

- To be sent by Email from individuals w CC to parentadvocacynetwork@gmail.com and attach PDF of letter to Fed Gov
- Form letter as basis with personalization added as wanted

Dear NAME/TITLE

The Parent Advocacy Network for Public Education (PAN), in cooperation with parent and advocacy groups (Vancouver District Parent Advisory Council, First Call: BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition, Richmond Schools Stand United, Surrey Students Now, Comox Valley Families for Public Education, and Families Against Cuts to Education BC), sent you an email letter on Thursday, October 20, 2016, calling on the federal government to direct infrastructure funding towards urgently needed seismic upgrades for public schools in our province.

A staggering 118 public schools in BC have not even begun the Seismic Mitigation Process yet; in other words, 35 percent of BC's high risk schools have not even been discussed twelve years after the province declared that all upgrades would be completed by 2025. Forty-four of these are rated H1 (highest risk), and the majority are in Vancouver, Richmond, and Surrey. Tens of thousands of children spend their days in these buildings, as do thousands of teachers, administrators, volunteers, and staff.

These are not just schools; they are important public safety infrastructure, as they will be needed as emergency shelters in the days and weeks after a major earthquake. If they are not upgraded, they will be piles of useless rubble. Providing funding for these urgently needed upgrades will create construction jobs and result in communities that are better able to deal with the devastation of an earthquake, as well as ensure that children are not killed by their schools falling down.

The schools listed below are in your riding, my neighbourhood:

XXX – fill in schools, names and indicate which ones are H1, H2, H3

As a member of PAN, a parent, and a concerned constituent in your riding, I am following up on this letter (which is attached again for your convenience). I would like to meet with you in the next few weeks to discuss how, as my MP, you can help the federal government fulfill its responsibilities for public safety and infrastructure and do right by our children.

I look forward to hearing back from you soon.

Sincerely,