EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TIPS - Earthquakes

- 1. Potential hazards in our area: earthquake, fire, storm, blackout, terrorism.
- 2. Be prepared to be on your own for a minimum of 3 days.
- 3. Stock up water, food, medical supplies, first aid kit, flashlights, battery operated radio, plastic bags for waste disposal, blankets, duct tape, etc.

4. In case of earthquake:

- Danger is getting hit (especially your head) by falling objects and glass.
- The tower is strong safer to stay inside during the shaking.
- If you are outside, get inside unless you are located in very open area.
- [If in car, pull over & stop (except on bridge or in tunnel); stay in car.]
- Stay away from windows, heavy furniture, appliances, bookcases, kitchen.
- Choose a safe place in your suite (or stairwell).
- DROP, COVER and HOLD! Drop under sturdy furniture (table, chair, desk), protect your head, hold on to furniture.
- After shaking Count to 60 seconds to allow time for objects to fall before you move around.
- Check for unstable objects above and around you.
- Evacuate immediately if you smell gas.
- Know location of shutoff valves for water, gas and electricity.
- If water supply stops: don't flush toilet (tape the handle to prevent flushing) you have emergency supply of water in your toilet tank; add 9 drops of bleach, to keep it from growing bacteria.
- Anticipate aftershocks.
- Listen to radio or watch local TV for emergency instructions.

Additional information and resources:

Provincial Emergency Program:

www.pep.bc.ca/hazard_preparedness/hazard_preparedness.html

West End Residents Association – Emergency Preparedness Program: <u>www.wera.bc.ca/emergency</u>

Public Safety Canada: www.GetPrepared.ca

Lt. Michael Smith, Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services: <u>mike.smith@vancouver.ca</u>; (604) 665-6072

Jackie Kloosterboer, Emergency Planning Coordinator - City of Vancouver: jackie.kloosterboer@vancouver.ca