on the Government’s behalf and grants the designations of P.Eng. and P.Geo. under the Engineers and Geoscientists Act.

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