



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
Regular Board Meeting
AGENDA
Via Zoom

Monday, March 14, 2022, 7:30 p.m.
Broadcasted via YouTube
<https://bit.ly/3czx8bA>

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

This meeting is being audio and video recorded. The video can be viewed on the District website.

A.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

A.2. Approval of the Agenda

Recommended Motion:
That the March 14, 2022 agenda be approved.

A.3. Approval of the Minutes

a. Approval of the February 22, 2022 Special Board Budget Minutes

Recommended Motion:
That the February 22, 2022 Special Board Budget minutes be approved.

- b. Approval of the February 23, 2022 Special Board Minutes

Recommended Motion:

That the February 23, 2022 Special Board minutes be approved.

- c. Approval of the February 28, 2022 Regular Board Minutes

Recommended Motion:

That the February 28, 2022 Regular Board minutes be approved.

A.4. Business Arising from the Minutes

A.5. Student Achievement

A.6. District Presentations

A.7. Community Presentations (5 minutes per presentation)

- a. Ian Graeme, Proposed Land Disposal at Lansdowne Middle School South
- b. Soren Henrich, Friends of Bowker Creek Society, Fiduciary Oversight
- c. Lisa Timmons, President, Camosun Community Association, SD61 Land Disposal, Lansdowne Middle School South
- d. Peter Haddon, Team Building
- e. Bonnie Smith, Equitable Music Education
- f. Kevin Harder, CEO, Victoria Hospice Society, Proposed Victoria Hospice Site

B. CORRESPONDENCE

- B.1. February 17, 2022, BCSTA to Member of Legislative Assembly, Thank You**
- B.2. February 17, 2022, BCSTA to Member of Legislative Assembly, Congratulations**
- B.3. February 18, 2022, BCSTA to Minister of Education and Minister of Public Safety, Funding for Education in Correctional Institutions**
- B.4. February 23, 2022 - March 8, 2022, Public Correspondence re proposed land disposal at Lansdowne Middle School South Campus**
- B.5. March 7, 2022, GVTA to Minister of Education, Provincial Budget**

C. TRUSTEE REPORTS

C.1. Chair's Report

- a. Chair's Report
- b. BCSTA Climate Change Survey

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) refer the BCSTA Climate Action Survey to the Climate Action Committee.

- c. Annual Workplan: April 2022

C.2. Trustees' Reports (2 minutes per verbal presentation)

D. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

D.1. Combined Education Policy and Directions Committee and Operations Policy and Planning Committee

- a. Draft minutes from the March 7, 2022 combined meeting - Information only

E. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

E.1. Interim Superintendent's Report

- a. Monthly Report

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) receive the Interim Superintendent's report as presented.

- b. Trustee Questions

E.2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

- a. Monthly Report

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) receive the Secretary-Treasurer's report as presented.

b. Lansdowne Middle School, South Campus

i. Partial Disposal Bylaw, 2022: 3rd Reading

Recommended Motion:

Whereas a board of education may dispose of land or improvements owned or administered by the board under the authority of Section 96(3) of the School Act, subject to the Orders of the Minister of Education (the "Minister");

AND WHEREAS the Minister issued Order M193/08 effective September 3, 2008 (the "Order") requiring fee simple sales and leases of land or improvements for a term of ten years or more to be specifically approved by the Minister, unless the transferee is an independent school or another school board;

AND WHEREAS Section 65(5) of the School Act requires a board of education to exercise a power with respect to the acquisition or disposal of property only by bylaw;

AND WHEREAS:

- A. The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) (the "Board") owns lands and improvements at 2780 Richmond Road, Victoria, B.C. known as Lansdowne Middle School, South Campus (formerly Richmond Elementary School site (the "Property");
- B. The Facility Number of the Property is:105629.
- C. The legal description of the Property is:
Parcel Identifier: 005-170-222
Lot 3, Section 26, Victoria District, Plan 10792;
- D. The Board proposes to subdivide and sell to the Victoria Hospice Society (the "VHS") the portion of the Property lying to the west and south of Bowker Creek and measuring approximately 1.9 acres in area as shown on Schedule A attached hereto (the "Lands"), pursuant to the terms of a conditional agreement of purchase and sale (the "Sale Agreement") for a price of \$2,500,000, adjusted as provided in the Sale Agreement (the "Price");
- E. The Board is satisfied that it would be in the best interests of the Board to enter into the Sale Agreement and pursuant to its obligations thereunder subdivide the Property and sell the Lands to the VHS for the Price (the "Subdivision and Sale");
- F. The Board is satisfied that the Subdivision and Sale will not interfere with the use by the Board of the remainder of the Property for educational purposes.

NOW THEREFORE be it enacted as a Bylaw of the Board that the Sale Agreement and the Subdivision and Sale be and are hereby authorized, ratified and approved, subject to the Minister of Education providing a written Certificate of Disposal approving the sale of the Lands.

BE IT FURTHER enacted that the Secretary-Treasurer be and is hereby authorized on behalf of the Board to execute and deliver the Sale Agreement and,

subject to the Minister's Approval, all documents required to complete the Subdivision and Sale, and all related and ancillary documents, with all such amendments thereto as the Secretary-Treasurer may, in her discretion, consider advisable.

This Bylaw may be cited as "School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) Lansdowne Middle School, South Campus (formerly Richmond Elementary School) Site Partial Disposal Bylaw 2022".

Read a first time this 24th day of January, 2022.

Read a second time this 24th day of January, 2022.

Read a third time this 14th of March, 2022, and finally passed and adopted this 14th day of March, 2022.

F. QUESTION PERIOD (15 minutes total)

G. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

G.1. Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – February 22, 2022

G.2. Record of In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – February 28, 2022

G.3. Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – March 1, 2022

H. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

H.1. New Business

H.2. Notice of Motions

I. ADJOURNMENT

Recommended Motion:

That the meeting be adjourned.



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

Special Board Budget Meeting

MINUTES

Tuesday, February 22, 2022, 5:00 p.m.

Trustees Present: Ryan Painter, Board Chair, Tom Ferris, Vice-Chair, Nicole Duncan, Angie Hentze, Elaine Leonard, Jordan Watters, Ann Whiteaker

Trustees Suspended: Diane McNally, Rob Paynter

Administration: Deb Whitten, Interim Superintendent of Schools, Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, Colin Roberts, Interim Deputy Superintendent, Harold Caldwell, Associate Superintendent, Katrina Stride, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Julie Lutner, Director of Finance, Budgets & Financial Reporting, Chuck Morris, Director, Facilities Services, Andy Canty, Director, Information Technology for Learning

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m.

A.1 Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

Chair Painter recognized and acknowledged the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

A.2 Approval of the Agenda

Trustee Duncan requested that an item be agenda to the agenda under C.1. New Business.

Moved by Trustee Duncan
Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

Add an item to the agenda at C.1. New Business, Letter to Community

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Duncan, Hentze, Painter, Whiteaker
Against: Trustees Ferris, Leonard

Moved By Trustee Ferris
Seconded By Trustee Leonard

That the February 22, 2022 Special Board Budget agenda be approved, as amended.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Duncan, Ferris, Hentze, Painter, Whiteaker
Against: Leonard

B. 2021-2022 AMENDED ANNUAL BUDGET

B.1. Amended Budget Bylaw Readings

Secretary-Treasurer Morris advised Trustees that this meeting is to receive updated information as it relates to the 2021-2022 Budget since the reading of the bylaw on June 3, 2021 and is a requirement to be submitted to the Ministry of Education each year by their deadline of February 28, 2022.

Associate Secretary-Treasurer Stride provided a high level overview of the amended budget and answered questions of clarification from Trustees.

Moved by Trustee Leonard
Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2021-2022 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$272,964,571 be:

Read a first time the 22nd day of February, 2022.

Motion Carried

Trustee Duncan moved an amendment to table.

Moved by Trustee Duncan
Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

Motion must be carried unanimously in order to carry on to the third reading.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) table the readings of the 2021-2022 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw until the February 28, 2022 Board of Education meeting.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees Duncan, Whiteaker
Against: Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Leonard, Painter, Watters

Chair Painter called for the vote on the main motion as presented.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2021-2022 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$272,964,571 be:

Read a first time the 22nd day of February, 2022.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Leonard, Painter, Watters
Against: Trustees Duncan, Whiteaker

Moved by Trustee Leonard
Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2021-2022 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$272,964,571 be:

Read a second time the 22nd day of February, 2022.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Leonard, Painter, Watters
Against: Trustees Duncan, Whiteaker

Moved by Trustee Leonard
Moved by Trustee Watters

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) agree to give all three readings of the 2021-2022 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw at the meeting of February 22, 2022.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Leonard, Painter, Watters
Against: Trustees Duncan, Whiteaker

Chair Painter advised that the third reading will be placed on the February 28, 2022 Board of Education meeting agenda.

Secretary-treasurer Morris expressed gratitude to Associate Secretary-Treasurer Stride and Director of Finance Lutner for all of the work on the Annual Amended Budget.

B.2. Business Arising from the Budget Bylaw

None

C. NEW BUSINESS

C.1. Trustee Duncan – Letter to Learning Community

Trustee Duncan provided rationale for the motion.

Moved by Trustee Duncan

Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct Chair Painter to write to the Learning Community, Stakeholders, Rights Holders, and the Minister of Education explaining the authority relied upon to support its decision to suspend 2 of the 9 Trustees elected in October 2018.

Discussion ensued amongst Trustees with a suggestion being made to refer the motion to the February Board meeting.

Moved by Trustee Leonard

Seconded by Trustee Watters

That the motion “*That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Chair to write to the Learning Community, Stakeholders, Rights Holders, and the Minister of Education explaining the authority relied upon to support its decision to suspend 2/9 Trustees elected in October 2018*” be referred to the February 28, 2022 Board of Education meeting.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Leonard, Painter, Watters

Against: Trustees Duncan, Whiteaker

D. ADJOURNEMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Moved By Trustee Leonard

Seconded By Trustee Ferris

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

DRAFT



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

Special Board Meeting

MINUTES

Wednesday, February 23, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

Trustees Present: Ryan Painter, Board Chair, Tom Ferris, Vice-Chair, Nicole Duncan, Angie Hentze, Elaine Leonard, Jordan Watters, Ann Whiteaker

Trustees Suspended: Diane McNally, Rob Paynter

Administration: Deb Whitten, Interim Superintendent of Schools, Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, Colin Roberts, Interim Deputy Superintendent, Harold Caldwell, Associate Superintendent, Katrina Stride, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Chuck Morris, Director, Facilities Services, Andy Canty, Director, Information Technology for Learning, Lisa McPhail, Communications and Community Engagement Manager, Vicki Hanley, Recorder

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

A.1 Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

Chair Painter recognized and acknowledged the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

A.2 Approval of the Agenda

Moved By Trustee Watters

Seconded By Trustee Leonard

That the February 23, 2022 Special Board meeting agenda be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

B. PROPOSED LAND DISPOSAL, LANSDOWNE MIDDLE SCHOOL SOUTH

Chair Painter welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined the format for the meeting relative to each speaker being provided three minutes to present to Trustees, and the meeting would not include a question and answer period.

B.1 Community Presentations

The following people attended the Special Board meeting to speak to Trustees relative to the proposed partial land disposal at Lansdowne Middle School South Campus:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Meralin Young | 16. Pat Walker |
| 2. Mary Ann Watson | 17. Dr. Christine Jones |
| 3. Leigh Urquhart | 18. Susan Haddon |
| 4. Gerald Harris | 19. Chris Munson |
| 5. Lisa Timmons | 20. Mike Graeme |
| 6. Derek Shrubsole | 21. Riga Godron |
| 7. Isabel Cordua-von Specht | 22. Carolyn Knight |
| 8. Jordan Reichert | 23. Kathryn Foster |
| 9. Soren Henrich | 24. Jane Devonshire |
| 10. Marguerite Rowe | 25. Dr. Janice Mason |
| 11. Jane Evans | 26. Mari Imahori |
| 12. Kevin Harter | 27. Rob Vanzella |
| 13. Esther Callo | 28. Franka Cordua-von Specht |
| 14. Deanna Pfeifer | 29. Ian Graeme |
| 15. Jonathan Faerber | 30. Susan Roberts |

Chair Painter thanked all presenters for attending and providing Trustees with their input and advised that the third and final reading will be debated and voted on at the February 28, 2022 Board of Education meeting.

C. ADJOURNEMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Moved By Trustee Leonard

Seconded By Trustee Hentze

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

DRAFT



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

MINUTES

Via Zoom

February 28, 2022, 7:30 p.m.

Trustees Present: Ryan Painter, Board Chair, Tom Ferris, Vice-Chair, Nicole Duncan, Angie Hentze, Elaine Leonard, Jordan Watters, Ann Whiteaker

Trustees Sanctioned: Diane McNally, Rob Painter

Administration: Deb Whitten, Interim Superintendent of Schools, Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, Colin Roberts, Interim Deputy Superintendent, Harold Caldwell, Associate Superintendent, Katrina Stride, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Julie Lutner, Director of Finance, Chuck Morris, Director, Facilities Services, Andy Canty, Director, Information Technology for Learning, Marni Vistisen-Harwood, Associate Director, Facilities Services, Vicki Hanley, Recorder

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m.

A.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

Chair Painter recognized and acknowledged the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

A.2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Ferris

Seconded by Trustee Watters

That the February 28, 2022 agenda be approved with the following amendments:

Remove: A.7.f. Kevin Harter, CEO, Victoria Hospice Society

Remove: E.2.c. Lansdowne Middle School, Partial Disposal Bylaw 2022: 3rd Reading

Add: C.1.d. Public Apology

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Watters
Seconded by Trustee Leonard

That the February 28, 2022 agenda be approved with the following amendment:

Remove: H.1.d. Letter to Learning Community

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Duncan
Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That the February 28, 2022 agenda be approved with the following amendments:

Add: C.2.a. Trustee Reports: Trustee Duncan

Add: B.13. Correspondence: February 24, 2022 Open Letter from Board Chair to Partner Groups

Add: C.2.b. Trustee Reports: Trustee Whiteaker

Switch order on agenda: H.1.b. with H.1.c.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.3. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Trustee Ferris
Seconded by Trustee Leonard

That the January 24, 2022 Regular Board minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.4. Business Arising from the Minutes

None

A.5. Student Achievement

None

A.6. District Presentations

None

A.7. Community Presentations

- a. Ms. Loring-Kuhanga attended the Board meeting to speak against the suspension of Trustees McNally and Painter and urged Trustees to reverse their decision.
- b. Ms. Cordua-von Specht attended the Board meeting to speak against the partial disposal of land at Lansdowne Middle School South Campus.
- c. Ms. Currey attended the Board meeting to speak against the partial disposal of land at Lansdowne Middle School South Campus.

- d. Ms. Timmons attended the Board meeting to speak against the partial disposal of land at Lansdowne Middle School South Campus.
- e. Mr. Heinrich attended the Board meeting to speak about Board culture and learning.

B. CORRESPONDENCE

B.1. January 4, 2022, SD5 to Minister of Education, K-12 Recommendations

B.2. January 18 – February 22, 2022, Public Correspondence re proposed land disposal at Lansdowne Middle School South Campus

B.3. January 28, 2022, Township of Esquimalt to SD61, Childcare in School Facilities

Chair Painter suggested that Trustee Ferris be assigned to attend a meeting as the liaison to the Township of Esquimalt, along with a staff member.

Moved by Trustee Leonard
Seconded by Trustee Watters

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) assign Trustee Ferris to attend a meeting at the Township of Esquimalt, along with a staff member, in order to hear their feedback with respect to childcare in District school facilities;
 AND FURTHER

That Chair Painter respond to the January 28, 2022 letter advising that Trustee Ferris would be assigned to attend.

Motion Carried Unanimously

B.4. February 2, 2022, SD61 to Minister of Education, Friends of Bowker Creek, Camosun Community Association, Purchase and Sale Agreement

B.5. February 8, 2022, Minister of Education and Minister of State to Education Partners, Child care transition to Ministry of Education

B.6. February 9, 2022, Fernwood Community Association to SD61, Daycare

Trustee Duncan requested an update. Secretary-Treasurer Morris advised that she did not have an update, however, could prepare an update for a future meeting.

B.7. February 9, 2022, BCSTA to Minister of Education, Response to FNLC Letter re FSA testing data

B.8. February 10, 2022, BC Hydro to SD61, Response re Net Metering

Trustee Duncan requested information with respect to the process of installing more solar panels and requested to know if the District has reached out to BC Hydro. Secretary-Treasurer responded.

B.9. February 14, 2022, Ms. Cordua-von Specht to SD61 Trustees, Land Disposal

Trustee Whiteaker suggested that an FAQ be added to the District website with this information. Secretary-Treasurer Morris responded and agreed.

B.10. February 14, 2022, Ms. Tolgyesi to SD61 Chair, Support of CF Games

B.11. February 15, 2022, Premier of BC to SD61 Chair, response re \$10 a day child care

B.12. February 18, 2022, Victoria Hospice Society to Board Chair, Potential Land Purchase at Lansdowne Middle School South Campus

B.13. February 24, 2022, Open Letter from Board Chair to Partner Groups, Suspension of Trustees

This letter was added to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting and will be posted to the District website as a supplemental document.

C. TRUSTEE REPORTS

C.1. Chair's Report

a. Chair's Report

None

b. Annual Workplan: March 2022

Chair Painter presented for information, the Board work plan for March 2022.

c. Election of British Columbia Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) Representative

Chair Painter advised that the position of Representative for the BC Public School Employers' Association was currently vacant and called for nominations for this position.

Chair Painter advised that nominations were received for Trustee Ferris. Trustee Ferris accepted the nomination and was acclaimed as the new BCPSEA Representative.

d. Public Apology

Chair Painter read the following formal apology to Secretary-Treasurer Morris:

On behalf of the Board, I would like to formally apologize for the bullying and harassment you have experienced as a result of the public statements made by some trustees which impugned your competence and integrity. These comments were unfair, were not reflective of the views of the Board, and should not have been made. The Board has full confidence in your ability and performance as Secretary-Treasurer.

As an employer, our goal is to ensure that all Board employees are treated with dignity and respect. We regret that this has not been your experience, and acknowledge the impact this has had on you professionally and personally. We very much regret that this has occurred.

C.2. Trustees' Reports

- a. Trustee Duncan provided a verbal report relative to the suspension of two Trustees.
- b. Trustee Whiteaker provided a verbal report relative to the suspension of two Trustees,

D. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

D.1. Education Policy and Directions Committee

- a. The draft minutes from the February 7, 2022 meeting were presented for information.

D.2. Operations Policy and Planning Committee

- a. The draft minutes from the February 14, 2022 meeting were presented for information.
- b. Recommended motion from the February 14, 2022 meeting:
 - a. Draft 2022-2023 School Calendar

Associate Superintendent Roberts presented the 'draft' 2022-2023 School Calendar, to be posted on the District website for thirty days for community feedback.

Moved by Trustee Ferris
Seconded by Trustee Leonard

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the posting of the following 2022/2023 school calendar on the School District's website for a period of one month:
2022/2023 School Calendar*

School Opening	September 6, 2022
First non-instructional day	September 23, 2022
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	September 30, 2022
Thanksgiving	October 10, 2022
Second non-instructional day wide)	October 21, 2022 (Province
Remembrance Day	November 11, 2022
Third non-instructional day	November 14, 2022
Schools close for Winter vacation	December 19, 2022
Schools re-open after Winter vacation	January 3, 2023
Fourth non-instructional day	February 17, 2023
Family Day	February 20, 2023
Schools close for Spring vacation	March 20, 2023
Schools re-open after Spring vacation	April 3, 2023
Good Friday	April 7, 2023
Easter Monday	April 10, 2023
Fifth non-instructional day	May 19, 2023
Victoria Day	May 22, 2023
Administrative Day and School Closing	June 30, 2023

- Sixth non-instructional day to be chosen by each school.

Motion Carried Unanimously

D.3 Audit Committee

- Audit Committee Report – February 14, 2022 Meeting

The Audit Committee Report was received for information.

Moved by Trustee Ferris

Seconded by Trustee Watters

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accept the December 2021 Quarterly Financial Report as presented to the Audit Committee.

Motion Carried Unanimously

E. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

E.1. Interim Superintendent's Report

- Interim Superintendent Whitten provided the report and highlighted the GVTA Tapestry Conference and expressed gratitude to the organizing committee of GVTA conference, the Budget Advisory Committee, Lynn

Yearwood for the District T4's, and Julie Lutner for her work on the Amended Annual Budget.

Moved by Trustee Leonard

Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) receive the Interim Superintendent's report as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously

b. Trustee Questions

Secretary-Treasurer Morris responded to questions from Trustees Whiteaker and Duncan relative to motions carried in June 2019 to re-allocate local capital, clarifying any local capital allocations are made by Board motion.

E.2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

a. Secretary-Treasurer Morris provided the report.

Moved by Trustee Ferris

Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) receive the Secretary-Treasurer's reports as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously

b. 2021-2022 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw: 3rd Reading

Secretary-Treasurer Morris reminded Trustees that the Amended Annual Budget must be submitted to the Ministry of Education each year by February 28th and that the first two readings of the Bylaw occurred at a Special Board meeting on February 22, 2022.

Moved by Trustee Leonard

Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2021-2022 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$272,964,571 be:

Read a third time, passed and adopted the 28th day of February, 2022.

And that the Secretary-Treasurer and Board Chair be authorized to sign, seal and execute the bylaw on behalf of the Board.

Motion Carried Unanimously

F. QUESTION PERIOD

Chair Painter read the follow two questions into the record.

Q: Please provide all documents and records pertaining to the analysis of Lansdowne South Campus lands that substantiate the decision to declare 1.9 acres as surplus to educational needs. Please provide all documents and records pertaining to the appraisal of Lansdowne Campus lands, specifically the 1.9 acres identified in the proposed disposal.

G. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

- G.1.** Record of In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – January 24, 2022
- G.2.** Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – January 25, 2022
- G.3.** Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – January 31, 2022
- G.4.** Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – February 8, 2022
- G.5.** Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – February 14, 2022

H. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

H.1. New Business

- a. Trustee Whiteaker – Re-Affirm Motion re Working Committee for Draft Compost and Waste Policy

Trustee Whiteaker presented the motion and provided rationale.

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) re-affirm its motion of June 2021 *“That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to oversee the creation of a Working Committee and consultation process, as outlined in Bylaw 9210, to prepare a draft Compost and Waste policy proposal which is in alignment with our environmental values and goals.”*

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a suggestion being made to rescind the original motion

Moved by Trustee Leonard

Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the original motion from June 2021 *“That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to oversee the creation of a Working Committee and consultation process, as outlined in Bylaw 9210, to prepare a draft Compost and Waste policy proposal which is in alignment with our environmental values and goals”* be rescinded.

Further discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a suggestion being made to refer the motion.

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the motion *“That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) re-affirm its motion of June 2021 “That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to oversee the creation of a Working Committee and consultation process, as outlined in Bylaw 9210, to prepare a draft Compost and Waste policy proposal which is in alignment with our environmental values and goals”* be referred to the March 7, 2022 combined Education Policy and Directions and Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Duncan, Ferris, Hentze, Painter, Watters, Whiteaker
Against: Trustee Leonard

b. Trustee Whiteaker – Petition the Minister of Education

Trustee Whiteaker presented the motion and provided rationale.

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) petition the Minister of Education for an order under *Section 30* of the *School Act*, to reduce the number of Trustees for School District No. 61 from 9 to 7, to take effect in the upcoming election October 2022.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a suggestion being made to refer the motion.

Moved by Trustee Duncan

Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the motion *“That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) petition the Minister of Education for an order under Section 30 of the School Act, to reduce the number of Trustees for School District No. 61 from 9 to 7, to take effect in the upcoming election October 2022”* be referred to the March 7, 2022 coming Education Policy and

Directions and Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting agenda.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Duncan, Ferris, Hentze, Painter, Watters, Whiteaker
Against: Trustee Leonard

c. Trustee Whiteaker – BCSTA Membership

Trustee Whiteaker presented the motion and provided rationale.

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) does not renew its membership in the BC School Trustee Association for the upcoming year.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a suggestion being made to refer the motion.

Moved by Trustee Duncan

Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That the motion "*That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) does not renew its membership in the BC School Trustee Association for the upcoming year*" be referred to the March 7, 2022 combined Education Policy and Directions and Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting agenda.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees Duncan, Whiteaker

Against: Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Leonard, Painter, Watters

Chair Painter called for the vote on the main motion as presented.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) does not renew its membership in the BC School Trustee Association for the upcoming year.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustee Whiteaker

Against: Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Leonard, Painter, Watters

Abstain: Trustee Duncan

H.2. Notice of Motions

None

I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Moved by Trustee Ferris
Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

DRAFT



British Columbia
School Trustees
Association

February 17, 2022

Jackie Tegart

Member of the Legislative Assembly
BC Liberal Party
PO Box 279, 405 Railway Avenue
Ashcroft, B.C. V0K 1A0
jackie.tegart.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear Ms. Tegart,

Subject: Thank you

I write you today on behalf of the British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) and our members to share our collective appreciation for your contributions to bettering public education as the Official Opposition Critic for Education for the BC Liberal Party.

Having served as a trustee and as president of our association in the past, we know you are well aware that a dependable public education system is the backbone of any community. Your dedication to prioritizing students has aided the sector in our shared goal of continuously improving learning outcomes for young people, and we will miss your valuable insights.

Thank you for dedicating so many years of hard work to the young people of this province and supporting them with pride. I wish you success as you chair meetings for the Official Opposition as the new Assistant Deputy Speaker and look forward to hearing of your future success.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Higginson

President
British Columbia School Trustees Association

CC: BCSTA member boards of education
Suzanne Hoffman, CEO, BCSTA



British Columbia
School Trustees
Association

February 17, 2022

Karin Kirkpatrick

Member of the Legislative Assembly
BC Liberal Party
409-545 Clyde Avenue
West Vancouver, B.C. V7T 1C5
karin.kirkpatrick.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear Ms. Kirkpatrick,

Subject: Congratulations and introduction to BCSTA

On behalf of the British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) and our members, I wish to congratulate you on being appointed as the Official Opposition Critic for Education, Children, Family Development and Childcare.

As you are well aware, a high-quality public education system is a priority for British Columbians. Schools have provided a haven for students and given structure and stability to communities during recent times of need, highlighting the vital role they play in the success of our society. Supporting school staff, students, parents and others directly and indirectly affected by public education is critical work as we move forward together.

Your experience with the BC Council for International Education (BCCIE) will prove invaluable as we continue to open ourselves to the international community and return to more normal structures and circumstances. The province has a long history of hosting international learners, and we look forward to supporting the work to re-establish these connections.

I want to extend an invitation to meet with either a member of our board of directors or me to discuss BCSTA's objectives and how we can work together to help students succeed and uplift those underserved by current standards.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Higginson

President
British Columbia School Trustees Association

CC: BCSTA member boards of education
Suzanne Hoffman, CEO, BCSTA



February 18, 2022

The Honourable Mike Farnworth

*Minister of Public Safety and
Solicitor General*
PO Box 9010 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

The Honourable Jennifer Whiteside

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

Dear Minister Farnworth and Minister Whiteside,

Subject: Follow-up on Provincial Funding to Improve Access to Educational Programming in Correctional Facilities

We write to you in follow up to our earlier communications regarding our interest in improving educational programs in correctional facilities.

As a reminder, at the October 24, 2020 meeting of the BCSTA Provincial Council, representing all 60 boards of education in our province, our members passed the following motion:

“That BCSTA request that the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General allocate special-purpose funding to school districts that have correctional facilities in their districts to provide year-round educational services in provincial correctional facilities based on the level of service required in each community.”

In your reply to our initial letter, which we received on May 26, 2021 (File no. 617309), you acknowledged that the current course-based funding model presents difficulties in responding to the needs outlined in the motion. Your reply outlined that the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General were collaborating to review the funding model, and we were pleased to know that the educational needs of students in correctional facilities were being prioritized.

What was once a potential solution has not materialized as the provincial government has decided not to implement changes to the funding model within these areas. Progress for providing these vulnerable learners with life-altering educational opportunities has now stagnated.

School districts that provide education programs in correctional facilities continue to face additional cost pressures and staffing concerns as they deliver these much-needed services. The province has maintained a holding pattern that is currently failing those in need with the existing levels of adult education funding, and districts are overextending themselves to fill these gaps in our communities. This work is critical, and districts warrant additional, dedicated funding that will allow them to deliver consistent staffing to enable these programs.



British Columbia
School Trustees
Association

We once again call on the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the Ministry of Education to address the gap in funding in light of your government's pause on the implementation of changes to the funding model.

Additionally, as part of our movement towards a solution, we also invite you to meet with both BCSTA's leadership and representatives from School District 42 (Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows), who sponsored this motion. Flavia Coughlan, School District 42's secretary-treasurer and president of the BC Association of School Business Officials, has been invited to partake in these meetings to provide your ministries with clear examples that illustrate why these changes are so urgently needed.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Higginson", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Stephanie Higginson

President

British Columbia School Trustees Association

Motion: P120209.5

CC: Deputy Minister of Education Christina Zacharuk
BCSTA member boards of education
Flavia Coughlan, President, BC Association of School Business Officials

From: mjkory
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 12:10 PM
To: Trustees <trustees@sd61.bc.ca>
Subject: Sale of Land at Landsdowne South Campus

CAUTION: External email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you are confident about the source.

Dear Trustees,

I would like to strongly state my opposition to the sale of a portion of Landsdowne School's South Campus.

I feel it would be wrong for the School Board to dispose of this land for a number of reasons. The surrounding area is much more dense than it used to be and there will be many more buildings and people to come. This piece of land is an important one in that it's not just a bare piece of land, it has Bowker Creek running through it. I believe that leaving this as greenspace would benefit everyone.

We, as a community, are not looking to the future as we should. Greenspace (especially those including waterways) are extremely important to our well being. They can be used for recreation and education. They benefit our environment AND our health and happiness.

As the densification in the area grows the need for more space for us and our children grows as well. Where are all these children going to go to school?
I understand Landsdowne is already at capacity which is why it has been split into two campuses. On a side note, I was opposed to the sale of a portion of Landsdowne North campus. And that land had community benefit as well as historic interest! Disposing of School land is short sighted in my opinion.

Time is short and the future comes quickly. Please don't sell this land.
It is/will be a benefit to all of us. Land is precious, treasure what we have and make the most of it. And please remember that this is a public decision to make.
Say no to the sale.

Jan Ellison

From: Robbie Newton

Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 10:33 AM

To: Trustees <trustees@sd61.bc.ca>; Ryan Painter <rpainter@sd61.bc.ca>; Diane McNally <dmcnally@sd61.bc.ca>; Nicole Duncan <nduncan@sd61.bc.ca>; Tom Ferris <tferris@sd61.bc.ca>; Angie Hentze <ahentze@sd61.bc.ca>; Elaine Leonard <eleonard@sd61.bc.ca>; Rob Paynter <rpaynter@sd61.bc.ca>; Jordan Watters <jwatters@sd61.bc.ca>; Ann Whiteaker <awhiteaker@sd61.bc.ca>; Community Engagement <Community@sd61.bc.ca>

Subject: sale of school lands is financial folly

CAUTION: External email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you are confident about the source.

dear trustees of SD 61 [Victoria]

From the proposed sale of 1.9 acres of Lansdowne Middle School South Campus's school ground for \$2.5 million, it is clear that SD 61 is in financial trouble and not getting good financial advice.

At a "consultation" meeting in the fall of 2021, SD 61's Secretary-Treasurer told the zoom meeting that SD 61 had \$278 million of necessary repairs and maintenance for which they did not have the money. \$2.5 million, or less than 1%, is not even going to touch the needed \$278 million.

In the short term, selling off bits and pieces of school property is no way to address the financial needs of SD 61. At \$2.5 million for 1.9 acres, SD 61 would have to sell off well over 200 acres to raise the money it needs. The ridiculousness of that idea is obvious.

The Provincial Government is responsible for Education, and they should be making certain that all school districts, including SD 61, have the funds they need.

The Board of SD 61 should be bringing its plight to the attention of the Provincial Government. For too long, school districts have relied on the always tenuous funds that were coming from foreign students before COVID. Successive Provincial Governments have used the foreign student cash-cow situation as an opportunity to reduce funding to school districts. Your job now is to ensure that the Provincial Government provides the funds that all school districts need. I'm sure you are not alone.

In the long term, with urban densification, the school population in SD 61 will grow, and SD 61 will need all its existing land and more. If the land is sold now, its replacement cost in the not-so-distant future is going to be a great deal more than the \$2.5 million for 1.9 acres for which SD 61 is proposing to sell about ¼ [25%] of the land of Lansdowne South. As there will not be any undeveloped land in this area, the cost of purchasing and developing already occupied land will be huge.

I don't know where SD 61 is getting their financial advice, but they are getting very bad financial advice at this time. You need to find new financial advisors.

Sincerely yours

Robbie Newton

My name is Gerald Harris. I live in the North Jubilee neighbourhood and serve as a Director of Peninsula Streams Society.

I'm here to plead for a collaborative process to resolve a divisive issue. I ask SD61 to work with Hospice, neighbourhood associations, parent and teacher groups, MLAs, municipal and regional government, and advocacy groups to find "win-win-win" solutions.

Hospice needs a good new home, yet the entire 1.9-acre parcel now for sale at Lansdowne south is needed for flood prevention. Intense rainstorms caused by climate change will flood 300 buildings along Bowker Creek unless the community works together to prevent it. Engineering studies published by CRD from 2001 to 2020, document the problem and define the most feasible solutions.

Projected flooding will inundate the 1.9 acres at the 25-year flood level. At the 100-year level, projected flooding will spread to many homes in my neighbourhood. Feasibility studies in 2020 show this same 1.9 acres as the single best site for storm water detention. Engineered as floodplain, the entire site can detain 36,000 m³ of stormwater and reduce peak flows by 15%. It can serve as beautiful public greenspace more than 99% of the time, flood for approximately 24 hours every 2 years and save many buildings from flooding. Development, such as Hospice proposes, could provide only a small fraction of that flood prevention benefit, while building on known floodplain land. It would be folly for the community to allow.

Yet, Hospice also serves the community and needs a good new location.

School district Trustees, please suspend your final decision on the sale and enter into collaboration to find winning solutions for all. Enter a planning process with stakeholders to bring the greatest benefit to the community and to SD 61 students, while healing the present painful division.

Dear Trustees,

My name is Peter Haddon.

I write to ask you not to sell 1.9 acres of the Lansdowne South Campus property. Please help the community save Bowker Creek.

I spoke to you on Jan 24th to express my heartfelt appreciation for the work the Greater Victoria School Board, administration and teachers do for the community. I understand challenges the Board faces: Covid, teacher burn out, delayed maintenance, seismic renovations, carbon emissions, the grinding issues of operations and capital budgets, lower revenues, cost overruns and a host of other issues. The Ministry of Education struggles to provide guidance and help. I believe you are good people facing a perfect storm of demands. Your stressful, fractious and adversarial relationships inside and outside of the Board are a direct result of these challenges. **Please recognize this situation demands your leadership to restore fairness, transparency, equity and respect.**

The community remains totally committed to the shared goals of educating and caring for our children. They stand with you given the opportunity to understand the issues you face.

Unfortunately, without advanced warning or adequate process, Trustees proposed to sell 1.9 acres of green space at Lansdowne South Campus in the Camosun neighbourhood for \$2.5 million. Residents reminded you that school property in the same neighbourhood had just been sold for \$15 million. They asked how you could justify selling more public green space in the Camosun community? Given your recent **commendable** collaboration to restore the Creek at Oak Bay High School worth \$0.87 million, doesn't Camosun deserve fair and equal consideration? **What's your answer?**

Public participation in decision-making is the foundation of democracy. At this critical decision point Trustees must follow the wisdom of Ministry of Education's policy that requires you to consult Saanich and community before entering into a proposal to sell public school property. Had you followed this principle, you could have avoided this unnecessary Train Wreck. Residents have repeatedly demanded you follow Ministry policy from the first public meeting on Nov. 22nd, 2021. **What's your answer?**

Please, let's come together to build an environment of trust and collaboration as you did with Oak Bay. Trustees must bring Saanich and community together to break this adversarial cycle and find collaborative solutions. The lessons we learn can be applied to other community issues facing the Board of Trustees

Please, for the future of our kids, for our community's well-being, for your legacy and the reputation of the Greater Victoria School Board, let's make this small, vital step together. **Please don't sell The Lansdowne South property. Save Bowker Creek. Thank you.**

Peter Haddon, February 24th 2022.

From: dave little
Sent: Thursday, February 24, 2022 3:31 PM
To: Community Engagement <Community@sd61.bc.ca>
Subject: Support for sale of bowker creek land

CAUTION: External email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you are confident about the source.

Good afternoon.

My name is David Little, resident of greater Victoria. I am emailing today my support for the proposed sale of Bowker Creek land for the purposes of building a new Hospice. I have found most public opposition to this proposed sale to be disingenuous and self-centered. Environmental concerns noted are easily addressed through binding requirements on any new build. Hospice has made clear their intent to respect and appreciate the land and environment.

I can think of no more honourable and respectful use of this land than a new, sorely needed, Hospice which will benefit all residents of greater Victoria. Please pass along these comments to those involved in the vote on this proposed sale.

Thank you
David Little

From: Morris
Sent: Thursday, February 24, 2022 2:41 PM
To: Trustees trustees@sd61.bc.ca
Subject: Support for land sale for hospice

CAUTION: External email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you are confident about the source.

Good afternoon,

I would like to express my support for the sale of land to build a new hospice center.
The current hospice has patients sharing a room, not ideal in a pandemic and really quite sad as family try to spend time with their loved ones before passing. Thankful for all the hospice does ♥

Thank you,

Morris



VICTORIA
CONFEDERATION
OF
PARENT ADVISORY COUNCILS
556 BOLESKINE ROAD, VICTORIA, BC V8Z 1E8
TELEPHONE (250) 475 4193
WWW.VCPAC.CA

Dear Trustees,

At our Feb 22nd General Meeting, the VCPAC unanimously voted to inform The Board we do not support a 3rd reading of the bylaw, nor the sale of the land located in the south campus of Lansdowne School, unless or until we have questions answered. As vcpac was not permitted to speak at the Special Board Meeting, we are sending this letter instead

*We would like to know the market value of the land.

*We request plans for any outdoor classroom.

*We have concerns regarding the Watershed and who will steward that land.

*We request The First Nations be consulted on any and all land sales, including this one. Has that already been done?

Parents oppose the selling of greenspace for development purposes, other than direct education of students of SD61.

Sincerely,

Angela Carmichael

VCPAC President

From: K Jones
Sent: Friday, February 25, 2022 9:00 PM
To: Trustees <trustees@sd61.bc.ca>
Subject: Bowker Creek

CAUTION: External email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you are confident about the source.

Please do not sell Bowker Creek.

No need to repeat the very good reasons why

The 2 million can be achieved in other ways.

Land cannot be reclaimed

Karolyn Jones
Victoria BC

From: Sara Stallard
Sent: Friday, February 25, 2022 1:19 PM
To: Trustees <trustees@sd61.bc.ca>
Subject: Lansdowne School property sale

CAUTION: External email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you are confident about the source.

Dear Trustees of SD61,

Please delay the sale of this property until the community has been able to help you understand the irreversible impact that losing this important site would have on our watershed .

I have heard proponents say that there are other open spaces for creek restoration and stormwater capacity building, so why not build here?

- That view does not take into account that every available space for stormwater capacity building for Bowker Creek needs to be utilized and that the current built up area adjacent to the creek is far beyond what is sustainable for the hydrology of this creek. Every available green space adjacent to the creek is needed for flood amelioration and riparian habitat.
- The location of these lands adjacent to the school adds an immeasurable opportunity for school children not only to learn about their natural environment and the impacts that urban development has on their environment, but crucially also what they can do to reverse these impacts with restoration and hope.
 - The open-air classroom that could be created within this space ties into almost every aspect of our learning goals for this age group.
- This underserved area of greater Victoria is desperately in need of park space for physical and mental health benefits, which are completely compatible with riparian restoration and constructed wetland/flood control measures.
- The financial costs of flooding are huge and mitigation needs to occur all along the Bowker corridor.
- There are so many additional reasons to preserve this space for riparian habitat and water quality improvements that to list them would fill a book - and they have: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/bowker-creek-initiative/about-bci/plans-and-strategies/bowker-creek-blueprint-a-100-year-plan>
- When previous SD61 trustees signed onto the Bowker Creek 100-yr Plan, knowing full well that this property was a key component of the Plan, do you think this is what they had in mind?

As someone who has met with school children at this site to demonstrate the creek environment, I can tell you through experience that the health and wellness benefits of the potential riparian restoration, flood mitigation and ecological renewal that could be enjoyed by the community and the school children are not to be under-estimated.

Please reconsider this intent to forever impact the ecosystem and surrounding community with this sale.

Sincerely,

Sara Stallard, BSc, AST, Env. Tech

From: suzanne snizek

Sent: Friday, February 25, 2022 10:30 AM

To: Trustees <trustees@sd61.bc.ca>; Ryan Painter <rpainter@sd61.bc.ca>; Diane McNally <dmcnally@sd61.bc.ca>; Nicole Duncan <nduncan@sd61.bc.ca>; Tom Ferris <tferris@sd61.bc.ca>; Angie Hentze <ahentze@sd61.bc.ca>; Elaine Leonard <eleonard@sd61.bc.ca>; Rob Paynter <rpaynter@sd61.bc.ca>; Jordan Watters <jwatters@sd61.bc.ca>; Ann Whiteaker <awhiteaker@sd61.bc.ca>; Community Engagement <Community@sd61.bc.ca>

Subject:

CAUTION: External email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you are confident about the source.

Dear SD61 Trustees,

I am writing to urge you to NOT proceed in selling the 1.9 acres of public land (Lansdowne Middle School campus)! Instead PLEASE keep it for flood mitigation and outdoor education for children – where they can have safe access to the creek, see wildlife, and learn about riparian restoration and what it means to care for a creek in the city. Once a green space is lost it is essentially never regained. It is essential that we do all we can to preserve our green spaces for current and future generations of humans, as well as all the other "non-voting species" that equally rely upon it.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Best

Suzanne Snizek

From: Bernadette Letchford

Date: February 26, 2022 at 1:48:43 PM PST

To: Trustees <trustees@sd61.bc.ca>, Ryan Painter <rpainter@sd61.bc.ca>, Diane McNally <dmcnally@sd61.bc.ca>, Nicole Duncan <nduncan@sd61.bc.ca>, Tom Ferris <tferris@sd61.bc.ca>, Angie Hentze <ahentze@sd61.bc.ca>, Elaine Leonard <eleonard@sd61.bc.ca>, Rob Paynter <rpaynter@sd61.bc.ca>, Jordan Watters <jwatters@sd61.bc.ca>, Ann Whiteaker <awhiteaker@sd61.bc.ca>, Community Engagement <Community@sd61.bc.ca>

Subject: Bowker Creek impending sale

CAUTION: External email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you are confident about the source.

Dear Trustees,

As a long time resident of Victoria and grandmother I'm requesting that you do not sell the 1.9 acre portion of the Lansdowne South Middle School Campus area along Bowker Creek.

This green space is needed for climate change adaptation, flood Mitigation and public green space amid increasing urban density in the Victoria area.

From what I understand the School District 61 has entered the sale agreement without the required approval from the Minister of Education. The Ministry of Education policy indicates that

"Boards of education must consider potential needs for alternative community use" and "must consult with local government, community organizations and the public on alternative community uses."

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Bernadette Letchford

Date: February 26, 2022 at 3:36:44 PM PST

To: Trustees <trustees@sd61.bc.ca>, Ryan Painter <rpainter@sd61.bc.ca>, Diane McNally <dmcnally@sd61.bc.ca>, Nicole Duncan <nduncan@sd61.bc.ca>, Tom Ferris <tferris@sd61.bc.ca>, Angie Hentze <ahentze@sd61.bc.ca>, Elaine Leonard <eleonard@sd61.bc.ca>, Rob Paynter <rpaynter@sd61.bc.ca>, Jordan Watters <jwatters@sd61.bc.ca>, Ann Whiteaker <awhiteaker@sd61.bc.ca>, Community Engagement <Community@sd61.bc.ca>

Subject: Bowker Street

CAUTION: External email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you are confident about the source.

Selling land and building in a flood plain makes as much sense as building health care facilities below the low tide mark in the ocean.

Raymond St Arnaud
Victoria, BC

February 26, 2022

Dear Chair Painter and SD61 Trustees,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you for 3 minutes on February 23. I'm sorry I wasn't able to finish the last two paragraphs of what I had to say, so have taken the liberty of sharing my comments below. The decision you make on the 28th will leave a legacy. Which legacy it is, is up to you. I urge you to vote against disposal.

*I have been thinking of the momentous decision you will be making five days from now and about the legacy that will be left by your decision. Your role as a Board and as individual Trustees, responsible for the education of **20,000 students** in 28 Elementary Schools, 10 Middle Schools, and 7 Secondary Schools delivered by approximately 2000 teachers, must weigh heavily on you as you work toward a decision, and the legacy you will leave in making that decision.*

You must be feeling uncomfortable at the thought of bearing this weight as a reduced Board of only 7 trustees. It must also feel uncomfortable given the GVTA's recent vote of no confidence in the process that led to the suspension of the two missing Trustees. The letter to the Minister of Education from Songhees Chief Ron Sam calling for the Board to resign must also unsettle you. What weights to bear.

At the same time, you must be tempted by the thought of \$2.5M in return for the proposed disposition. As has been pointed out, \$2.5M is less than 1% of the stated \$278M you need for deferred maintenance and, if the full amount is put toward the Cedar Hill Middle School replacement, it represents not quite 70% of the amount the District is to contribute to the \$42.9 million project. You still need to find an additional \$1.1M. At the end of the day, a new Cedar Hill Middle School will be built that would have been built regardless. As was brought up at your last meeting, the Ministry's Capital Plan states that "the amount of the district cost share is assessed on a case-by-case basis dependent on the current financial situation of the school district"; the more resources you have, the greater the contribution you must bear. The Plan also states that "The board's contribution can be from a number of sources such as Ministry of Education restricted capital, local capital, operating surplus, or other sources" so the proposed disposal of this land would seem to be avoidable.

On the other hand, the region's population is growing and neighbourhoods densifying, especially in and around Richmond School. How will the increasing numbers, and future generations, of children be served if there is no room to expand to meet the needs? This piece of school land being considered for disposal and development, a piece of ever-rarer green space and natural floodplain habitat, once lost is gone forever.

Legacy is defined as the long-lasting impact of particular events or actions. What kind of legacy do you wish to leave? How do you wish to be remembered, both as a Board and as individual Trustees?

·
Your decision on the 28th is a weighty one. It is also an irreversible one. I think it's important to think deeply about this fact. On the one hand, if you decide to proceed with the proposed disposal, the \$2.5M will make an insignificant contribution to a project that will proceed regardless. The land it will be exchanged for will be gone forever as a rare green oasis in a densely populated and built-up area of the city, a space that can accommodate the future educational needs of this and successive generations, a lasting and memorable gift, a legacy of which to feel rightfully proud.

I urge you to consider not just today's financial challenges; they are temporal. Once gone, precious untouched, green and natural habitats are gone forever. Leave a legacy that endures. Please vote 'no' to disposal. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Haddon

From: "Marga St.James"

Date: February 27, 2022 at 6:35:59 PM PST

To: Ryan Painter <rpainter@sd61.bc.ca>, Diane McNally <dmcnally@sd61.bc.ca>, Nicole Duncan <nduncan@sd61.bc.ca>, Tom Ferris <tferris@sd61.bc.ca>, Angie Hentze <ahentze@sd61.bc.ca>, Elaine Leonard <eleonard@sd61.bc.ca>, Rob Paynter <rpaynter@sd61.bc.ca>, Jordan Watters <jwatters@sd61.bc.ca>, Ann Whiteaker <awhiteaker@sd61.bc.ca>, Community Engagement <Community@sd61.bc.ca>

Subject: Sale of Richmond school lands

CAUTION: External email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you are confident about the source.

Dear Trustees

I am writing again to express my concern that this land on Newton St. next to Bowker Creek is being sold with little or no meaningful consultation of the surrounding neighbourhood. The impact could be quite profound on many properties in the area due to flooding as this field is in the flood zone of the creek. As it is now, many yards and basements flood in the winter and insurance rates are very high because of it. Also, the school board signed on to the Bowker Creek greenway plan several years ago and is now reneging on that without consulting those affected.

There is very limited green space in this part of Victoria and once it is gone, we've lost a very valuable asset that supports urban wildlife, helps mitigate the effects of global warming (like flooding) and helps create a healthy environment for people of all ages who live in the area.

Please honour your previous commitment to Bowker Creek by voting against the sale of this area of the Bowker Creek floodplain.

Sincerely
Marga James

Good evening and thank you for taking the time to listen.

I am a local resident and have lived near Bowker Creek for over 30 years. Protecting and caring for the natural environment is critically important to me. As a grandparent, I think about how the actions of adults today impact the future climate and environment of our children and grandchildren.

As the school district has declared, we are in a climate crisis. The health, well-being and education of our students demands that we preserve greenspace and prioritize the health and care of the land and natural environment.

Research has shown that Greenspaces present a unique intervention that offers co-benefits to climate change mitigation, adaptation, and human health. The presence of and access to urban green spaces has been shown to have important health benefits to the community while at the same time helping to mitigate and improve resilience to climate change and its impacts. Greenspaces are good for us- at all ages- and for the health of the planet. We can also reduce emissions in the atmosphere through nature-based climate solutions like planting trees and restoring wetlands and forest ecosystems- we need greenspaces, especially as our urban areas densify.

Over the course of my participation in the public consultation related to the potential sale of the land at the Landsdowne South Campus of SD 61, I have been concerned at how the discussion has focused on what is best for the potential buyer (for example, the emphasis on how the potential buyer is in need of a new location) and not what is best for the Bowker Creek Watershed Lands. I believe that in order to listen to the local voices of the community, the conversation needs to be about what is best for this watershed area and the future of protecting green spaces.

My question is - Why is land that the school board has previously agreed to protect, being offered for sale?

My concerns are that while the potential buyer has included conceptual plans to meet watershed goals in their development strategy, they have missed a key recommendation for this section of Bowker Creek. The Daylighting Feasibility study identified this 1.9 acres preferred site for a stormwater detention facility to mitigate flooding.

This is just not about remediation!

Section 5.2 of the Blueprint states:

“Large open areas that have not been developed represent the most likely potential for major restoration efforts that would significantly improve the creek corridor and overall watershed health as well as providing significant community amenities and natural areas in an otherwise fully developed watershed.”

This Blueprint document and the Daylighting Feasibility Study were both endorsed by SD 61, yet I am concerned that support of these documents and the goals for future

preservation and protection are not being honoured in this discussion. Honouring these goals would mean that this land is not sold for development so that preservation and restoration of the creek, the flood plain and surrounding greenspace could be achieved.

I understand that the role of the School Board (as stated on their website) is to: *“engage their communities in building and maintaining a school system that reflects local priorities, values and expectations.”* and that: *“The interests of B.C. students are best met through local decision-making with an engaged community”*

Through my observations of the board meetings, and participation in consultations, I have heard directly that your stakeholders - GVTA, BCPAC, FoBC, BCI, CCA, other community associations and the community at large - they do not support the sale of this land.

The Bowker Creek Watershed is our priority.

Your community, your teachers, your students, your parents value this greenspace, this watershed and creek and all the environmental, personal health and educational advantages it provides.

We expect the board to value this too - for the health, safety and welfare of all students. Land that holds vast educational and stewardship opportunities must be preserved for all students' education and enjoyment.

The students will need this more than ever in the years to come as the climate crisis continues. Their future needs greenspaces.

I am struck how we start each meeting with a land acknowledgement, but we are not holding care for this land at the centre of our conversation.

A land acknowledgement is not just a statement at the beginning of a meeting, it is about being responsible to land and place.

Our school trustees have a responsibility to preserve and protect these school properties for our future generations of students, and to respect and protect the lands upon which we are privileged to work, learn and live.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to your community.

Pat Walker

February 27, 2022

Honourable Jennifer Whiteside
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045, STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Chair Ryan Painter and Board of Trustees
Greater Victoria School District #61
556 Boleskine Road
Victoria, BC V8Z 1E8



Dear Honourable Minister Whiteside, Chair Ryan Painter and Trustees:

Re: Proposed Disposal of public lands at Lansdowne South Middle School in Victoria

On behalf of the *Friends of Bowker Creek Society* and *Camosun Community Association*, we continue to have serious concerns about the Greater Victoria School District's (SD61) proposed disposal of publicly-owned lands adjacent to Bowker Creek (also known as "Thaywun") within the District of Saanich.

We have outlined these concerns in previous letters to SD61 dated November 24, 2021 and February 11, 2022, as well as our letter dated January 12, 2022 to Minister Whiteside. We continue to be disappointed with SD61's unwillingness to engage in meaningful dialogue and are also concerned that SD61 is misrepresenting some of the background and important policy requirements associated with this issue.

We request that the disposal of this property be suspended and that SD61 engage in a meaningful and transparent process that fully involves and genuinely considers community interests and alternatives and respects Ministry of Education disposal policies.

In making this request we would like to emphasize the following concerns:

1. February 2, 2022 Board of Education letter to Minister Whiteside, CCA, FOBCS

We have responded to this letter in Attachment 1. Overall we feel that SD61's letter exposes a bias towards disposal of the property and many of the points are misleading or incorrect. SD61's "checkbox" consultation process appears to have been designed to support a predetermined outcome.

For example, a 75-minute Question/Answer session cannot in anyway be considered as "Broad Consultation" and does not even meet SD61's own Consultation Policy, i.e., "*Consultation involves interaction between decision makers and those affected by the decisions. It promotes a two-way flow of information and ideas to arrive at better solutions and, consequently, more effective implementation of policy and programs*". In addition to the lack of two-way flow of information and ideas, no background information on Bowker Creek, the 20 years of technical study and collaboration, or local community planning was provided in advance of, or at the session.

The Board's [Engagement Summary Report](#) provided no quantification or analysis, and marginalizes hundreds of pages of input and submissions into five short bullet points. The Bowker Creek Initiative's [54-slide presentation](#) synthesizing over 20 years of technical study and collaboration were reduced to a one-sentence statement that the parties "*gathered for a presentation and discussion...to learn more about the important watershed*". Key technical implications raised by the Bowker Creek Initiative were excluded from the summary. At the February 14, 2022 Operations Policy and

Planning meeting, the BCI was provided only five minutes to summarize 20 years of collaboration and technical information.

Neither SD61 nor Victoria Hospice Society have engaged the *Friends of Bowker Creek Society* or the *Camosun Community Association* in the development of any proposals, including the version provided to the Board on February 18, 2022. SD61 has actively promoted the sale of this land and legitimate concerns of community members and organizations have been consistently minimized, marginalized or ignored. While SD61's February 2, 2022 letter provide a long list of "considerations", it is clear that none of the considerations listed were raised or discussed prior to SD61 entering into a *Purchase and Sale Agreement* in September 2021.

2. Procedural issues

We again note that the [Ministry of Education's School Building Closure and Disposal Policies](#) require that:

"Boards of education must engage in broad consultation and enhanced planning regarding underutilized buildings and other property owned by boards prior to property disposition" and that *"Boards of education must consider potential needs for alternative community use"* and *"must consult with local government, community organizations and the public on alternative community uses"*.

In addition, Section 3 of [Minister's M193/08 Order](#) stipulates that ***"Boards must not dispose of land or improvements by sale and transfer in fee simple or by way of a lease of 10 years or more unless such disposal is to another board or an independent school for educational purposes or is approved by the Minister"***.

Under the [Interpretation Act](#) "dispose" means *"to transfer by any method and includes assign, give, sell, grant, charge, convey, bequeath, devise, lease, divest, release and agree to do any of those things"*. It is very clear that entering into a *Purchase and Sale Agreement* is inconsistent with the Order. The clarification provided in the [Ministry guidance document](#) makes this abundantly clear:

Questions and Answers

Disposal of Land or Improvements Order (M193/08) • School Building Closure and Disposal Policy

12. Is a board of education able to enter into an agreement-to-sell prior to receiving Ministerial approval?

No. Ministerial approval is required before entering into any such agreements for the sale, exchange or lease of 10 years or more of school property, except where the purchaser is another board of education or an independent school authority.

Ignoring the spirit and intent of the Minister's Order and associated disposal policy undermines what our educational system stands for and damages public trust in our institutions.

3. Legitimate community expectation

Please be aware that restoring the creek and watershed have been the long-standing focus of the [Bowker Creek Initiative](#)—a unique collaborative of local government, community groups, and institutions established in 2004. There is a legitimate community expectation associated with the subject property based on over 20 years of cooperation and investment including completion of the following detailed assessments and plans:

- [2000 Bowker Creek Watershed Assessment](#)
- [2003 Bowker Creek Watershed Management Plan](#)
- [2007 Bowker Creek Watershed Proper Functioning Condition Assessment](#)
- [2007 Bowker Creek Master Drainage Plan](#)

- [2011 Bowker Creek Blueprint: A 100-Year Action Plan to Restore the Bowker Creek Watershed](#)
- [2020 Bowker Creek Daylighting Feasibility Study](#)
- [2020 Potential Stormwater Management Facilities on Bowker Creek](#)

Flooding and flood mitigation in the watershed is a central themes in all of the above documents. The Lansdowne South subject property lies within a known floodplain. Its flood mitigation potential has been recognized since 2000 and is also cited in each of the above documents except for the 2003 Watershed Management Plan which intentionally did not deal with site-specific actions.

In 2007 SD61 proposed selling the entire 8-acre Lansdowne South property on the basis that it was “surplus to projected needs”. Community members opposed the sale and at the time the Bowker Creek Initiative also noted that the 1.9-acre triangle was one of the few areas within the watershed that could accommodate significant stormwater detention. Also in 2007—and in response to community interests and the possibility of future disposal—the District Saanich amended the [Shelbourne Local Area Plan](#) to identify the triangular property as “Proposed Park” (Attachment 2).

In 2018 the SD61 endorsed the 2011 [Bowker Creek Blueprint: a 100-Year Action Plan to Restore the Bowker Creek Watershed](#) (“Blueprint”). While the Blueprint includes both “preferred” and “alternative” options for the subject property at Lansdowne South, neither options entertained a 30,000 square foot building and associated surface parking. The subsequent 2020 [Daylighting Feasibility Study](#) further develops the “preferred” option of the 2011 Blueprint and provides detailed conceptual plans to enhance the floodplain storage capacity. SD61 staff actively participated in this work and other agencies are now using this study to inform their workplans. For example, the City of Victoria used the Daylighting Feasibility Study as the foundation for its recent [\\$5.7 million grant application to Infrastructure Canada](#) for work involving Bowker Creek including the portion directly across the street from the SD61 subject property.

In summary, the community has a long-established and legitimate community expectation that SD61 will also work together on the vision encompassed by the 20 years of BCI technical studies and collaboration. Yet instead of consulting with local governments, community organizations or the public, SD61 ignored the expectations of the community and entered into a *Purchase and Sale Agreement*.

4. Conserving publicly-owned urban greenspace is essential to healthy communities

There is [extensive scientific literature](#) confirming that urban open space is associated with a large number of health benefits, including lower premature mortality, longer life expectancy, fewer mental health problems, less cardiovascular disease, better cognitive functioning in children and the elderly, and healthier babies. Science also points to its value for mitigating air pollution, heat and noise levels, and providing for physical exercise and social interaction. Once valuable urban greenspace is sold, it is lost forever.

According to local government community plans, the immediate neighbourhoods in both Saanich and Victoria do not meet community Open Space Standards and the current deficiency is being further exacerbated by SD61’s recent land disposal at Lansdowne North and rapid densification in the region provided in the Regional Growth Strategy, Official Community Plans and Saanich’s Shelbourne Valley Action Plan.

5. Daylighting Feasibility Study

As mentioned on multiple occasions and described at length in our February 11, 2022 letter to Chair Ryan Painter and Trustees (Attachment 3), flooding is a serious issue and the 1.9-acre site lies within a known floodplain. The [Daylighting Feasibility Study](#) and [Companion Report](#) identify the parcel as one of a very few viable locations for a Stormwater Management Facility.

We note that SD61 and Victoria Hospice Society continue to focus on the “alternative” option cited in the Blueprint. We again remind you that the more recent (2020) Daylighting Feasibility Study builds on the “preferred” option of the Blueprint not the “alternative” option.

SD61 staff were actively involved in the Daylighting Feasibility Study, yet nowhere is this study documented by SD61 for decision-makers. It is not referenced in the Engagement Summary Report, SD61’s February 2, 2022 letter, or in any staff report presented to the Board. The recommendations and conceptual plans of the study also appear to have been ignored when SD61 entered into a *Purchase and Sale Agreement* in September 2021.

6. February 18, 2022 Victoria Hospice Proposal (VHS)

We note that the [latest VHS proposal](#) (dated February 18, 2022) is markedly different from the [one that VHS presented to SD61 at the January 24 Board meeting](#). The subject property is now 1.28 acres—over 32% smaller than the previous 1.9-acre proposal. The proposed property line has been relocated from the centreline of the creek to the west of the creek, so that the entire section of the creek will remain within the “parent” SD61 parcel.

While we appreciate these changes, the new proposal includes vague commitments to implementation including activities involving areas outside of the newly-proposed lot boundaries. No specifics such as timelines, costs or who will be paying are provided. It is also uncertain if it is appropriate for SD61 Trustees to be considering 3rd reading given that the proposal is now very different from what was considered at 1st and 2nd reading.

We also note that the VHS proposal cites a floodplain storage volume of “4.9 million litres”. While this seems like an impressive number, please note that it represents less than 15% of the 36,000 cubic metres of storage capacity cited in the Daylighting Feasibility Study and is unlikely to contribute significantly to flood mitigation downstream.

Although this latest proposal addresses some of the specific Reach 9 objectives of the Blueprint, it makes no reference to the important broader elements of the Blueprint including the 9 Principles, 10 Key Actions, or the goals and objectives of the [Watershed Management Plan](#). VHS focuses on the 2011 “alternative” option yet the recent 2020 Daylighting Feasibility Study—a study in which SD61 staff actively participated—builds on the “preferred” option.

7. Lack of confidence in the SD61 Board of Trustees

We note that two trustees were suspended from the Board on February 11, 2022. We are also aware that the Greater Victoria Teachers’ Association has since held a vote of no confidence in the Board of Education, and the Songhees Nation has called for the resignation of the Board.

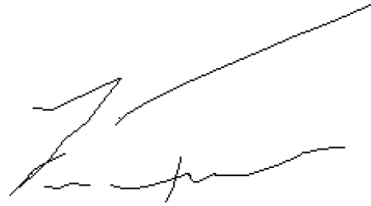
In addition, we understand that the Victoria Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils, and the Canadian Union of Public Employees locals 947 and 382 have also expressed a loss in confidence in the SD61 board’s abilities. We continue to maintain that the current challenges of the Board do not provide a good basis for decision-making about complex and controversial land use matters.

In closing we again ask the Minister of Education and the SD61 Board of Trustees to suspend the sale of this property and allow for a more thoughtful, considered discussion of alternatives that genuinely “*consults with local governments, community organizations and the public on alternative community uses*” consistent with the requirements of Ministry of Education disposal policies.

Respectfully yours,



Soren Henrich, Chair
Chair Friends of Bowker Creek Society



Lisa Timmons, President
Camosun Community Association

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Response to February 2, 2002 Letter from Chair Ryan Painter

Attachment 2 – Shelbourne Local Area Plan (page 27), District of Saanich

Attachment 3 – February 11, 2002 Letter to Chair Ryan Painter and Trustees regarding flooding

cc: Honourable Murray Rankin, MLA, Oak Bay-Gordon Head
Honourable Rob Fleming, MLA, Victoria-Hillside
Chief Ronald Sam and Council, Songhees Nation
Mayor and Council, District of Saanich
Mayor and Council, City of Victoria
Mayor and Council, District of Oak Bay
Chris Brown, Assistant Deputy Minister, Resource Management Division, Ministry of Education
Travis Tormala, A/Regional Director, Capital Projects, Programs & Finance Unit
Harley Machielse, Director of Engineering, District of Saanich
Sharon Hvozdzanski, Director of Planning, District of Saanich
Lindsey McCrank, Coordinator, Bowker Creek Watershed Renewal Initiative
Community Associations within the Bowker Creek Watershed

Attachment 1



Board of Education

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
556 Boleskine Road, Victoria, BC V8Z 1E8
Phone (250) 475-4106 Fax (250) 475-4112

Chair: Ryan Painter Vice-Chair: Tom Ferris
Trustees: Nicole Duncan, Angie Hentze, Elaine Leonard,
Diane McNally, Rob Paynter, Jordan Watters, Ann Whiteaker

February 2, 2022

Ministry of Education
PO Box 9045, STN PROV GOVT
Victoria BC V8W 9E2
ATTENTION: Honourable Jennifer Whiteside

Friends of Bowker Creek
ATTENTION: Soren Henrich, Chair

Camosun Community Association
ATTENTION: Lisa Timmons, President

Dear Minister Whiteside, Soren Henrich and Lisa Timmons:

**RE: Board of Education Response to January 12, 2022 Letter from
Friends of Bowker Creek and Camosun Community Association**

At its January 24, 2022 Regular Open Board meeting, the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) received the subject letter and carried the following resolution:

That the Board of Education direct the Chair to write a letter in response to the January 12, 2022 Friends of Bowker Creek and Camosun Community Association letter confirming the Board's authority to enter into a Purchase and Sale agreement conditional on the approval of the Minister and three readings of the Board's disposal bylaw, and a response to other outstanding items in the letter;
AND FURTHER

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

One *Learning* Community



That the letter be copied to the Ministers, Rightsholders and District Stakeholders copied in the original letter, and the District of Saanich.

The response to the subject letter is provided below and attempts to follow the order of topics in the January 12, 2022 letter.

School District Compliance with Ministry of Education Land Disposal Policies

Consultation efforts with respect to the proposed disposal of a portion of Lansdowne Middle School, South Campus lands to the Victoria Hospice Society to date include:

1. Broad public consultation undertaken by the Board to seek input from the education community is set out in the Board's Engagement Summary Report received by the Board on December 13, 2021 at its Regular Open Board meeting, attached as Appendix A. The engagement report outlines the extensive efforts made to build awareness around the disposal prior to the public meeting.

RESPONSE: A single 75-minute on-line Question/Answer session hardly qualifies as "Broad Consultation" by any standard. It also fails to meet the District's own Consultation Policy which states that *"[Consultation] involves interaction between decision makers and those affected by the decisions. It promotes a two-way flow of information and ideas to arrive at better solutions and, consequently, more effective implementation of policy and programs"*.

In addition to the lack of two-way flow of information and ideas, no background information on Bowker Creek, the 20 years of technical study and collaboration, or local community planning was provided in advance of, or at the session. SD61 has actively promoted the sale of this land and legitimate concerns of community members and organizations have been consistently minimized, marginalized and ignored.

The Board's "Engagement Summary Report" provided no quantification or analysis, and marginalized hundreds of pages of input and submissions into 5 short bullet points. The Bowker Creek Initiative's 54-slide presentation synthesizing over 20 years of technical study and collaboration were reduced to a once-sentence statement that the parties *"gathered for a presentation and discussion...to learn more about the important watershed"*. Key technical implications raised by the Bowker Creek Initiative were excluded from the summary. Most importantly, SD61 entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement without considering any of this input.

2. Specifically, an on-line public information session was held on November 3, 2021 at which approximately 60 people attended.

RESPONSE: No background information on Bowker Creek, the 20 years of technical study, years of collaboration, or local community planning was provided in advance of, or at the session. Questions related to Bowker Creek were repeatedly raised and not answered or answered incorrectly. Senior SD61 staff were unaware of the extensive documentation and on at least two occasions responded that they had only been working at the District for two years.

We do not feel this absolves SD61 of exercising its due diligence before entering into a *Purchase and Sale Agreement*.

3. In addition to the consultation set out in [Appendix A](#), the Board also received presentations from eight individuals at its Operations Policy & Planning Committee and Regular Board meetings as follows:

November 21, 2021 Committee:	2 presentations
December 13, 2021 Board Meeting:	4 presentations
January 17, 2022 Committee:	1 presentation
January 24, 2022 Board:	4 presentations
	11 presentations total

Of these presentations, nine were against the proposed disposal and two were in favour of the proposed disposal. Voices that spoke against the disposal were concerned about the impacts on Bowker Creek and the Board's March 2018 endorsement, in principle, of the Bowker Creek Blueprint. Those who spoke in favour noted the benefits of Hospice services in our community and the potential improvements that Hospice could bring to the Bowker Creek on the site.

RESPONSE: We note that the two presentations in favour were delivered by representatives of the party with which SD61 signed a *Purchase and Sale Agreement*. In addition, concerns raised by community members went well beyond the impacts on Bowker Creek and the Blueprint and included procedural issues, provincial and board policies, flooding and flood mitigation, community planning, climate adaptation, current and future educational values to name a few.

Many questions that were raised at the above meetings and in correspondence remain unanswered. Of the extensive correspondence received to date, the vast majority are opposed to the sale and hasty process. Since the January 24 meeting, SD61 Trustees have received an additional 30 presentations on this issue from the general public of which only 5 were opposed to the sale.

In addition to the November 3rd public meeting and presentations to the Committee and Board listed above, the following also occurred:

1. December 8, 2021 meeting on site with staff, governance and consultant representatives from Friends of Bowker Creek, SD61 (three staff and four Trustees), District of Saanich, Community Association of Oak Bay, Victoria Hospice Society, City of Victoria, and Capital Regional District to receive a Bowker Creek Initiative presentation from CRD representative and a walk of the creek on the Lands.

RESPONSE: We note that this meeting was not a SD61 initiative and was organized at the request of the Bowker Creek Initiative - a collaborative of local government, institutions, stewardship and community groups established in 2004. The 54-slide presentation provided a high-level summary of the 20 years of technical and planning study and collaboration. We note that only four trustees attended the session and no report on this information was provided for the Board's consideration. And none of this information was considered when the District entered into a *Purchase and Sale Agreement* in September 2021.

2. January 7, 2022 meeting by Zoom with staff representatives from Bowker Creek Initiative, District of Saanich, Victoria Hospice Society, Capital Regional District, SD61 (three staff) to receive a conceptual creek restoration presentation from Victoria Hospice Society.

RESPONSE: We note that stewardship and community groups were specifically excluded from the meeting and were never consulted on the “conceptual creek restoration presentation”. SD61 entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement, long before these discussions. Moreover, the Victoria Hospice Society concept plan has since changed dramatically since January 24, without any discussion of alternatives. Despite the remarks of the proponents and SD61, we understand that there has been no support expressed by the District of Saanich at this time.

3. SD61 Secretary-Treasurer’s discussion with District of Saanich Planner to verify the conceptual plan presented by Victoria Hospice Society on January 7, 2022 above and to the Board on January 24, 2022, meets the goals and objectives of the Bowker Creek Blueprint.

RESPONSE: We have since confirmed that the above statement, as well as statements made by the Secretary-Treasurer at the January 24, 2022 Board meeting (specifically that Saanich “generally supports the project”) misrepresents the position of the District of Saanich. If the Board requires verification from Saanich or another third party it should be requested and substantiated in writing, not through the remarks of staff.

4. 169 pieces of correspondence were received by the Board as of January 24, 2022, with 26 additional pieces of correspondence anticipated as of today’s date for inclusion in the February 28, 2022 Board agenda.

RESPONSE: We note that many email submissions were not included in the December 14 and January 24 Agenda Package nor were they reflected in the SD61 “Engagement Summary Report”. In addition, over 220 pages of relevant community correspondence from 2007 (when SD61 proposed selling the entire property because it was “surplus to projected needs”) was also omitted despite resubmitting it on two occasions.

In the January 12, 2022 letter FOBC/CCA states “School District 61 appears to be ignoring Ministry of Education Land Disposal policies” by entering in to a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Victoria Hospice Society prior to the Minister’s approval. The letter further states “...the Minister must approve of disposal before SD61 enters into an agreement to sell.”

The following outlines the Ministerial Order and the District’s compliance with same:

1. SD61 Board entered into Purchase and Sale Agreement with Victoria Hospice Society **conditional** on three readings of the Board’s bylaw and Ministerial approval.

RESPONSE: We note that entering into a contract, conditional on Ministerial approval is inconsistent with Ministry of Education policy.
2. the Ministerial Order **Appendix B** is the governing document, not the published guidelines.

RESPONSE: Sections 96(3) and 168(2)(t) of the *School Act* and Ministerial Order # M193/08 provide the overall authority. The authority, the policy and the guidance document are very clear and consistent. Entering into a legal contract prior to Ministerial Approval is not consistent with the intent or the spirit of the policy.

Policies provide guidance, consistency, accountability, efficiency, and clarity. Intentionally or unintentionally breaching provincial policy on an issue with such consequential and controversial land use implications, generates cynicism and mistrust, reflects poorly on public institutions and undermines democracy.

3. the words “must approve of disposal before a <district> enters into an agreement to sell” do not appear in the Order.
4. the Order does not prohibit entering into a sale agreement conditional on the Minister’s approval.

RESPONSE: Section 3 of Minister’s M193/08 Order stipulates that “***Boards must not dispose of land or improvements by sale and transfer in fee simple or by way of a lease of 10 years or more unless such disposal is to another board or an independent school for educational purposes or is approved by the Minister***”. Note that under the *Interpretation Act* “dispose” means “to transfer by any method and includes assign, give, sell, grant, charge, convey, bequeath, devise, lease, divest, release **and agree to do any of those things**”. It is very clear that entering into a *Purchase and Sale Agreement* is inconsistent with the Order. The clarification provided in the Ministry guidance document (see 6 below) makes this abundantly clear.

5. there is no provision in the Order that the Minister’s approval is not required for legal commitments that were in place prior to September 3, 2008.

The policy intent is to ensure that the District secures Ministerial approval BEFORE entering into a contract not after AFTER. Ministry of Education Programs and Finance Unit staff, and the Ministry guidance document are very clear on this. For your staff to suggest at the January 24 Board meeting that Ministry of Education staff are misinterpreting their own policy is also misleading.

6. Parts of the Ministry's Q&A document attached to FOBC/CCA's January 12, 2022 letter have been updated several times and most recently March 2020 in [Appendix C](#).

Question 12 of your Appendix C is reproduced here for clarity. It is very clear and states that "Ministerial Approval is required before entering into any such agreements...", consistent with Section 3 of the Order.

APPENDIX C



Ministry of Education Capital Management Branch

Questions and Answers

Disposal of Land or Improvements Order (M193/08)

School Building Closure and Disposal Policy

12. Is a board of education able to enter into an agreement-to-sell prior to receiving Ministerial approval?

No. Ministerial approval is required before entering into any such agreements for the sale, exchange or lease of 10 years or more of school property, except where the purchaser is another board of education or an independent school authority.

The Board is rightfully within the law outlined in the Ministerial Order by entering into the Purchase and Sale Agreement.

RESPONSE: Please see (4) above and note the definition of "dispose" under the *Interpretation Act*. Regardless, the Board is clearly not following the spirit of the provincial disposal policy. A key principle of Administrative Fairness requires that those exercising public authority should act within the legal and policy framework that they are granted under legislation. We recommend consulting the [BC Ombudsperson Fairness in Practice Guide](#).

Consideration of Collaborative Efforts or Recommendations of the Bowker Creek Initiative on its Partners

Given the engagement efforts outlined above, the Board has met its obligation relative to consultation and the alternate use of the proposed property disposal lands.

The Board has considered:

1. Its March 2018 motion to support the Bowker Creek Blueprint, *in principle*;
2. Its June 2019 motion declaring a climate emergency;
3. The two options in the Blueprint: the preferred and the alternate;

RESPONSE: Note that the more recent 2020 Daylighting Feasibility Study further expands on the preferred option of the Blueprint not the alternative option. Your staff were actively involved in this

Study and its recommendations, yet nowhere is it cited in your February 2, 2022 letter, in your “Engagement Summary Report” or any staff report presented to the board.

As mentioned on multiple occasions, the 1.9 acre site lies within a floodplain and the Daylighting Feasibility Study identifies the parcel as one of a very few viable locations for a Stormwater Management Facility. None of this information has been documented for the Board, nor was it considered when you entered into a *Purchase and Sale Agreement* in September 2021.

4. The feedback received throughout the consultation process as well as the advocacy letters received in leading up to the bylaw readings, two such bylaw readings given by the Board on January 24, 2022;

RESPONSE: Noting that many of the questions in various “advocacy letters”—including our November 24, 2021 and January 12, 2022 letters—remain unanswered.

5. The proposed conceptual restoration plan from Victoria Hospice Society, supported by their biologist and landscape consultants [\(Appendix D\)](#)

RESPONSE: We note that the “conceptual restoration plan” upon which 1st and 2nd Reading were based has changed significantly and a new version was circulated to SD61 hardly a week ago without any discussion among the Board or community representatives. Neither the FOBCS nor CCA were provided with a copy.

6. The two meetings held with Bowker Creek Initiative representatives from Capital Regional District, District of Saanich, Friends of Bowker Creek, Oak Bay Community Association and City of Victoria;

RESPONSE : The Friends of Bowker Creek Society did not attend “the two meetings held”. The FOBCS attended the Dec 8 meeting at the invitation of the BCI, but was excluded along with other community organizations from the January 7, 2022 meeting. Once again, SD61 did not consider the issues raised at these meetings prior to entering into a *Purchase and Sale Agreement* in September 2021.

7. The verification by SD61 staff with District of Saanich Planning Department staff that the proposed conceptual restoration presented by Victoria Hospice Society lies somewhere between exceeding the alternate option but not meeting the preferred option in the Blueprint;

RESPONSE: The “proposed conceptual restoration” clearly does not meet the Preferred option in the Blueprint, nor does it achieve the Stormwater Management objectives of the 2020 Daylighting Feasibility Study—a study that SD61 actively participated in, yet was never cited in any of your staff reports, nor mentioned at the November 3 Q/A session or your February 2 letter.

Nor has the Board or public has received any verification from the District of Saanich Planning Department that confirms that the “proposed conceptual restoration” exceeds the alternative option in the Blueprint. We also note that on January 24, senior SD61 staff misrepresented the position of Saanich staff by indicating that “Saanich, in general is supportive” [of the VHS proposal].

8. The option of making the field across the creek on the parent property Lansdowne Middle School, South Campus, available as an alternate dry pond/flood plain in response to the concern relative to flooding, also discussed with District of Saanich Planning staff;

RESPONSE: This presumably refers to the 2020 Daylighting Feasibility Study and associated Companion Report—technical studies that SD61 staff were actively involved in. Nowhere in any of the board agenda materials or Engagement Summary Report are these studies cited or summarized. Also none of this information (readily available online and through the BCI and its partners) was considered when SD61 entered into a *Purchase and Sale Agreement*.

9. The current state of the creek in its degradation resulting from a lack of progress in advancing the blueprint since the Board's motion in 2018, noting no work has been done to date on the Lansdowne Middle School, South Campus daylight portion of the creek;

RESPONSE: Note that the lack of progress is largely the responsibility of the SD61, not the BCI or the community. Also note that the BCI and its partners leveraged almost \$750,000 for the restoration of Bowker Creek in 2015 that directly benefited SD61's Oak Bay High School campus. The success was largely the result of a willingness of the parties to work together.

Also the BCI's 2020 Daylighting Feasibility Study in which SD61 was actively involved lays out a realistic plan for restoration and flood mitigation. Indeed the Daylighting Feasibility Study provided the basis for the City of Victoria's recent \$5.7 million Infrastructure Grant application, which is supported by the FOBCS and other BCI partners.

10. The ability to leverage a low-density community partner in Victoria Hospice that will advance restoration of the creek through the subdivision and development permit stages of the project, if approved.

RESPONSE: We note that the current VHS proposal dated February 18 proposes that the entire creek channel remains within the residual (parent) property and will continue to be owned by SD61. The VHS proposal is extremely vague on its commitment to advance restoration including costs and timelines.

The Board has considered many factors in its preparation for bylaw readings as outlined above. The Board's consideration of a partial disposal to this community partner does not undermine the efforts to restore the creek, but seeks an actionable, funded restoration of a daylight portion of the creek which has not been addressed in the four years since the Board passed its motion in principle. The proposed conceptual plan also provides learning space for students in our school district as well as neighbouring school districts, as was created at Oak Bay High School during the replacement project.

What's more, the process going forward, should the Board give all three readings to the bylaw and the Minister approves the disposal, has further checks and balances with incremental approvals for subdivision and development permits by the District of Saanich, also a party to the Blueprint.

RESPONSE: The success of the restoration and Oak Bay High School project including funding for restoration was the result of the leadership of the BCI and cooperation among partners, and the willingness of SD61 to collaborate and innovate.

SD61 suggest disappointment that there has been “no actionable, funded restoration of a daylight portion of the creek which has not been addressed in the four years since the Board passed its motion in principle”. What efforts during that period has SD61 made to collaborate with BCI and its partners? Are trustees aware that SD61 staff were actively involved in the development of the Daylighting Feasibility Study during this period and that this study forms the basis for the City of Victoria’s recent \$5.7M federal infrastructure grant application?

Current and Future Educational and Community Values Consideration

The Board’s consideration of learning as well as community values have been considered as evidenced in seeking the first improvement to the daylight portion of the creek since the Board endorsed in principle, the Blueprint. The proposed conceptual plan provides for an outdoor classroom setting for students in our school district as well as neighbouring school districts, early learning partners and more. This is a similar effort to create a space like Oak Bay High School during the replacement project and the creek restoration at that site.

The Board must consider the safety of students and staff first, then the learning priorities, then the values of community if they do not intersect directly with the Board’s mandate. The various regulatory approvals for a development are held by the municipality with the mandate to uphold community values and objectives through Official Community Plans, subdivision approvals and development permit approvals, and consideration for the creek as a party to the Blueprint.

RESPONSE: We appreciate the repeated references to the Oak Bay High School restoration, noting that project was the result of open collaboration with the BCI and its partners. Yet in this case SD61 chose not to collaborate and instead entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement without “*[engaging] in broad consultation and enhanced planning...*”, without “*[considering] potential needs for alternative community use*”, and without “*[consulting] with local governments, community organizations and the public on alternative community uses*” as required by Ministry of Education disposal policies.

We appreciate the Board’s focus on the safety of students and learning priorities. We also think following the spirit and intent of provincial disposal policies should be an important focus for the Board.

Important Flood Mitigation and Climate Change Adaptation Benefits

The Bowker Creek Blueprint outlines two options: preferred and alternate. There is not one single option for the creek restoration or a Blueprint, especially a Blueprint that spans 100 years. The conceptual plan presented to the January 7, 2022 Bowker Creek Initiative meeting, and to the Board on January 24, 2022, exceeds the alternate option. An initial discussion with District Staff and District of Saanich Staff includes the option of moving the flood plain and dry pond to the parent property field and would be considered by District of Saanich in its approval processes in determining the viability of the development.

RESPONSE: Nowhere is your statement that the “conceptual plan ... exceeds the alternative option” substantiated by the BCI. We also note that the alternative option described in the Blueprint never entertained a multi-storey 30,000 square foot building and extensive surface parking areas.

We also note that the more-recent 2020 Daylighting Feasibility Study builds on the Blueprint “preferred” option not the “alternative” option and that SD61 was actively involved in development of the Study and its recommendations. Yet neither the study nor SD61’s participation in it were considered when SD61 signed a *Purchase and Sale Agreement* in September 2021.

Rationale for Disposal Based on Logic and Enrolment Projections

The property has been deemed surplus to the needs of the Board for the following reasons:

- Future enrolment needs are met with the opening of Lansdowne Middle School South Campus (formerly Richmond Elementary School) housing the middle school’s grade 6 students. **Even if enrolment increased in the catchment, the school at its current enrolment of 721 students is felt to be at capacity relative to a middle school philosophy.** A middle school larger than 750 students is undesirable for learning and any residual enrolment would be attended to at another site;
- Lansdowne Middle School, North Campus, remains the District’s largest piece of land and therefore could be utilized if absolutely necessary;
- South Campus and the property are separated by a creek and not easily nor safely accessible by students. The creek portion is currently surrounded by a fence and access to and from the South Campus and the property is through a roughly 2.5m wide walkway;
- Not used by school district for curriculum delivery nor extra-curricular activities;
- The Lansdowne Middle School Principal confirms the lands are not required for educational programming.

RESPONSE: We again note the property is located less than 500 metres from Hillside Centre and the Shelbourne Corridor, and only 400 metres from the Jubilee Hospital precinct, both identified as ‘Regional Growth Nodes’ in the CRD’s updated 2018 Regional Growth Strategy and in Saanich and Victoria Official Community Plans. It does not appear that increasing density and infill have been considered in SD61’s projections.

We again point out that SD61’s efforts to sell the property in 2007 were also based on a similar “surplus-to-future-needs” assessment. How can the public be confident in SD61’s projections given that SD61’s previous projections have clearly proven to be incorrect?

Note that access and safety issues are addressed in the 2020 Daylighting Feasibility Study and Compendium document that SD61 staff were actively involved in.

Minister's Mandate Letter and Urgency of Climate Impact Preparations

The Minister's current 2021-2022 to 2023-2024 Service Delivery Plan

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/education/service-plan> contains two Goals and five Objectives:

- Goal 1 All Students Become Educated Citizens
- Goal 2 Learning Environments Foster Healthy and Effective Learning

The Board's intentions to advance the Minister's Service Delivery Plan are evidenced through its annual human and financial resource allocations as well as its five-year annual capital planning. The Board is also committed to climate action through its 2019 board motion declaring a climate emergency; its commitment to the formation of a climate action committee with a membership of diverse expertise and opinion; its financial commitment to major capital projects like Victoria High School and Cedar Hill Middle School; the purchase of electric school buses; and, its creek stewardship by partnering with and leveraging Victoria Hospice Society in a low impact development that can advance the goals of creek restoration and learning opportunities for students.

RESPONSE: We feel you have ignored the importance of flood mitigation and climate adaptation which underpins much of the work and focus of the Bowker Creek Initiative, the Bowker Creek Blueprint and the Daylighting Feasibility Study. Flood mitigation and ensuring infrastructure is climate resilient and built to withstand future events are essential to building resilient communities and was a key theme in the recent Throne Speech, the recently announced BC Budget, and will be an important pillar of the upcoming provincial Flood Strategy.

Yours sincerely,

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 61 (GREATER VICTORIA)

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

One *Learning* Community

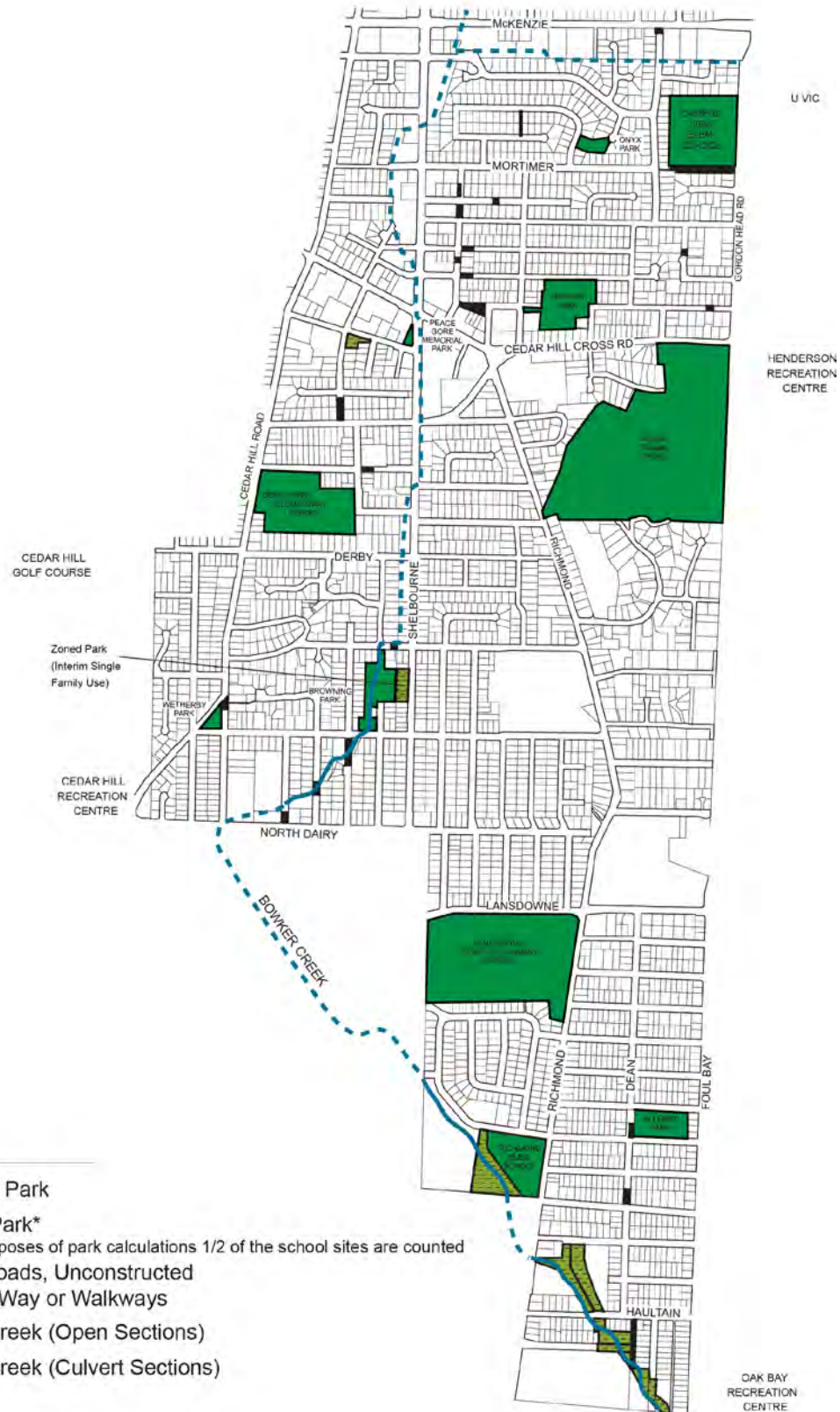









Ryan Painter

Chair, Board of Education

cc: Board of Education, SD61
Deb Whitten, Interim Superintendent, SD61
Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, SD61
Friends of Bowker Creek
Camosun Community Association
Honourable George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Honourable Murray Rankin, MLA, Oak Bay-Gordon Head
Honourable Rob Fleming, MLA, Victoria-Hillside
Chief Ron Sam and Council, Songhees Nation
Mayor and Council, District of Saanich
Mayor and Council, City of Victoria
Mayor and Council, District of Oak Bay
Chris Brown, Assistant Deputy Minister, Resource Management Division, Ministry of Education
John Woycheshin, Regional Director, Capital Projects, Programs and Finance Unit
Harley Machielse, Director of Engineering, District of Saanich
Sharon Hvozdzanski, Director of Planning, District of Saanich
Lindsey McCrank, Coordinator, Bowker Creek Watershed Renewal Initiative
Community Associations within the Bowker Creek Water Shed
Angela Carmichael, President, Victoria Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils
Kevin Harter, Chief Executive Officer, Victoria Hospice Society



LEGEND

-  Proposed Park
-  Existing Park*
- *For the purposes of park calculations 1/2 of the school sites are counted
-  Closed Roads, Unconstructed Rights of Way or Walkways
-  Bowker Creek (Open Sections)
-  Bowker Creek (Culvert Sections)

MAP 7.1 PARK AND OPEN SPACE

G:\Project_Admin\Local Area Plans\Shelbourne\maps\Map 7_1.pdf

February 11, 2022

Chair Ryan Painter and Trustees
Greater Victoria School District #61
556 Boleskine Road
Victoria, BC V8Z 1E8



Dear Chair Painter and Board of Trustees:

Re: Proposed Land Disposal at Lansdowne South – Trustee questions regarding flooding

At the January 24, 2022 Board of Trustees meeting, Trustees raised several questions about flooding onsite and downstream of the 1.9-acre parcel of public land that SD61 is proposing to sell to Victoria Hospice Society (VHS).

For your reference, and to demonstrate the potential flooding problems arising from the proposed sale and development of this property, we have attached slides 18 and 19 (Attachment 1) from the Bowker Creek Initiative's (BCI) [December 8, 2021 Slide Presentation](#). Attendees included, SD61 Chair Painter, Trustees Whitaker, Duncan and Ferris, staff from SD61, Saanich, Victoria, as well as VHS representatives and members of the Friends of Bowker Creek Society. The maps depicted on the slides come directly from the [Bowker Creek Master Drainage Plan](#) prepared by Kerr Wood Leidal Associates Ltd. for the BCI and its partners in 2007.

The maps illustrate two of the flood projections modelled in the report ([Scenario 1](#) and [Scenario 2](#)) and show the current and future risks of flooding, both on-site and downstream of the property. Mitigating the risk of flooding and the associated property damage—particularly in the face of climate change—has been fundamental to the work of the BCI and its local government and community partners including the Camosun Community Association and Friends of Bowker Creek Society for over 20 years.

In addition to the above background, we would like to ensure you are aware of the following implications:

- Flooding in the Bowker Creek watershed is a serious issue and the Master Drainage Plan shows that without intervention, periodic flooding of Bowker Creek will potentially damage hundreds of homes and properties (Attachment 2), a situation that will be further aggravated by climate change and higher intensity rainfall events like the one experienced last November.
- The 1.9-acre parcel proposed for disposal is currently in a floodplain and using it for stormwater detention rather than development was first proposed over 20 years ago in the [2000 Bowker Creek Watershed Assessment](#) (Reid Crowther Partners/SHIP Environmental Consultants).
- The recommendations of the 2007 Master Drainage Plan informed the development of the [2011 Bowker Creek Blueprint: A 100-Year Action Plan](#), the [2020 Bowker Creek Daylighting Feasibility Study](#) (prepared by ISL Engineering and Lands Services Ltd.) and its [Companion](#)

[Report on Stormwater Management Facilities](#). In addition to realigning and naturalizing the stream channel, enhancing habitat and biodiversity, and improving safety and access, the reports recommend using the triangular parcel for stormwater management to hold back water during peak rainfall events and thereby mitigate flooding onsite and downstream.

- The SD61 Board of Trustees endorsed the Blueprint in 2018 and we understand your staff actively contributed to the review and conceptual designs described in the Daylighting Feasibility Study and the associated Companion Report.
- Technical and planning studies indicate that there are very limited opportunities for large-scale stormwater detention in the watershed because of the highly urbanized nature of the Bowker Creek watershed and the relative scarcity of publicly-owned land. The Lansdowne South property including the 1.9 acre site is one of only a few viable locations available.

It is therefore extremely troubling that you signed a *Purchase and Sale Agreement* without considering any of the above information, and without any prior discussion with municipal government, the BCI collaborative, or local community and stewardship interests.

We do not support the proposed land disposal and urge you to slow down this process and engage in a meaningful and collaborative process that respects provincial education policies and fully involves and genuinely considers community interests, including the risk of flooding and opportunities for climate adaptation.

We would be pleased to further discuss the contents of this letter with you or your staff, and/or tour the site with you either individually or as a group at your convenience.

Yours truly,



Soren Henrich, Chair
Friends of Bowker Creek Society
friendsofbowkercreek@gmail.com



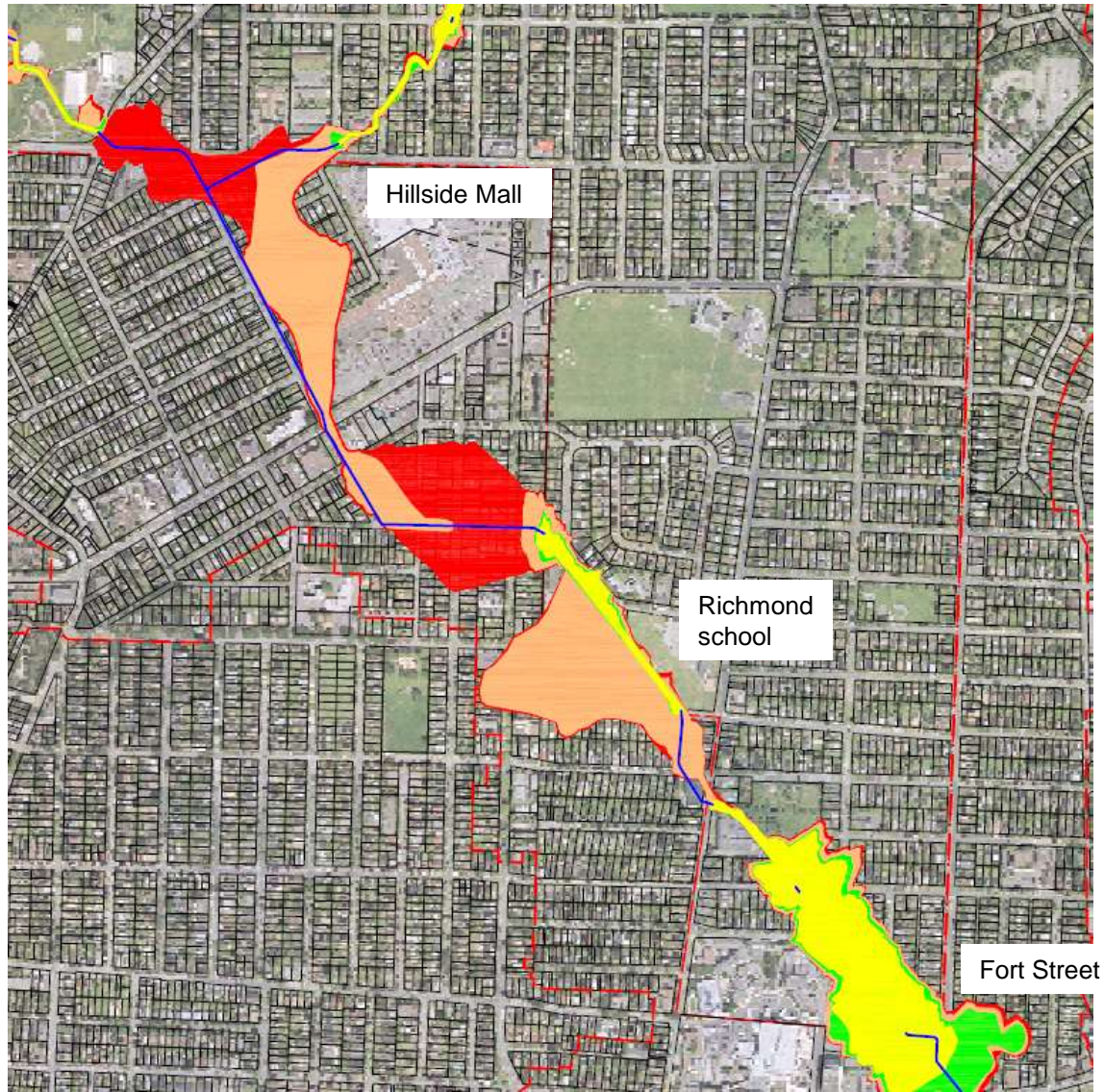
Lisa Timmons
Camosun Community Association
CamosunCA@gmail.com

cc: Honourable Murray Rankin, MLA, Oak Bay-Gordon Head
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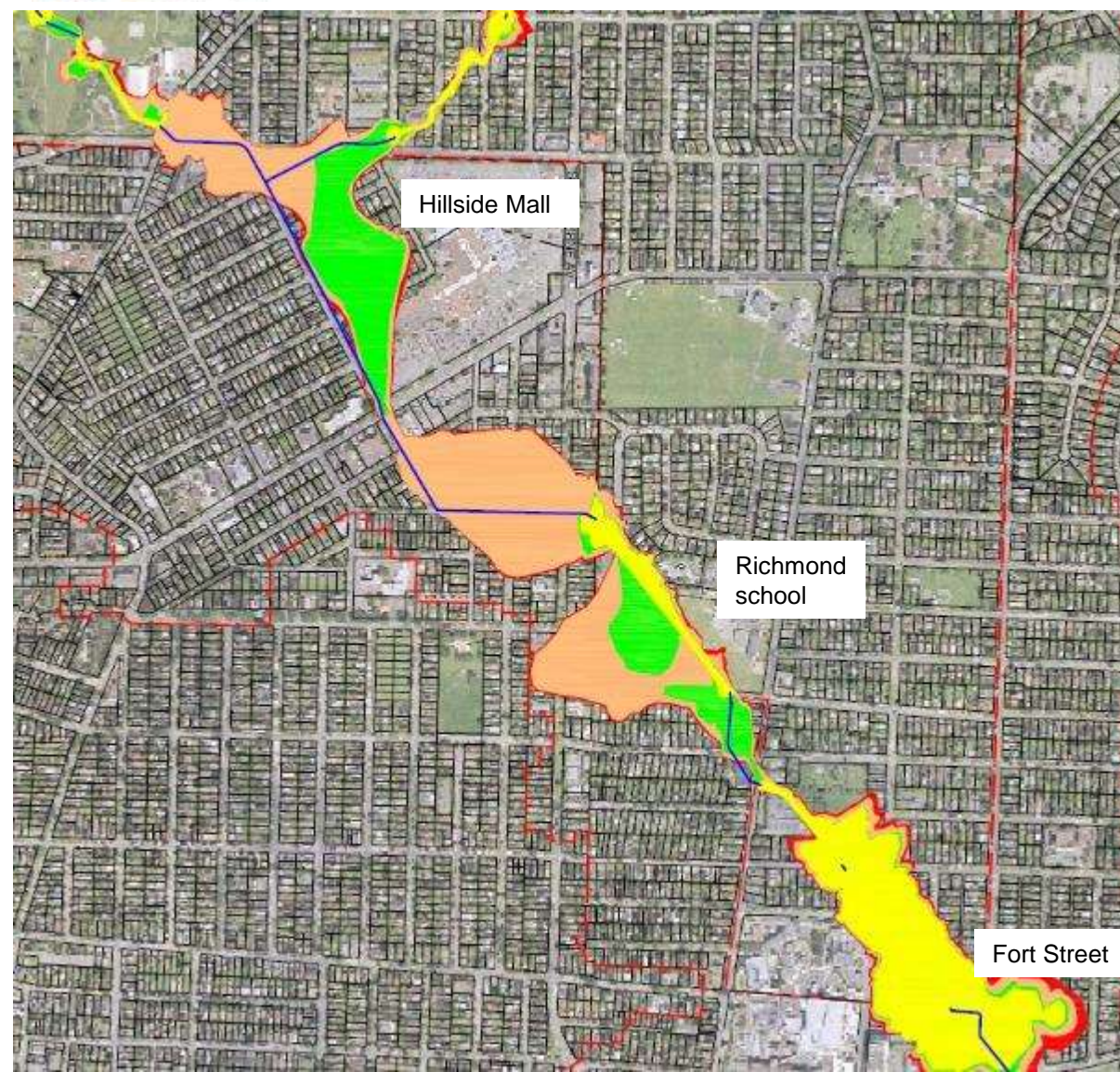


Current Flooding (2006 modeling)





Projected Future Flooding (do nothing)



ATTACHMENT 2

The Bowker Creek Master Drainage Plan (2007) projects the approximate number of houses or buildings that may experience flooding as a result of water levels in Bowker Creek for Scenario 1 and Scenario 2. The results (reproduced from the report) are summarized in the tables below: Employing opportunities for stormwater detention, including at Lansdowne South is a key strategy to help mitigate this flooding risk.

Scenario 1 – Existing Land Use, Existing hydraulics

Table 4-2: Scenario 1 – Number of Flooded Houses or Buildings

Return Period	Number of Flooded Houses or Buildings
10-Year	38
25-Year	72
100-Year	193
200-Year	297
Note: The above number of flooded houses or buildings does not include properties upstream of Knight Street.	

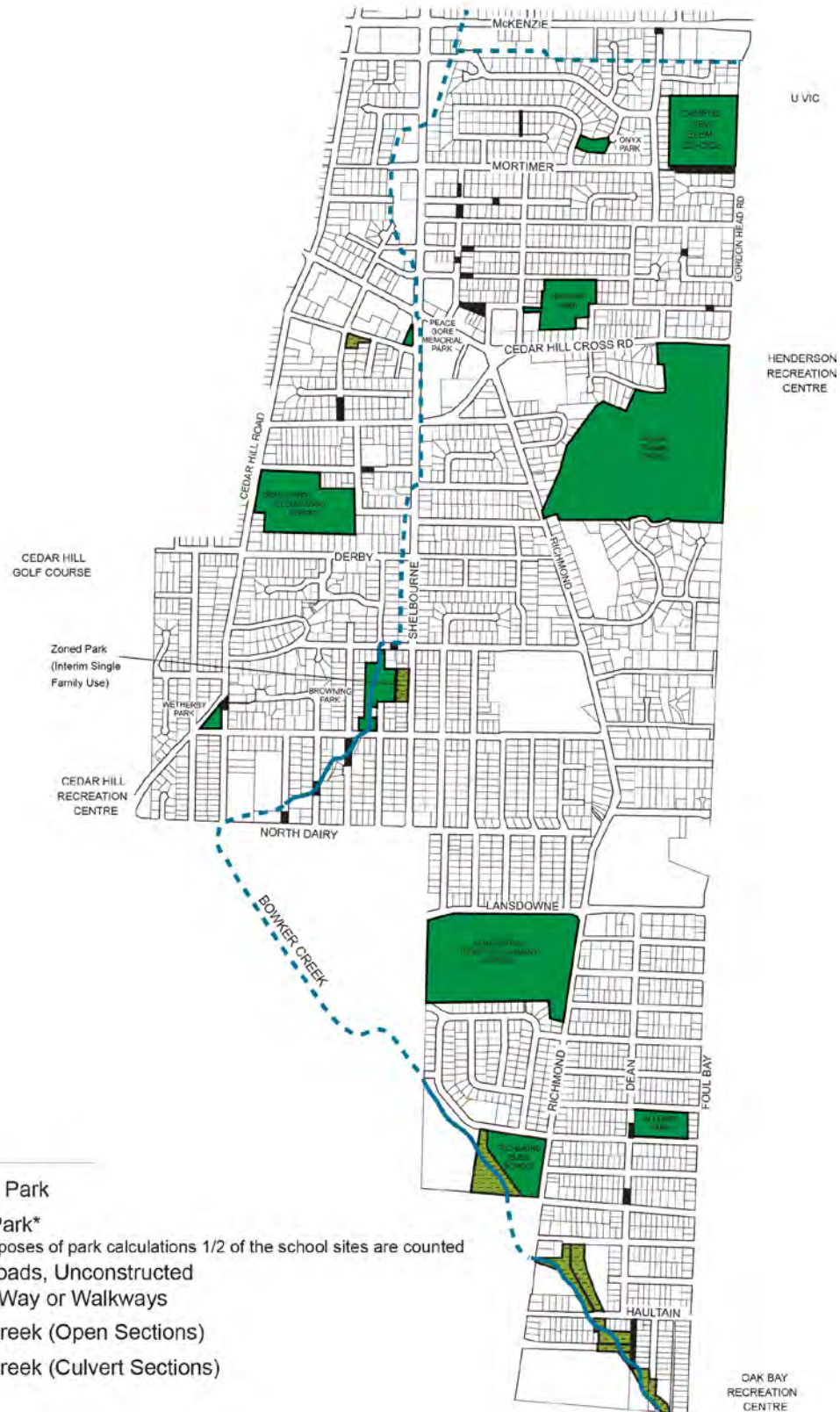
(SOURCE: [Bowker Creek Master Drainage Plan](#), page 4-2)

Scenario 2 – 25-Year Future Land Use, existing hydraulics






Table 4-4: Scenario 2 – Number of Flooded Houses or Buildings

Return Period	Number of Flooded Houses or Buildings
10-Year	53
25-Year	143
100-Year	301
200-Year	305
Note: The above number of flooded houses or buildings does not include properties upstream of Knight Street.	

(SOURCE: [Bowker Creek Master Drainage Plan](#), page 4-4)



LEGEND

-  Proposed Park
-  Existing Park*
*For the purposes of park calculations 1/2 of the school sites are counted
-  Closed Roads, Unconstructed Rights of Way or Walkways
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We do not support the proposed land disposal and urge you to slow down this process and engage in a meaningful and collaborative process that respects provincial education policies and fully involves and genuinely considers community interests, including the risk of flooding and opportunities for climate adaptation.

We would be pleased to further discuss the contents of this letter with you or your staff, and/or tour the site with you either individually or as a group at your convenience.

Yours truly,



Soren Henrich, Chair
Friends of Bowker Creek Society
friendsofbowkercreek@gmail.com



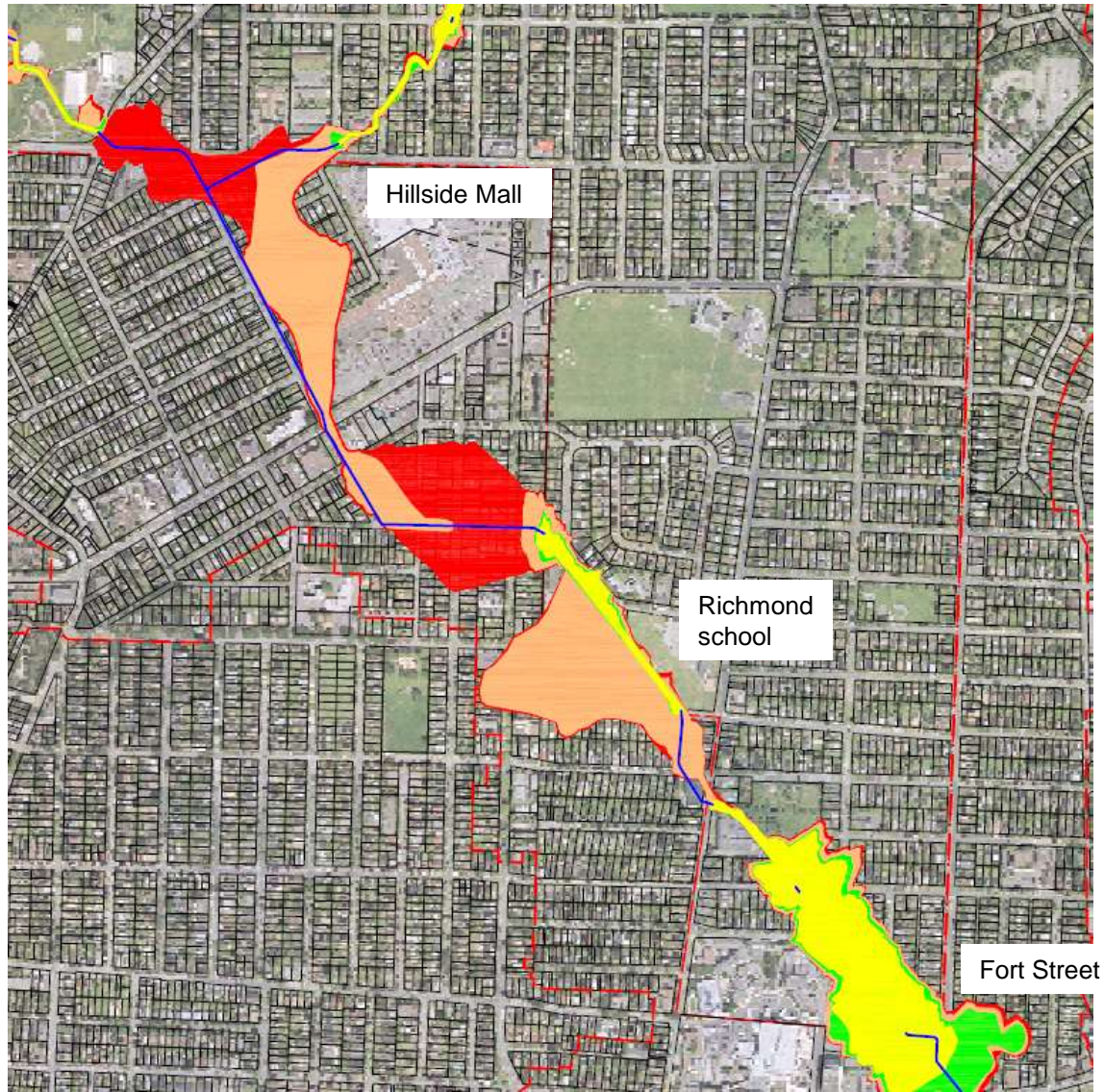
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cc: Honourable Murray Rankin, MLA, Oak Bay-Gordon Head
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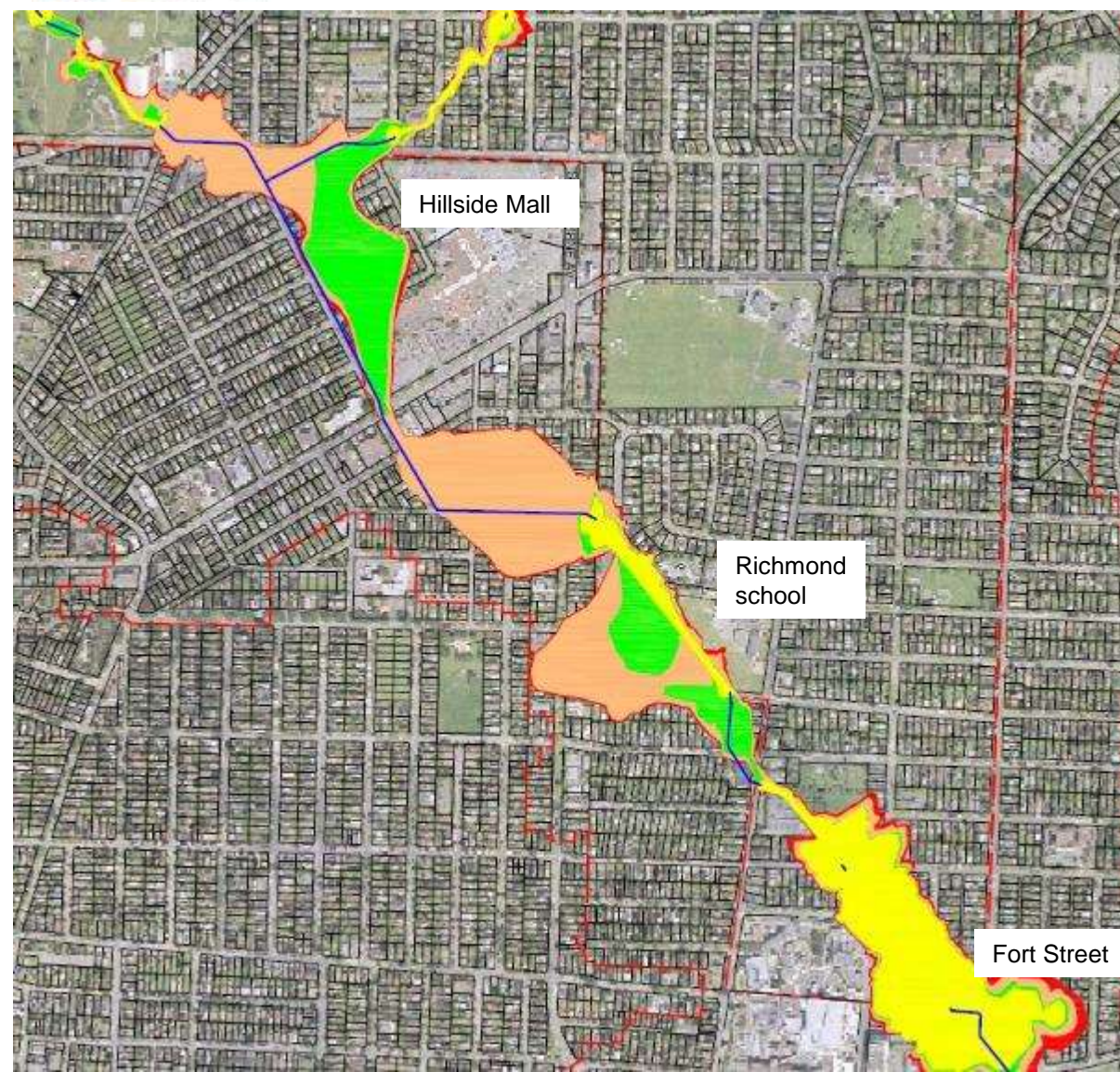


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(SOURCE: [Bowker Creek Master Drainage Plan](#), page 4-2)

Scenario 2 – 25-Year Future Land Use, existing hydraulics

Table 4-4: Scenario 2 – Number of Flooded Houses or Buildings

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25-Year	143
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(SOURCE: [Bowker Creek Master Drainage Plan](#), page 4-4)

From: Lyle Fuller
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2022 4:18 PM
To: developmentservices@victoria.ca
Cc: Community Engagement <Community@sd61.bc.ca>
Subject: New Victoria Hospice (adjacent former Richmond Elementary)

CAUTION: External email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you are confident about the source.

Hello,

We're generally opposed to the loss of local greenspace that the new hospice would involve, however we haven't heard any discussion about the surface drainage implications of yet another large development in the area. Because of all the recent nearby condo developments (with their large areas of impermeable surfaces), the capacity of the storm drain system and Bowker Creek seems to be reaching the limit. Storm drain backups are more common in the neighbourhood, and the owner of 1849/51 Haultain St. (along Bowker Creek) has resorted to using sandbags to prevent flooding of his property during rainy periods. We haven't seen any recent studies confirming that the local storm system can actually handle more runoff, and this is our main concern with this project – and the many more planned – in the area.

Thank you,

Lyle Fuller & Rhonda Ganz

From: susan roberts
Date: February 28, 2022 at 8:50:51 AM PST
To: Community Engagement <Community@sd61.bc.ca>
Subject: Proposed sale of school lands

CAUTION: External email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you are confident about the source.

Dear Trustees,

Today you vote on the proposed sale of 1.9 acres of school lands at the Lansdowne South campus.

I would like to remind you all that this is a vote, NOT on what Hospice has planned for this land, what type of building they will put on the land or what they will do with leftovers to try to appease Saanich and residents concerning the creek.

THIS IS A VOTE ON WHETHER OR NOT THIS PARCEL OF LAND SHOULD BE SOLD

The overwhelming community support to keep this land as green space ,to protect and enhance the creek , provide flood mitigation and educational opportunities needs to be heard!

Last weeks special meeting gave just 30 members from the community a chance to share their input. Five of the 30 were in favour of the sale..... the director of hospice, and at least two people who worked for hospice among them.

25 of the 30 that were opposed to the sale, 80%, were members of the local community, people whose children go that school, people who represented groups that have worked years to protect this creek. People that have a vision for the future, who realize the incredible value of this land to ALL in our community, realizing we need ALL of this land for proper flood mitigation. We also see what an incredible learning opportunity there is here for our children, to feel empowered that they can take part in restoring a vital ecosystem, and learn from this for years to come.

THE MAJORITY MUST BE HEARD!!!

This whole process feels biased from the start. We should not feel like it is Hospice or the protection of his land. We all know Hospice is a great organization. We have all been touched by their work. The fact is, there should not be a building on this land! This land should not be sold.

Our green space should be appreciated, valued and kept for future generations.

As our native elders say, we do not own this land. We are caretakers of this land for future generations. Not only for our children but for the biodiversity of life that needs us to maintain and restore the ecosystems for their survival, for we are all connected.

IMAGINE!!!!

A meandering creek where salmon can be seen swimming upstream, ducks floating lazily on the ponds, frogs sunning themselves on the rocks, a place where children run and play, exploring nature, a place where you can go to sit and get away from the hustle and bustle of the city, a respite

And because you voted NO to the sale of this land, you showed us you LISTENED and

RESPECTED the concerns of the community; You showed future generations you cared, you left this greenspace for them, you valued this land ...you wanted to be part of the solution, not the problem...

The legacy of this creek, these lands is in your hands. How do you want to be remembered?

I PLEAD with you to save our greenspace and vote NO to the sale of these lands

Sincerely

susan Roberts

SD61 presentation Feb 23, 2022

Please, please do not sell this piece of Lansdowne South land! So many people, organizations, companies and municipalities have worked so hard for so many years to bring about a vision of controlled flooding and a beautiful community greenspace.

I want to use my 3 minutes to point out 3 inaccuracies that have arisen in recent board meetings, in hopes that this may help you make your decision to vote NO to this sale.

1. School district 61 staff did indeed consult with Bowker Creek Initiative CRD staff. In fact they actively contributed to the review and conceptual designs described in the 2020 Daylighting Feasibility Study and the associated Companion Report on flood abatement. If you want to confirm this, see the slides that Jody Watson of the Bowker Creek Initiative presented to you on February 14. Being recently employed does not absolve employees from researching what went on before their arrival, especially when negotiating something as important as a land sale.

2. There was a question about whether any work has been done on this property. There is much preliminary work that has to be done on such an enormous project as the restoration of the biological, zoological and hydrological systems of a whole watershed. First and foremost land has to be secured in public hands. We thought that this task was nearly accomplished when this sale was announced so once again, we're having to fight to keep what we thought was secure in public hands. Agreements with 3 municipalities and the CRD had to be negotiated. The whole creek had to be studied in great detail resulting in 6 studies the latest of which is the Daylighting Feasibility Study and report on flood abatement of 2020. Grants had to be applied for. Researchers had to be hired and paid for. You can't put shovels in the ground without the groundwork. And a lot of work HAS been done. This part of the creek can't be seen in isolation. It is part of a whole system.

3. Finally this land will not be "transferred to Island Health", but to a private society. It will no longer be public greenspace. This community badly needs greenspace as it continues to densify both in Victoria city and Saanich around this area. It is well below the 5 hectares per 1000 population standard in Saanich.

Please vote NO to this sale. Keep this land in public hands. YOU might not live in this community but many of your students do. They deserve to have enough greenspace and to see the results of all the work done so far on this creek.

Thank you.

Meralin Young, board member Camosun Community Association and close neighbour of both Bowker Creek and Lansdowne South Middle School.

From: Barri Rudolph
Sent: Wednesday, March 2, 2022 11:37 AM
To: Trustees <trustees@sd61.bc.ca>
Subject: Lansdowne School property sale

CAUTION: External email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you are confident about the source.

Dear Trustees of SD61,

Please delay the sale of this property until the community has been able to help you understand the irreversible impact that losing this important site would have on downstream properties and infrastructure, the community and wildlife.

I have heard proponents say that there are other open spaces for creek restoration and stormwater capacity building, so why not build here?

- That view does not take into account that every available space for stormwater capacity building for Bowker Creek needs to be utilized and that the current built up area adjacent to the creek is far beyond what is sustainable for the hydrology of this creek. Every available green space adjacent to the creek is needed for flood amelioration and riparian habitat.
- The location of these lands adjacent to the school adds an immeasurable opportunity for school children not only to learn about their natural environment and the impacts that urban development has on their environment, but crucially also what they can do to reverse these impacts with restoration and hope.
 - The open-air classroom that could be created within this space ties into almost every aspect of our learning goals for this age group.
- This underserved area of greater Victoria is desperately in need of park space for physical and mental health benefits, which are completely compatible with riparian restoration and constructed wetland/flood control measures.
- The financial costs of flooding are huge and mitigation needs to occur all along the Bowker corridor.
- There are so many additional reasons to preserve this space for riparian habitat and water quality improvements that to list them would fill a book - and they have: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/bowker-creek-initiative/about-bci/plans-and-strategies/bowker-creek-blueprint-a-100-year-plan>
- When previous SD61 trustees signed onto the Bowker Creek 100-yr Plan, knowing full well that this property was a key component of the Plan, do you think this is what they had in mind?

Please reconsider this intent to forever impact the ecosystem and surrounding community with this sale.

Sincerely,

Barri Rudolph, BSc., MET

From: elizabeth kaller
Sent: Sunday, March 6, 2022 8:07 PM
To: Trustees <trustees@sd61.bc.ca>
Cc: Community Engagement <Community@sd61.bc.ca>
Subject: Sale of school land

CAUTION: External email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you are confident about the source.

Please do not sell school land, and, specifically, please do not sell the school land south of Lansdowne Middle School South Campus adjoining Bowker Creek.
This land is valuable for school, environmental and social reasons, as outlined by community members. It is also land that ought not to be built on.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Kaller



Greater Victoria Teachers' Association

5-515 Dupplin Road Victoria BC V8Z 1C2

t. 250.595.0181 f. 250.595.0189 info@gvta.net gvta.net

By email: educ.minister@gov.bc.ca

March 7, 2022

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

Dear Minister Whiteside:

Subject: Provincial budget

The government's budget for 2022, presented earlier this week, fails to address the most critical areas of need in BC's public education system. The meager 3.83% increase to education funding barely accounts for inflation; and it will fall short of what is required to cover the high inflation rates and rising costs associated with the pandemic. In fact, it is apparent that education funding as a percentage of the GDP will decrease over the next three years.

When you account for inflation, budget 2022 is barely even "status quo" for public education in BC. This is despite an urgent need and repeated calls for increased funding to support our school system and those who work in it.

Public education in BC has been underfunded for decades and this budget does nothing to address this reality. According to Ministry documents, school districts only receive 65% of what they actually spend on inclusive education. This is only one example of the chronic and sustained underfunding of our schools.

The global pandemic has highlighted many key issues for BC teachers, including a concerning teacher shortage that has been exacerbated by high absentee rates due to COVID-19. Staffing shortages, as reported by districts around the province, has put a strain on everyone in the system, but teachers and families know first-hand that high levels of absences disproportionately affect students with disabilities and diverse needs. This government must intervene accordingly with strategies to address this situation. Now is the time to invest more.

Instead the Greater Victoria School District is currently contemplating cuts to mental health supports and Fine Arts due to province's underfunding and the

deficit created by aging infrastructure. If nothing else, the last two years have highlighted the need for more mental health supports and Fine Arts in schools, not less.

Another glaring omission from this budget is a lack of funding dedicated to COVID-related priorities such as ventilation upgrades and increased cleaning. This is a key health and safety issue for teachers and families, and one that is linked to teacher burnout and other negative impacts on mental health. Instead as Districts such as ours try to recover from the lack of revenue from international students, they are contemplating cutting custodians which will only decrease the cleanliness and safety of our schools.

Equity and reconciliation remain key priorities for teachers across BC, yet this budget offers no indication that these important issues have been taken up by the government or will be funded in a way that supports the professional development and learning integral to those tasked with teaching and engaging with these important concepts.

Decades of chronic underfunding has left the BC education system with a lack of flexibility, an inability to respond to emerging issues, and inadequate resources to fully support students with diverse learning needs.

Yet again, teachers are left feeling that they are being asked to do more with less.

After two long years of pandemic teaching, teachers and their students deserve so much better.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Winona Waldron', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Winona Waldron
President
Greater Victoria Teachers' Association

cc: GVTA Executive Committee
Kim Morris, GVSD
Greater Victoria School Board
MLA Grace Lore
MLA Lana Popham
MLA Rob Fleming
MLA Murray Rankin
MLA Mitzi Dean



BCSTA Climate Change Work Group Survey

Information on our survey tool

* 1. Please be aware that Survey Monkey (the survey tool used in this process) collects Internet Protocol (IP) addresses and other information from survey respondents. The information collected by Survey Monkey will be stored on Survey Monkey's servers. This assist in managing and processing the data such as preventing duplicate entries. As we discussed in our intital meeting, please do not include any identifiable information (e.g. names, contact information) in your responses to the survey.

- ☐ I confirm that I have read the above statement and agree to refrain from including information about identifiable third parties in my responses to this survey.



British Columbia
School Trustees
Association

BCSTA Climate Change Work Group Survey

Gratitude

Thank you for participating in this survey regarding your Board's planning and actions towards CleanBC goals and climate-change initiatives. This provides vital information for the work of BCSTA's Climate Change Work Group. We hope to gather promising practices, resources and connections that will assist us and members Boards in moving forward with this important work.

Please note that the survey results may be reported and displayed on a group basis. Anecdotal written responses may be reported verbatim.

Thank you.

* 2. What Board of Education do you represent?



BCSTA Climate Change Work Group Survey

* 3. In the past year, has your board had any discussion related to Clean BC Goals, Carbon Neutral Program, or Climate Change?

- ☐ Yes, definitely..., and in some detail.
- ☐ We have touched on the topic.
- ☐ No, not yet but we plan to do so.
- ☐ Not on the radar

* 4. Does your board have climate action goals, energy conservation goals, environmental stewardship goals or a curricular focus on climate change initiatives as part of your strategic plan, FESL or policy?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please briefly share what you have in place. Links to your guiding documents or policies would be helpful.
If no, do you see your board making any moves in these areas in the future?

* 5. Does your district have any strategies/best practices in place for lowering greenhouse gas emissions?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, what are your top two strategies?

If no, what are some obstacles in your way?

* 6. Do you have any resources that you could share related to the goals of CleanBC that the Climate Change Work Group can use?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Please copy links to documents related to energy conservation, waste reduction, water conservation, sustainable school grounds, sustainable transportation below.

7. Please provide district contacts that the BCSTA Climate Change Work Group can follow-up with for further details.

April

April 22 to 24, 2022: BCSTA AGM

BCSTA Provincial Council

Strategic Direction and Context

- 2022-2023 Budget Bylaw - Readings 2 & 3

System Planning and Performance Monitoring

- FESL
- School Calendar Approval
- Human Resources – Staffing Update, Timelines and Processes
- Monthly Financial Summary

External Compliance and Accountability

- Approve March 2022 Quarterly Financial Report through Audit Committee
- Appoint Auditor through Audit Committee and Approve Terms of Engagement

Engagement with Stakeholders and Public Recognition Events

- Observe the National Day of Mourning (April 28)

Advocacy for Public Education and Provincial Liaison

- Attend the BCSTA AGM
- Attend the BCSTA Provincial Council Meeting

Trustee Professional Development In-Service

- Preparation for BCSTA AGM motions that Board wishes to present



**The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
Combined Education Policy and Directions Committee and
Operations Policy and Planning Committee Meetings
REGULAR MINUTES**

Monday, March 7, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Broadcasted via YouTube <https://bit.ly/3czx8bA>

Trustees Present: Tom Ferris (Chair), Elaine Leonard (Chair), Angie Hentze, Nicole Duncan, Jordan Watters, Ryan Painter, Ann Whiteaker

Trustees Suspended: Diane McNally, Rob Paynter

Administration: Deb Whitten, Interim Superintendent of Schools, Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, Colin Roberts, Interim Deputy Superintendent, Harold Caldwell, Associate Superintendent, Katrina Stride, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Chuck Morris, Director of Facilities Services, Marni Vistisen-Harwood, Associate Director Facilities Services, Andy Canty, Director, Information Technology for Learning, Kelly Gorman, Recorder

Stakeholders: Connor McCoy, President, VPVPA

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

A.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

Chair Ferris recognized and acknowledged the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

A.2. Approval of the Combined Operations Policy and Planning and Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting agenda

Moved By Trustee Duncan

That the March 7, 2022 Combined Education Policy and Directions Committee and Operations Policy and Planning meetings agenda be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.3. Recognition of Student Representative

Aditya Nagrath was not able to attend.

B. EDUCATION POLICY AND DIRECTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

B.1. Approval of the Minutes

Moved By Trustee Leonard

That the February 7, 2022 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

B.2. Business Arising from Minutes

None

C. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

STAFF PRESENTATIONS

- C.1.** District Principal Hovis began with an overview of District literacy goals. The overarching goal is to improve literacy outcomes for all learners, to address the inequity of outcomes for Indigenous learners, Children and Youth in Care, and students with Diverse Learning Needs.

Principal McCoy from Quadra Elementary presented on the Early Literacy Collaboration Teacher (ELCT). ELCT Sarah has shared numerous resources with teachers and assessed the needs of students. Principal McCoy views ELCT Sarah's contributions as immeasurable.

Principal Fawcett and Vice-Principal Cox from Frank Hobbs Elementary provided an update on their Literacy Collaboration Teams. In 2018 Frank Hobbs Elementary collaborated with staff to create 5 Bold Steps.

1. Foster Learning opportunities
2. Commit to Assessment for Learning
3. Schedule time for collaboration
4. Embed competencies and Big Ideas into daily instructional practices
5. Facilitate Social Emotional Learning practices inside and outside of the classroom.

District Early Learning Support teacher Shortt presented on the Early Career Teacher Literacy Series. The goal is to build a network of collaboration and support.

Trustees provided thanks for the presentation and questions of clarification were asked.

- C.2.** Interim Superintendent Whitten spoke to the memo provided by District Principal Hovis and District Vice-Principal Shortreed that provided an update on the Fortis BC Curriculum and Teacher Librarians.

Trustees provided thanks for the presentation and questions of clarification were asked.

D. NEW BUSINESS

None

E. NOTICE OF MOTION

None

F. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

G. OPERATIONS POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

G.1. Approval of the Minutes

Moved By Trustee Ferris

That the February 14, 2022 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting minutes be approved, as amended.

Trustee Duncan requested additional wording for item H.1. “ and Trustee Duncan” be placed following Trustee Whiteaker.

Motion Carried Unanimously

G.2. Business Arising from Minutes

Trustee Whiteaker requested it be noted under I in Notice of Motion two of the three motions put forward by Trustee Whiteaker were deemed In-Camera items by the Chair and as such the motions were withdrawn until they can be discussed in public.

H. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

None

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

I.1. Interim Deputy Superintendent Roberts provided the enrollment update.

Trustees provided thanks and questions of clarification were asked.

I.2. District Principal McCartney provided an update on the Administrative Regulations Manual and the Administrative Procedures Manual.

Trustees provided thanks and questions of clarification were asked.

J. PERSONNEL ITEMS

None

K. FINANCE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

K.1. Secretary-Treasurer Morris provided an update on the 2022-2023 Budget. The sixth committee meeting will be on March 8, 2022. The public meeting will be on March 10, 2022.

K.2. Secretary-Treasurer Morris provided an update on the Cedar Hill Middle School Replacement Project - Neighborhood Learning Centre. The Neighborhood Learning Centre will consist of a multipurpose room and community kitchen. A purpose built Indigenous Welcome Center and an enhanced gymnasium. The multipurpose room will help the school with future enrollment, if that were to occur as well as community use of the space.

L. FACILITIES PLANNING

L.1. Operations Update: March 2022

Director of Facilities Morris provided the March update.

Trustees provided thanks and questions of clarification were asked. Trustee Duncan requested clarification regarding shop consumables and will forward her email to a future meeting to get answers to questions.

L.2. Associate Director Facilities Services Marni presented the Victoria High School Seismic Project report.

Trustees provided thanks and questions of clarification were asked further in relation to volleyball courts and parking to be brought to a future meeting.

M. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

None

N. NEW BUSINESS

- N.1.** Interim Superintendent Whitten spoke to the motion. The first Climate Action committee meeting was held on March 2, 2022 and the \$15,000 budget was added to the Terms Of Reference in the procedural notes.

That the motion” *That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to create a process and guidelines for approval of the Committee expenditures and further provide the Board with a plan for the \$15,000.00 currently budgeted for the Climate Action Committee.*” be tabled indefinitely.

- N.2.** Trustees debated the motion from Trustee Whiteaker.

Moved By Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) re-affirm its motion of June 2021 “*That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to oversee the creation of a Working Committee and consultation process, as outlined in Bylaw 9210, to prepare a draft Compost and Waste policy proposal which is in alignment with our environmental values and goals.*”

Against (6): Ferris, Duncan, Hentze, Watters, Leonard, Painter

Abstain (1): Whiteaker

Motion Defeated

Moved By Trustee Painter

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) rescind the motion of June 2021 “*That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to oversee the creation of a Working Committee and consultation process, as outlined in Bylaw 9210, to prepare a draft Compost and Waste policy proposal which is in alignment with our environmental values and goals.*”

For (3): Leonard, Ferris, Painter

Against (3): Whiteaker, Hentze, Duncan

Abstain (1): Watters

Motion Defeated

- N.3.** Trustee Whiteaker provided rationale for the motion.

The motion “*That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) petition the Minister of Education for an order under Section 30 of the School Act, to reduce the number of Trustees for School District 61 from 9 to 7, to take effect in the upcoming election October 2022.*” was ruled out of order by Chair Leonard.

Trustee Painter ruled the motion out of order as per Ministry guidelines.

N.4. Trustee Duncan provided rationale for the motion.

Moved By Trustee Duncan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request that before considering 3rd reading of the bylaw and concluding a Purchase and Sale Agreement with VHS, the Superintendent provide for the Board’s review, a report outlining the impacts including any future costs and risks associated with the “custody, maintenance and safekeeping” of the residual SD61 lands, and how the VHS proposal achieves the objectives of the Bowker Creek Blueprint and the Daylighting Feasibility Study.

For (3): Duncan, Whiteaker, Hentze

Against (4): Ferris, Watters, Leonard, Painter

Motion Defeated

O. NOTICE OF MOTION

None

P. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

Q. ADJOURNMENT unanimously done 926pm

Moved By Trustee Painter

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

Office of the Superintendent

Deb Whitten – Interim Superintendent

TO: The Board of Education
FROM: Deb Whitten, Interim Superintendent of Schools
RE: Superintendent's Report
DATE: March 14, 2022

Please see below the opportunities the Interim Superintendent has been involved with during the month of March aligned to the Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Create an inclusive and culturally responsive learning environment that will support and improve all learners' personal and academic success.

- Climate Action Planning meeting (ongoing).
- Administrators' meeting – March 3, 2022.

Goal 2: Create a culturally responsive learning environment that will support Indigenous learners' personal and academic success.

- Regular individual meetings with Esquimalt Nation; Songhees Nation; Urban Indigenous Peoples' House Advisory (UPHIA); and the Métis Nations of Greater Victoria.
- Regular meetings with the Four Houses.
- Meet bi-weekly with the Director of Indigenous Education.

Goal 3: Create an inclusive and culturally responsive learning environment that will support learners' physical and mental well-being.

- Zoom meetings with the Ministry of Education.
- Monthly meetings with VPVPA President and Vice President.

Gratitude: The Interim Superintendent would like to thank the following:

- Our Secondary Schools for their terrific work in bringing musical theatre back to our school families and communities to enjoy once again safely.
- All our coaches and volunteers for their dedicated work in guiding and mentoring our students in their respective Fall and Winter sports.
- Maryanne Trofimuk, Principal, Beth Richardson, Vice-Principal at Cedar Hill Middle School, and Lisa McPhail, Communications and Community Engagement Manager for hosting a successful Cedar Hill Middle School Open House.

Recommended Motion: *That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accept the Superintendent's Report, as presented.*

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

Office of the Superintendent

Deb Whitten – Interim Superintendent

TO: The Board of Education

FROM: Deb Whitten, Interim Superintendent of Schools

RE: Superintendent Report

DATE: March 14, 2022

During this portion of the Board Meeting, Trustees will have the opportunity to raise questions. Where possible, an immediate response will be provided. In the event that research is necessary before a response is provided, the matter will be postponed until a researched response can be provided.

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

Office of the Secretary-Treasurer

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
556 Boleskine Road, Victoria, BC V8Z 1E8
Phone (250) 475-4106 Fax (250) 475-4112

Kim Morris - Secretary Treasurer

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Kim Morris

RE: Monthly Report

DATE: March 14, 2022

The purpose of this memo is to update the Board on some of the activities of the Secretary-Treasurer's office since December's report.

➤ Budget 2022-2023:

The Budget Advisory Committee met March 8, 2022 by zoom. The Committee attended to its workplan by reviewing services and supplies budget line items.

The Committee reviewed the student ThoughtExchange report where the committee asked students: **What do you like about school and what can we do to help you enjoy learning even more?** Results can be found here:

<https://my.thoughtexchange.com/report/4d13686a23dc7b11e495586c15f23e3c>

The Committee spent the rest of the meeting planning for the March 10, 2022 public meeting and set an additional Committee meeting on March 16, 2022.

Agendas, minutes and supporting documentation relative to the meeting can be found here: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/our-district/financial/>.

In addition to the initiatives above:

- Cedar Hill Middle School Open House
- Presented "Great Expectations" at Educational Facility Manager Association of BC meeting
- Continue to serve as BCASBO representative on provincial Ministry Funding Equity Committee and K-12 SOGI Collaborative Committees
- Monthly Budget Advisory Committee meetings

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

- Bi-weekly Vic High construction project meetings with Facilities staff and the Principal
- Bi-weekly Facilities and Superintendent meetings
- Weekly Finance Team budget meetings
- Weekly Senior Leadership Team meetings
- Monthly Student Representative Council meetings
- Ministry meetings as requested
- Weekly Chair Superintendent meetings for agenda setting
- Ministry Learning Series: Framework in Action – Dr. Dustin Louie, Associate Professor, Faculty of Education, UBC
- Ministry Learning Series: Framework in Action – Ilsa Govan, Cultures Connecting
- BCPSEA AGM (Virtual)
- Cedar Hill Middle School Replacement Project Core Committee meeting
- Oak Bay Artificial Turf Field Joint Use Agreement Semi-Annual meeting

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 61 (GREATER VICTORIA)

**LANSDOWNE MIDDLE SCHOOL, SOUTH CAMPUS (FORMERLY RICHMOND
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL) SITE PARTIAL DISPOSAL BYLAW 2022**

WHEREAS a board of education may dispose of land or improvements owned or administered by the board under the authority of Section 96(3) of the School Act, subject to the Orders of the Minister of Education (the “**Minister**”);

AND WHEREAS the Minister issued Order M193/08 effective September 3, 2008 (the “**Order**”) requiring fee simple sales and leases of land or improvements for a term of ten years or more to be specifically approved by the Minister, unless the transferee is an independent school or another school board;

AND WHEREAS Section 65(5) of the *School Act* requires a board of education to exercise a power with respect to the acquisition or disposal of property only by bylaw;

AND WHEREAS:

- A. The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) (the “**Board**”) owns lands and improvements at 2780 Richmond Road, Victoria, B.C. known as Lansdowne Middle School, South Campus (formerly Richmond Elementary School) site (the “**Property**”);
- B. The Facility Number of the Property is: 105629.
- C. The legal description of the Property is:
Parcel Identifier: 005-170-222
Lot 3, Section 26, Victoria District, Plan 10792;
- D. The Board proposes to subdivide and sell to the Victoria Hospice Society (the “**VHS**”) the portion of the Property lying to the west and south of Bowker Creek and measuring approximately 1.9 acres in area as shown on Schedule A attached hereto (the “**Lands**”), pursuant to the terms of a conditional agreement of purchase and sale (the “**Sale Agreement**”) for a price of \$2,500,000, adjusted as provided in the Sale Agreement (the “**Price**”);
- E. The Board is satisfied that it would be in the best interests of the Board to enter into the Sale Agreement and pursuant to its obligations thereunder subdivide the Property and sell the Lands to the VHS for the Price (the “**Subdivision and Sale**”);
- F. The Board is satisfied that the Subdivision and Sale will not interfere with the use by the Board of the remainder of the Property for educational purposes.

NOW THEREFORE be it enacted as a Bylaw of the Board that the Sale Agreement and the Subdivision and Sale be and are hereby authorized, ratified and approved, subject to the Minister of Education providing a written Certificate of Disposal approving the sale of the Lands.

BE IT FURTHER enacted that the Secretary-Treasurer be and is hereby authorized on behalf of the Board to execute and deliver the Sale Agreement and, subject to the Minister’s Approval, all documents required to complete the Subdivision and Sale, and all related and ancillary

documents, with all such amendments thereto as the Secretary-Treasurer may, in her discretion, consider advisable.

This Bylaw may be cited as "School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) Lansdowne Middle School, South Campus (formerly Richmond Elementary School) Site Partial Disposal Bylaw 2022".

Read a first time this ____ day of _____, 2022.

Read a second time this ____ day of _____, 2022.

Read a third time this ____ day of _____, 2022, and finally passed and adopted this ____ day of _____ 2022.

Corporate Seal

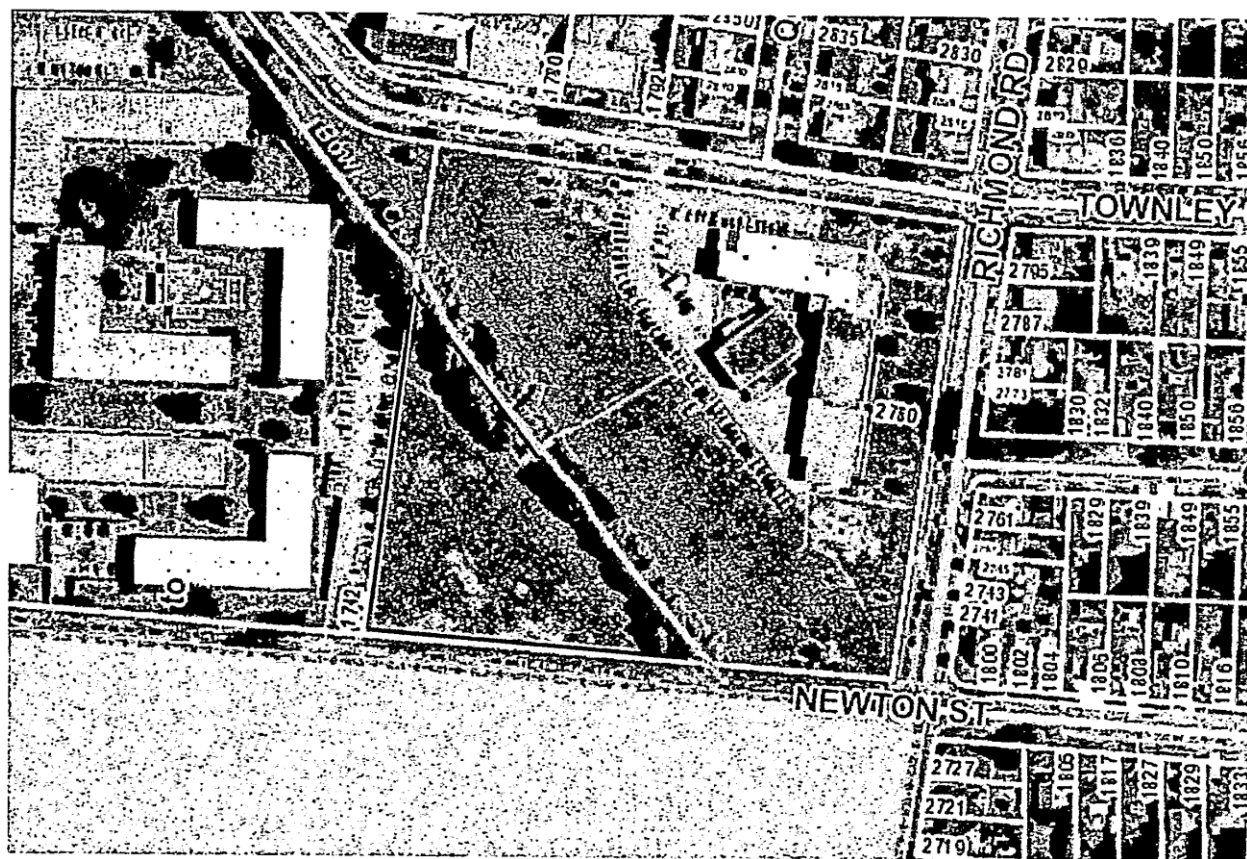
Chairperson of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer

I HEREBY CERTIFY this to be a true original of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) Lansdowne Middle School, South Campus(formerly Richmond Elementary School) Site Partial Disposal Bylaw, adopted by the Board the ____ day of _____ 2022.

Secretary-Treasurer

SCHEDULE A



SECTION 72 REPORT

Present:

Trustees Ryan Painter, Chair, Tom Ferris, Vice-Chair, Nicole Duncan, Angie Hentze, Elaine Leonard, Jordan Watters, Ann Whiteaker

Sanctioned/Suspended:

Trustees Diane McNally, Rob Paynter

Administration:

Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, Vicki Hanley, Recorder

The Board of Education discussed the following matter:

- Personnel

SECTION 72 REPORT

Present:

Trustees Ryan Painter, Chair, Tom Ferris, Vice-Chair, Nicole Duncan, Angie Hentze, Elaine Leonard, Jordan Watters and Ann Whiteaker

Sanctioned/Suspended:

Trustees Diane McNally, Rob Paynter

Administration:

Deb Whitten, Interim Superintendent of Schools, Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, Colin Roberts, Interim Deputy Superintendent, Harold Caldwell, Associate Superintendent, Katrina Stride, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Chuck Morris, Director, Facilities Services, Vicki Hanley, Recorder

The Board of Education discussed the following matters:

- Property
- Legal
- Personnel

SECTION 72 REPORT

Present:

Trustees Ryan Painter, Chair, Tom Ferris, Vice-Chair, Nicole Duncan, Angie Hentze, Elaine Leonard, Jordan Watters, Ann Whiteaker

Sanctioned/Suspended:

Trustees Diane McNally, Rob Paynter

Administration:

Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, Vicki Hanley, Recorder

The Board of Education discussed the following matter:

- Personnel