

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Update Regarding the Gymnasium at Amy Woodland Elementary School

December 12, 2024 – Cranbrook, BC

School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay) would like to inform the community that, based on the recent structural engineering findings of an external engineering company, it has been determined that the Amy Woodland Elementary School gymnasium's structural integrity is compromised, and the risk posed by winter snow loads make it unsafe.

Over the next few weeks, a restoration company (Kootenay Disaster Restorations) will commence work on the gymnasium. The project will focus on stabilizing and shoring up the two damaged glulam beams in the gymnasium while ensuring the safe removal of compromised interior items and hazardous materials. Structural monitoring, weatherproofing, and temporary safety measures will be implemented to comply with safety standards and protect the remaining structure from further deterioration.

The Board of Education continues to be a strong advocate for the replacement of Amy Woodland Elementary School. We are currently waiting for a decision from the Ministry of Education and Child Care and the Schools Protection Program. We will provide updates as soon as more information becomes available.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we work to ensure the safety of the community.