

BY EMAIL

June 8, 2022

Chair & Board of Trustees of Greater Victoria
School District #061

Dear Board Chair Painter,

Re: Delay of provincial capital funding for local projects

On behalf of the Official Opposition, I am writing to you today concerned about recent reports that School Districts in Mission, Sooke and Vancouver have been informed by the provincial government that there will be no new funding for any new major capital projects for 2022-23.

School Districts rely on the provincial government to come to the table and fund needed capital projects. At a time when the government is prioritizing \$1 billion for a new Royal BC Museum (RBCM), many rightly believe those capital dollars should instead be invested in the education system. The government's own data shows that 250 schools in British Columbia need replacing or seismic upgrades. In addition, while the current 55-year-old RBCM has a Facility Condition Index (FCI) of 0.35, many schools in the province are in far worse condition with a provincial FCI average of 0.50.

To fully understand the implications of provincial capital funding deferrals in the education system, please provide me with a list of any proposed major capital projects in your School District that have been unexpectedly turned down by the province. The Official Opposition will continue to work with School Districts across the province to advocate that public money is best invested in our education system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karin Kirkpatrick". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karin" being more prominent than the last name "Kirkpatrick".

Karin Kirkpatrick, MLA
West Vancouver-Capilano
Official Opposition Critic for Education, Children and Family Development & Childcare