

# Seismic Risk & British Columbia's Historic Streetscapes

Heritage BC | Fact Sheet

Heritage BC and the provincial Heritage Branch have recently published a report in response to the lack of information available on the seismic risk to BC's heritage resources, with a concluding call to action. It catalogues the state of seismic history and risk in British Columbia and provides case studies, both local and abroad, on different approaches to seismic rehabilitation. The report offers a broad overview for British Columbians to better understand the seismic risk our heritage resources face, and what rehabilitation options are available to improve public safety. Case studies illustrate approaches and policies employed around the world to reduce earthquake-related losses to help save lives and livelihoods.



Port Alberni Bank of Montreal, damaged in a magnitude 7.1 earthquake, 1946.  
Government of Canada  
<https://science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/97253.html>

## PROBABILITY OF EARTHQUAKE IMPACTING VICTORIA WITHIN 50 YEARS

MAGNITUDE 9

11%

MAGNITUDE >7

21%

MAGNITUDE <6

53%

### Read the Full Report for:

#### Seismicity in British Columbia

- Seismic History in BC
- Seismic Risk

#### Seismic Rehabilitation Overview

- Performance Objectives
- Upgrading Options

#### Case Studies

- British Columbia
- United States of America
- New Zealand

#### Summary of Findings

#### Recommendations



Christchurch Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, damaged in a magnitude 6.3 earthquake, 2011.  
New Zealand Press Association, David Wethey  
<https://www.nzbcnews.com/news/world/new-zealands-quake-hit-cathedral-be-demolished-flna286176>

This summary is sourced from the Provincial Heritage Branch commissioned report *Seismic Risk and British Columbia's Historic Streetscapes* by Katie Cummer, PhD CAHP. Please note that these documents are meant to be a broad overview, intended for a general audience, such as property owners and policy makers, as opposed to a technical document. They are not an in-depth evaluation of the effectiveness or merits of individual approaches or policies. Find the Full Report and Heritage BC's Calls to Action at: <https://heritagebc.ca/resources/seismic-report/>



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