

Technical Review Board Memorandum

Date: April 3, 2018

Issue: **Assessment Project for Schools on Vancouver Island, Haida Gwaii and in School District 38 (Richmond)**

To: **Technical Review Board Members**

Discussion:

Recent changes to the 2015 National Building Code (NBC2015), have increased the intensity and duration of assumed ground force motions from the Cascadia subduction zone. These changes are reflected in the third edition of the Seismic Retrofit Guidelines (SRG3), which were released in the summer of 2017. With the changes to SRG3, there is a possibility that school blocks previously identified as having Medium or Low risk may now have a High-risk ranking.

This assessment project is being implemented to confirm the level of risk to schools that are most impacted by the SRG3 changes, which are located on Vancouver Island and Haida Gwaii (VI & HG).

SRG3 also included changes on the performance of structures located on soft soils. For this reason, assessments will also be completed on schools in the Richmond school district (SD38).

The project will include the assessment of over 500 blocks in approximately 200 schools, and will generally exclude the following:

- Blocks already completed under the SMP
- Blocks that are currently under construction
- Blocks that are proceeding to construction
- Blocks with Project Definition Reports (PDRs) that are close to completion
- Blocks constructed after 1990
- Blocks used for other uses other than instructional use (ex: School Board offices, etc.)
- Blocks closed for K to 12 education (inactive schools)
- Structures typically referred to as “portables”

The project is being led by the TRB Steering Committee (TRBSC).

Key individuals with contact information is provided below:

- Phillip Chambers – Project Lead
 - 250-216-8906
 - phillipchambersconsulting@shaw.ca
- Graham Taylor – VI & HG Team Member and lead contact for SD61
 - 250-656-4009
 - gwt@tbgsc.bc.ca

- John Wallace – VI & HG Team Member and lead contact for SD’s 71, 72, 84 & 85
 - 604-789-8118
 - johnwallace@telus.net
- Lee Rowley – VI & HG Team Member and lead contact for SD’s 62, 63, 64, 68, 69, 70 & 79
 - 250-751-8558
 - LRowley@Heroldengineering.com
- Andy Mill – Lead Contact for SD50
 - 604-984-3503
 - andymill@davidnairne.com
- Tim White – Co-lead for SD38
 - 604-688-9861
 - TWhite@bushbohlman.com
- John Sherstobitoff – Co-lead for SD38
 - 604-638-4512
 - John.sherstobitoff@ausenco.com

To assist with the implementation of this project, the TRBSC is developing a new assessment form that will replace the current Rapid Assessments. The new Seismic Risk Assessment (SRA) form will be provided as an on-line tool. The form and the website are under development and should be available soon. The TRBSC is also planning orientation sessions that will include the engineers hired to complete the assessments, the TRB Reviewers and school district staff. More information will be provided on the SRA and the sessions over the coming weeks.

The team is currently meeting with school districts to discuss process and confirm the lists of schools and blocks that should be included. Schools within larger school districts are also being bundled into groups of 10 blocks or larger ... this is to help spread the work among different engineering firms and will help portion our work to the TRB Reviewers more efficiently. A fee structure has also been developed for the assessing engineers. We anticipate that school districts will start engaging engineers to do the assessments as soon as they have met with us and confirmed both the in-scope schools and the bundles.

When engineers have been engaged by the school districts, TRB Reviewers will be assigned to conduct the peer reviews at a flat fee of \$300 per block. Assignment of TRB Reviewers will be managed by Phillip Chambers, the TRB Manager. TRB Reviewers will invoice and be paid by Engineers and Geoscientists BC.

Please advise Phillip if you will not be available over the coming months to complete these reviews.

The assessments and the reviews are to be completed by mid-August.

Please also note that a TRB Meeting will be scheduled in early May to discuss this project in greater detail. An agenda and meeting invitation will follow.