



**Media Release  
For Immediate Release**

Monday, January 29, 2018

**Oak Bay High School achieves LEED Gold Certification**

VICTORIA, BC – Oak Bay High School is being recognized for its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). The Canada Green Building Council has given the school a mark of excellence for sustainable construction.

From design to construction, the architects, contractor, Facilities department and administration collaborated to ensure environmentally responsible building practices and materials were used. The \$50 million school project was completed in 2015 and has been lowering energy consumption by an estimated 51% in comparison to a typical school building of its size.

“We are very excited as this is the first LEED gold certified school in our District,” shared Superintendent Piet Langstraat. “It demonstrates our commitment to creating the best learning environments for our students and staff while working towards building a sustainable future.”

LEED certification is awarded on a credit-based system, allowing projects to earn points for environmentally friendly actions taken to conserve resources, improve energy efficiencies, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote healthy and sustainable buildings.

“We have put forth a great effort to receive these LEED credits and are very proud of this achievement,” noted Board Chair Edith Loring-Kuhanga. “We considered all measures to reduce our environmental footprint and chose best practices that would align with our environmental policy”.

Highlights of Oak Bay High’s sustainable commitment include:

- Introducing a hot water heat pump for heating and cooling
- Installing high performance Direct Digital Control (DDC) and lighting control systems
- Maximizing natural lighting through architectural design
- Using high performance windows and a building envelope
- Including LED lighting fixtures
- Reducing water consumption with low flow toilets, urinals, and sink fixtures
- Creating a storm water retention system to reduce flooding and erosion at Bowker Creek and to reduce the release of contaminants into Bowker Creek
- Utilizing durable components such as concrete, medium density fibreboard, metal siding and masonry
- Using low emitting material such as low volatile organic compound (VOC) paints, natural flooring materials and low VOC composite wood materials

- Including use of materials with a high recycled content such as concrete and structural steel
- Providing eight parking spots with electric chargers
- Providing covered bicycle parking spaces and access to shower facilities for cyclists
- Recycling and diverting approximately 92% of construction and demolition waste from landfill

For additional details please review the fact sheet attached.

A plaque marking the School District's achievement will be placed in the school's front entrance. An official event will be held on **Tuesday, January 30, 2018**. The media is invited to attend.

**Media Opportunity:**

Where:

Oak Bay High School  
2121 Cadboro Bay Road  
Victoria, BC

When:

Tuesday, January 30, 2018  
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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**For Media Enquiries:**

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