



June 27, 2018

Honourable Robert Fleming
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fleming,

RE: Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique (CSF) 2019/20 Five Year Capital Plan Submission

Please find attached the CSF's 2019/20 Five Year Capital Plan submission, which has been unanimously approved by the elected Board of Regional Trustees (CSF's Board). The CSF's 2019/20 Five Year Capital Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out by the Ministry of Education's Capital Management Branch in the *Capital Plan Instructions: Five Year Capital Plan Submission for 2019/20* dated April 2018. The CSF's Five Year Capital Plan submission has also been the subject of ongoing consultation and collaboration with the Director, Regional Director and Capital Planning Officer in the Ministry of Education's Capital Management Branch.

On June 29, 2017, the CSF submitted its 2018/19 Five Year Capital Plan to the Capital Management Branch, which included a Project Request Fact Sheet (PRFS) submission for each of the capital requests scheduled between years one and three of the plan. For its 2019/20 Five Year Capital Plan Submission, the CSF has been advised by the Capital Management Branch that it is not necessary to resubmit or revise the PRFS submissions supporting the 2018/19 Five Year Capital Plan, and to only submit a PRFS if there is new information or where the CSF has prioritized a new project. Therefore, the CSF's 2019/20 Five Year Capital Plan is supported by a new PRFS for a K to 6 school in South Surrey and a revised PRFS for Burnaby to include a second school site option that has been identified by the Ministry of Education (the Ministry), the Burnaby School Board and the CSF.

The Ministry is aware that the CSF has urgent needs throughout the province that must be satisfied in order for the CSF to fulfill its constitutional mandate to offer French-language education pursuant to section 23 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* (Charter). In this regard, the CSF's 2019/20 Five Year Capital Plan submission sets out the projects required by the CSF in order to deliver constitutionally mandated French-language education in British Columbia of equivalent quality to that offered by English language school districts. From the perspective of the CSF's Board, all of the projects set out in the plan are crucial to the equitable delivery of French-language education services to its constituencies across the province.

Furthermore, it is in the interest of the Ministry of Education, English language school districts and British Columbians with school age children to resolve the CSF's infrastructure needs. Currently, many students that are rights holders are unable, or choose not, to attend CSF schools due to lack

of space, non-equivalent space, or because a CSF program is not available in their community. When these students are able to attend a CSF school, space will be freed up in the English language schools, including immersion classes, which are in such high demands. Furthermore, by increasing the number of secondary school graduates from the CSF, the Ministry of Education is creating a pool of French speaking students that may choose to enter into a teaching career in British Columbia, thereby alleviating some of the pressure to recruit French speaking teachers. Clearly, there are significant benefits to the educational system when the CSF's capital plan is implemented.

The CSF's Board continues to use the same set of principles that were established to help prioritize the projects set out in the 2018/19 Five Year Capital Plan

The CSF has applied the same principles set out in the cover letter to the Minister of Education accompanying its 2018/2019 Five Year Capital Plan submission, in the development of the 2019/20 Five Year Capital Plan submission. However, the CSF's Board would like to reiterate some of the important factors and principles it considered during the development of the CSF's 2019/20 Five Year Capital Plan submission.

First, as was the case for the 2018/19 Five Year Capital Plan submission, the CSF has prioritized each of the projects in this Capital Plan submission because it is a requirement set out by the Ministry in the *Capital Plan Instructions*, and is necessary for the CSF's projects to be considered during the Ministry's and government's 2019/20 budget process. However, it remains CSF's Board's position that it provides such a list under protest and does not consider the prioritized capital plan to be a true reflection of the urgency that the CSF's lack of school infrastructure places on its ability to deliver constitutionally required services to the francophone community in British Columbia. All of the capital projects presented in the 2019/20 Capital Plan are required in order for the CSF to offer education of equivalent quality to English language school districts.

A second important principle for the CSF's Board is to prioritize projects based on Madam Justice Russell's judgement provided on September 26, 2016. Each such project is identified as a first priority and is listed J-1 through to J-7 in the CSF's 2019/20 Capital Plan. The CSF expects these projects to be identified by the Ministry as a priority for the 2019/20 – 2021/22 capital funding envelope identified in the Ministry's capital budget in the Government of British Columbia's 2019/20 Fiscal Plan. These projects alone total approximately \$48.3 M in 2018/19; \$15.53 M in 2019/20 and \$32.4 M in 2021/22, far exceeding the current capital funding envelope allocated to the CSF in the Government's 2017/18 Fiscal Plan of \$52.7 M.

It must be stated that the Ministry and the CSF have made significant progress in identifying sites for many of the projects prioritized by the judgement of Madam Justice Russell, and the current \$52.7 M allocation will be likely be fully expended if not by the end of this fiscal year, then certainly within the first two quarters of the next fiscal year. Therefore, it is imperative that the Ministry provide a significant and increasing rolling capital budget envelope to the CSF, reflected in every year of the Ministry' 2019/20 – 2021/22 capital funding envelope, in the Government of British Columbia's Fiscal Plan.

A third guiding factor for the CSF's Board is to prioritize projects based on when the capital project could be achieved within the Five Year Capital Plan. Highest priority has been given to projects that could start within the first three years of the 2019/20 Capital Plan, and/or where there is a significant operational need for increased or new space for French language programming. The objective of this principle is maximize the number of projects that could be started each year within the capital funding envelope as projects that are feasible and ready to start are prioritized.

A fourth key principle takes into consideration the extent of the Ministry's breaches of section 23 of the *Charter* to enable the CSF to provide French language education of equivalent quality to that of English language school districts. The objective of this principle is to take into consideration the number of students in a catchment area that are not enrolled because there is no school or because the school is full, as well as complaints regarding other considerations communicated to the CSF by parents, parents' associations or representatives of the francophone community.

The final and very important guiding principle is the principle of flexibility to proceed with projects that are identified in the CSF's Five Year Capital Plan submission. This principle acknowledges that the provincial nature of the CSF's service delivery model is unique, and opportunities that are currently unknown are likely to arise outside of the Ministry's annual capital budgeting processes. In recognition of the unique situation of the CSF, the CSF has been advised by Ministry officials it intends to be flexible when considering the selection of new supported projects and capital budget approvals for all projects identified within the CSF's Five Year Capital Plan. It is the expectation of the CSF that if a site or leasing opportunity arises outside of the Ministry's annual capital approval process, but is deemed by the CSF to be as high a priority as an approved or supported project, Ministry officials will work with the CSF to review and approve the business case of the emerging project.

Furthermore, if there is an opportunity identified in an area where land is at a premium and is difficult to come across, it is the CSF's Board's expectation that the Ministry will work with the CSF to purchase such property. An immediate example is in South Surrey, where there is a developer who is willing to provide 4 acres to the CSF for a French-language school and to accommodate the CSF's needs, and the City planning staff are supportive of the project. However, to date the Ministry has not supported this project due to the limited funding envelope available to the CSF. This approach is very short sighted on behalf of the Ministry as land in South Surrey will only increase in price and it is not possible for the CSF to work with the School District to purchase or lease a school as the District has its own space deficit and significant infrastructure needs due to substantial annual enrolment growth. CSF's Board is of the view that the South Surrey example may very well turn out to be like the scenario in Vancouver West of Main Street, where the current cost to purchase land is exorbitant. Had the Ministry assisted the CSF in finding a site, ideally working with the Vancouver School Board, and supported a capital project for Vancouver West of Main Street 15 years ago, when the CSF first made a capital request in this area, the cost would have been substantially less than it is now.

The CSF recognizes in most cases the most practical solution is to acquire an asset from local English language school districts

Over the past year, the CSF and officials from the Ministry have been working collaboratively to identify potential opportunities to purchase school sites and infrastructure. This work has been focussed on assets available from various English language school districts. The CSF's Board appreciates the Ministry officials' time and effort to assist the CSF in its work to identify appropriate school sites across the province that might become available from English-language school districts, and assisting in discussions and negotiations with the relevant English language school districts to facilitate the transfer of assets to the CSF. This focussed work is beginning to bear fruit with the result that, the CSF's capital funding envelope will be fully expended likely within this current fiscal year, but certainly within the first two quarters of the next fiscal year. In order to keep the momentum of the Ministry's officials and CSF's efforts with various English language school districts, a significant increase to the CSF's capital funding envelope is required.

In summary, the CSF's Board would like to reiterate two key points:

1. The CSF's Capital Funding Envelope needs to be significantly increased in order to achieve the priorities set out by Madam Justice Russell and the CSF's operational priorities to provide French language education.
2. The CSF expects the Ministry to be flexible in the consideration of new or emerging priorities in the implementation of the 2019/20 Five Year Capital Plan.

The CSF would be pleased to meet with you to provide you with additional information with respect to the matters set out in this correspondence.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Lapierre', is placed over a light grey rectangular background.

Marie France Lapierre
President

cc: Sylvain Allison, Secretary-Treasurer

Attachment: CSF 2019/20 Five Year Capital Plan

SD#	SD Name	Project Priority (CSF)	Project Priority (MOE)	Facility name	Project code	Project description	Supporting document	Previously supported by EDUC (No PA)	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total	
									2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23		2023/24
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	J	J-1	Vancouver West Elementary School	New	Site acquisition - Vancouver West K to 6 (60K/375E) Elementary School	PRFS	No	35 000 000					35 000 000	
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	J	J-1	Vancouver West Elementary School	New	Construction - Vancouver West K to 6 (60K/375E) Elementary School	PRFS	No		30 000 000				30 000 000	
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	J	J-2	Vancouver West Elementary School	New	Site acquisition - Vancouver West K to 6 (60K/375E) Elementary School	PRFS	No			20 000 000			20 000 000	
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	J	J-2	Vancouver West Elementary School	New	Construction - Vancouver West K to 6 (60K/375E) Elementary School	PRFS	No					30 000 000	30 000 000	
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	J	J-3	École Entre Lac (Penticton)	New	Acquire McNicoll Middle School for K to 12 CSF School	PRFS	No	10 000 000					10 000 000	
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	J	J-4	École du Pacifique Elementary (Sechelt)	New	Site acquisition - Sechelt K to 7 Elementary School (20K/100E)	PRFS	No		2 750 000				2 750 000	
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	J	J-4	École du Pacifique Elementary (Sechelt)	New	Construction - Sechelt K to 7 Elementary School (20K/100E)	PRFS	No				15 000 000		15 000 000	
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	J	J-5	Abbotsford School	New	Lease space for new K-12 School program	PRFS	No		200 000	200 000	200 000		600 000	
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	J	J-5	Abbotsford School	New	Site acquisition - Abbotsford K to 12 School (40K/175E/175S)	PRFS	No	5 000 000					5 000 000	
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	J	J-5	Abbotsford School	New	Construction - New Abbotsford K to 12 School (40K/175E/175S)	PRFS	No				40 000 000		40 000 000	
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	J	J-6	École les Aiglons (Squamish)	New	Site acquisition - Squamish K to 12 School (40K/125E/75S)	PRFS	No	5 000 000					5 000 000	
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	J	J-6	École les Aiglons (Squamish)	New	Construction - Squamish K to 12 School (40K/125E/75S)	PRFS	No				35 000 000		35 000 000	
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	J	J-7	Leases		Current and known leases	N/A	No	3 135 532	2 578 368	2 223 746	2 044 976	2 047 721	2 047 721	14 078 064
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	1	Burnaby Elementary School	New	Site acquisition - Burnaby K to 6 Elementary School (60K/200E)	PRFS	No			20 000 000			20 000 000	
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	1	Burnaby Elementary School	New	Construction - Burnaby K to 6 Elementary School (60K/200K)	N/A	No				20 000 000		20 000 000	
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	2	Vancouver East of Main (North) Elementary School	New	Site acquisition - Vancouver East of Main (North) K to 6 Elementary School (60K/200E)	PRFS	No			20 000 000			20 000 000	
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	2	Vancouver East of Main (North) Elementary School	New	Construction - Vancouver East of Main (North) K to 6 Elementary School (60K/200E)	PRFS	No					20 000 000	20 000 000	

Please note : With the exception of project indentified by a "J", the priorities set out in this Capital Plan are subject to change based on opportunity

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									2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23		2023/24
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	3	North Vancouver/West Vancouver School	New	Lease space for new K to 6 Elementary School program	PRFS	No		425 000	425 000	425 000	425 000		1 700 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	3	North Vancouver/West Vancouver School	New	Site Acquisition - North/West Vancouver K to 12 School (40K/200E/200S)	PRFS	No			20 000 000				20 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	3	North Vancouver/West Vancouver School	New	Construction - North/West Vancouver K to 12 School (40K/200E/200S)	PRFS	No						60 000 000	60 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	4	Surrey (South) Elementary School	New	Lease space for new K to 6 Elementary School program	PRFS	No		400 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	2 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	4	Surrey (South) Elementary School	New	Site acquisition - Surrey K to 6 Elementary School (60K/200E)	PRFS	No	16 500 000						16 500 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	4	Surrey (South) Elementary School	New	Construction - Surrey K to 6 Elementary School(60K/200E)	PRFS	No					20 000 000		20 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	5	Victoria (West) Elementary School	New	Site acquisition - Victoria West K to 6 Elementary School (60K/300E)	PRFS	No			10 000 000				10 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	5	Victoria (West) Elementary School	New	Construction - Victoria West K to 6 Elementary School (60K/300E)	PRFS	No					20 000 000		20 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	6	École de la Vallée Elementary (Pemberton)	New	Site acquisition - Pemberton K to 7 Elementary School (20E/75E)	PRFS	No	1 000 000						1 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	6	École de la Vallée Elementary (Pemberton)	New	Construction - Pemberton K to 7 Elementary School (20K/75E)	PRFS	No				20 000 000			20 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	7	École Collines d'Or (Kamloops)	New	Lease additional space for K to 12 School program	PRFS	No		100 000	100 000	100 000	100 000	100 000	500 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	8	École Les Voyageurs School (Langley)	Rep	Replacement - Langley K to 12 School (40K/225E/75S)	N/A	No			40 000 000				40 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	9	École des Sentiers-Alpins (Nelson)	New	Site acquisition - Nelson K to 12 School (40K/125E/75S)	PRFS	No	4 000 000						4 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	9	École des Sentiers-Alpins (Nelson)	New	Construction - Nelson K to 12 School (40K/125E/75S)	PRFS	No			35 000 000				35 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	10	École La Passerelle (Whistler)	New	Site acquisition - Whistler K to 12 School (40K/125E/75S)	N/A	No	20 000 000						20 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	10	École La Passerelle (Whistler)	New	Construction - Whistler K to 12 School (40K/125E/75S)	N/A	No				35 000 000			35 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	11	École L'Anse au sable (Kelowna)	Rep	Site acquisition - Kelowna East K to 12 School (40K/225E/125S)	PRFS	No			4 000 000				4 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	11	École L'Anse au sable (Kelowna)	Rep	Construction - Kelowna East K to 12 School (40K/225E/125S)	PRFS	No					50 000 000		50 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	12	École des Glaciers (Revelstoke)	New	Lease additional space for K to 12 School program	PRFS	No		75 000	75 000	75 000	75 000	75 000	375 000

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									2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23		2023/24
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	13	École Jack Cook Elementary (Terrace)	New	Lease additional space for K to 7 Elementary School program	PRFS	No	42 000	48 000	48 000	54 000	54 000	54 000	300 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	14	École Océane School (Nanaimo)	New	Site acquisition - Nanaimo K to 12 School (40K/225E/100S)	PRFS	No		5 000 000					5 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	14	École Océane School (Nanaimo)	New	Construction - Nanaimo K to 12 School (40K/225E/100S)	PRFS	No				50 000 000			50 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	15	École des Navigateurs (Richmond)	New	Acquire K to 12 school site (40K/225E/75S)	PRFS	No		25 000 000					25 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	15	École des Navigateurs (Richmond)	New	Construction - Richmond K to 12 School (40K/225E/75S)	PRFS	No					45 000 000		45 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	16	Vancouver East of Main Secondary School	New	Site acquisition - Vancouver East of Main 7 to 12 Secondary School (50E/400S)	N/A	No						30 000 000	30 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	17	École Anne-Hébert (Vancouver East of Main (South))	Rep	Replacement - Vancouver East of Main (South) K to 6 Elementary School (60K/300E)	N/A	No						30 000 000	30 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	18	École La Vérendrye (Chilliwack)	New	Site Acquisition - Chilliwack K to 7 Elementary School (20K/100E)	N/A	No						5 000 000	5 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	19	Victoria (East) Elementary School	New	Site acquisition - Victoria East K to 6 Elementary School (60K/300E)	PRFS	No				15 000 000			15 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	20	École Mer et Montagne (Campbell River)	Add	Construct addition - Campbell River K to 12 (addition of 50E/75S)	N/A	No						10 000 000	10 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	21	Kimberley Elementary School	New	Lease space for new K to 7 School program	PRFS	No	75 000	75 000	75 000	75 000	75 000	75 000	450 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	22	Maple Ridge Elementary School	New	Site acquisition - Maple Ridge K to 6 Elementary School (60K/200E)	PRFS	No						6 000 000	6 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	23	Victoria (North) Elementary School	New	Lease space for new K to 6 School program	N/A	No					150 000	150 000	300 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	24	Surrey (North) Elementary School	New	Site acquisition - Surrey K to 6 Elementary School (60K/200E)	N/A	No						20 000 000	20 000 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	25	Vernon Elementary School	New	Lease space for new K to 7 School program	N/A	No					150 000	150 000	300 000
93	Conseil scolaire francophone	1	26	École des Deux rives (Mission)	Add	Replacement of Gymnasium - Provincial matching contribution to Federal funding request	N/A	No						827 283	827 283

52 252 532 59 151 368 207 546 746 253 373 976 158 476 721 194 879 004 925 680 347

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