

Parksville-Qualicum Beach Community Update



Shakeout BC

The Great BC Shakeout drill is scheduled for October 17 at 10.17am. Every year on the third Thursday in October, millions of people around the world join to *Drop, Cover, Hold On* in their homes, workplaces or schools. This year we encourage you to register and take part.

Earthquake drills are an easy way to practice the steps you can take to protect

yourself during an earthquake. The safest steps to take when you first feel an earthquake are to *Drop, Cover and Hold On*. A high number of injuries caused by earthquakes happen when people are trying to move around while the shaking is still taking place. Stop what you're doing, take cover under something or protect your head and neck with your arm and hold on to something sturdy until after the shaking has stopped. If you aren't physically able to *Drop, Cover and Hold On*, perhaps you can *Lock or Brace, Cover and Hold On*.

Think about ways you can make your space safer. Many injuries from earthquakes occur when items fall onto people because of the force of the ground shaking. Perhaps you need to secure larger furniture to the wall, or remove picture frames from above your couch or bed? Visit shakoutbc.ca for more information.



Emergency Notification Testing

This year we'll be testing our emergency notification system, *Voyent Alert!* at the exact time of the ShakeOut drill, 10.17am on October 17. This is a good opportunity to familiarize ourselves with the sound of the alert and become familiar with the layout of the notifications in the different formats for email, text message or app notification.



It isn't too late to register for *Voyent Alert!* Registration is free. Go to [Voyent Alert! \(voyent-alert.com\)](http://Voyent Alert! (voyent-alert.com)) to sign up today. Contact Kate at kpcock@parksville.ca or 250 954-4672 if you have questions about the system or registration process.

Evacuation Planning Project

We are pleased to announce we received grant funding through the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund to complete an evacuation route plan for the Town of Qualicum Beach, City of Parksville and Regional District of Nanaimo Electoral Area G. The project begins this month, and we look forward to working collaboratively with the people and organizations in our communities who would be involved in planning for evacuations in this busy area.

This project will further our emergency programs and increase community safety by developing detailed plans for the movement of people, animals and resources from an area of imminent or actual threat to an area of safety. We look forward to updating you as the project continues!

Community Emergency Preparedness Presentations

Are you part of a group or society interested in learning more about emergency preparedness? We regularly meet with community groups to provide emergency preparedness presentations, tips and resources. We are happy to tailor presentations to meet your group needs and areas of interest. Contact either Kate at kpocock@parksville.ca or Shinjini at smehta@qualicumbeach.com if you would like to discuss options or book a meeting.

Volunteer with EMO

If you're interested in joining either the Oceanside Emergency Support Services (OESS) or Oceanside Emergency Communications Team (OECT), contact emergencyprogram@parksville.ca. Previous emergency support services or emergency communications experience isn't necessary as we can provide you with the training you'll need.

Our OESS team meets at 6.30 pm on the first Thursday of the month at the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre. If you're interested in learning about the team, feel free to get in touch oesd@parksville.ca or join us at a meeting!

GENERAL INFORMATION

Town of Qualicum Beach

Town Hall is open from 8.30 am to 4 pm Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays.

Email gbtown@qualicumbeach.com
Phone 250 752-6921
Mail PO Box 130, Qualicum Beach V9K 1S7

qualicumbeach.com
qbfirerescue.com

City of Parksville

City offices are open to the public from 8 am to 4 pm and the operations department from 8 am to 4 pm, closed noon to 1 pm. Contact information:

General inquiries, planning and finance departments	250 248-6144; info@parksville.ca
Administration and Office of the Mayor	250 954-3060; administration@parksville.ca
Engineering	250 951-2484; engineering@parksville.ca
Operations	250 248-5412; ops@parksville.ca
Parksville Fire Rescue	250 248-3242; fire@parksville.ca

parksville.ca
letstalkparksville.ca
parksvillefirerescue.ca

For more information:

Kate Pocock, Emergency Program Coordinator, City of Parksville
kpocock@parksville.ca

Shinjini, Climate Action and Emergency Program Coordinator, Town of Qualicum Beach
smehta@qualicumbeach.com

Kendra Stoner, Emergency Planning Coordinator, Regional District of Nanaimo
kstoner@rdn.bc.ca

