



Ministry of  
Infrastructure

# Education & Child Care Capital

2026-04-01



# Agenda

1. Ministry of Infrastructure
  - a. Background
  - b. Mandate & Key Priorities
  - c. Key Advantages
2. New Legislation
  - a. Process
  - b. Proposed Legislation
3. Capital Overview
  - a. Programs & Funding
  - b. Key Initiatives
  - c. Capital Overview
4. Questions

# Background

- Purpose: The Ministry of Infrastructure (INF) is responsible for improving coordination and boosting efficiency for the building of schools, healthcare facilities, post-secondary institutions to support B.C.'s growing communities.
- Consists of the following:
  - Capital teams (K-12, Health, Colleges/Universities & Special Projects)
  - Policy & Legislation team
  - Crown Corps (Infrastructure BC & BC Infrastructure Benefits)
- K-12 capital team:
  - Exact same staff that were with Ministry of Education & Child Care (ECC)
  - We continue to work very closely with ECC

# Things We Don't Do

- Highways/roads and Transit-Orientated Development (Ministry of Transportation and Transit)
- Housing (Ministry of Housing & Municipal Affairs)
- On-reserve capital projects (Federal Government)
- Disperse operating funds (Function remains with ministry responsible for service delivery)

# Mandate & Key Priorities

- Mandate Letter:
  - Reduce costs for taxpayers and expedite approvals
  - Standardize infrastructure projects
  - Address permit delays on major infrastructure projects
- Items To Be Expected
  - Continuation with Modular additions to address enrolment pressures
  - Engagement on more standardized designs & batch procurement
  - Support on permitting delays
- Working Together
  - Partnership approach to capital projects
  - Learn and share best practices
  - Identify opportunities

# Key Advantages

- Collaboration where multiple services could be in single projects
- Better scheduling of major infrastructure projects across B.C.
- Create a centre of excellence within government on capital
- Ability to better expedite delivery of projects from business case to completion

# Legislation Overview



## ESTABLISH THE MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE

A broad suite of legislation provides the Ministry with powers, duties and responsibilities related to capital planning and delivery.



## NEW TOOLS TO HELP GET SHOVELS IN THE GROUND MORE QUICKLY FOR PRIORITY PROJECTS

Advancing priority provincial infrastructure projects through streamlined permitting and approvals processes. Removing unnecessary barriers. Accelerating other key provincially significant projects that will support people and help strengthen our economy.



## COLLABORATION WITH PARTNERS TO GET KEY PROJECTS BUILT FASTER

Working with local governments, First Nations, school districts, Crown agencies and other partners to get priority projects built in their communities.

# Key Acceleration Tools: Overview

	Description
<b>Provincial Permits</b>	Prioritized provincial permitting for “front-of-line” review.
	Develop a qualified professional reliance framework to expedite some provincial decisions where appropriate.
<b>Local Government Approvals</b>	Empowers local governments to request the delay of provincial requirements to update official community plans.
	Collaborative agreement seeking process between project proponents and local governments to expedite local government approvals.

# A faster way to get priority projects approved: **Examples**

## **Scenario 1 - Provincial multi-project procurement**

The Ministry of Infrastructure is working with a number of school districts to expand several schools.

- 📌 With the new tools in our legislation, instead of each school district having to go through their own procurement process, the Ministry will be able to undertake a multi-project procurement.**
- 📌 This could include things like negotiating bulk purchases for modular expansions.**
- 📌 This will help streamline project timelines, and reduce project costs.**

# A faster way to get priority projects approved: **Examples**

## **Scenario 2 - Local government approvals, development permits**

A new school project requires a change in municipal zoning as per their Official Community Plan.

- ❓ With the new tools in our legislation, a local government could request that the Province waive or modify planning requirements including, for example, provincial requirements for alignment with Official Community Plans.**
- ❓ If the Province grants the request, it could help speed up the project timeline, and help prevent cost escalations.**
- ❓ The local government would then have to update their Official Community Plan at the next scheduled review time.**

# A faster way to get priority projects approved: **Examples**

## **Scenario 3 - Provincial permitting - 'Front of the Line' review**


A school district wants to build a large addition to accommodate enrolment growth.

In order to move the project forward, heritage inspection, watercourse relocation and road permits from the Province are required.

- ❓ With the new tools in our legislation, the project could be brought to the front of the line, and permit applications prioritized for review.**
- ❓ Based on some previous permit timelines, this could save the project timeline up to one year.**

# K-12 Capital Team Contacts

**Education & Child Care Capital Branch**



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
Ministry of Infrastructure

**Executive Director: Damien Crowell**  
Damien.Crowell@gov.bc.ca | (250) 893-6477

**Branch Admin Coordinator: Krista Twigg**  
Krista.Twigg@gov.bc.ca | (236) 475-3057

General Email for Education & Child Care Capital Branch @ [CMB@gov.bc.ca](mailto:CMB@gov.bc.ca)

**Major Capital Projects**

Programs: ▪ Seismic Mitigation ▪ Expansion ▪ Replacement ▪ Rural District

**Director: Geoff Croshaw** | Geoff.Croshaw@gov.bc.ca | (250) 812-2561

**School Districts**

35 Langley	19 Revelstoke	5 Southeast Kootenay	36 Surrey		
39 Vancouver	22 Vernon	6 Rocky Mountain	37 Delta		
47 Powell River	23 Central Okanagan	8 Kootenay Lake	40 New Westminster		
61 Greater Victoria	27 Cariboo-Chilcotin	10 Arrow Lakes	44 North Vancouver		
62 Sooke	33 Chilliwack	20 Kootenay-Columbia	45 West Vancouver		
63 Saanich	34 Abbotsford	28 Quesnel	49 Central Coast		
64 Gulf Islands	38 Richmond	42 Maple Ridge	50 Halda Gwail		
68 Nanaimo-Ladysmith	41 Burnaby	43 Coquitlam	52 Prince Rupert		
69 Parksville-Qualicum	54 Bulkley Valley	46 Sunshine Coast	53 Okanagan Similkameen		
70 Pacific Rim	73 Kamloops-Thompson	48 Sea to Sky	58 Nicola-Similkameen		
71 Comox Valley	81 Fort Nelson	51 Boundary	67 Okanagan Skaha		
72 Campbell River	83 North Okanagan-Shuswap	57 Prince George	74 Gold Trail		
79 Cowichan Valley		59 Peace River South	75 Mission	93 Conseil Scolaire Francophone	
84 Vancouver Island West		60 Peace River North	82 Coast Mountains		
85 Vancouver Island North		78 Fraser-Cascade	87 Stikine		
		91 Nechako Lakes	92 Nisga'a		
<b>Regional Directors</b>	Rosa.Cutler@gov.bc.ca (250) 896-4816	Travis.Tormala@gov.bc.ca (778) 678-7516	Mary-Anne.North@gov.bc.ca (250) 360-7936	Eric.Millette@gov.bc.ca (250) 883-0570	Amanda.Austin@gov.bc.ca (250) 208-8099
<b>Planning Officers</b>	Raji.Aldahaim@gov.bc.ca (778) 584-4654	Marek.Benedik@gov.bc.ca (250) 217-3572	Kristin.Jacobson@gov.bc.ca (250) 883-1665	TBD	Nancy.Dube@gov.bc.ca (778) 676-5888
	Devin.Johns@gov.bc.ca (250) 361-5109	Derek.Low@gov.bc.ca (250) 413-7354	Kashmira.Kaushik@gov.bc.ca (778) 584-3219		Gauri.KheterpalVerma@gov.bc.ca (604) 612-8062

**Minor Capital Projects, Programs & Child Care**

Programs: ▪ Annual Facility Grant ▪ Building Envelope ▪ Bus Acquisition  
▪ School Enhancement ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Food Infrastructure ▪ Carbon Neutral Capital

**Director: Michael Nyikes** | Michael.Nyikes@gov.bc.ca | (250) 893-6268

A/Regional Director: **Nathan.Whipp**@gov.bc.ca | (250) 880-0998  
 A/Planning Officer: **Javier.Kong**@gov.bc.ca | (250) 889-6194  
 Program Evaluation Analyst: **Ameer.Adam**@gov.bc.ca | (250) 889-2025

Regional Director: **Ashley.Bellwood**@gov.bc.ca | (250) 886-1430  
 Planning Officer: **Megan.Graham**@gov.bc.ca | (604) 209-3152

**Child Care**

**Corporate and Capital Finance Branch**

Capital Finance and Information Systems | COA (TMS) and CAPS

**Director of Capital Finance: Ken.Frith**@gov.bc.ca | (250) 812-9548

Capital Information Officer: **Billal.Adam**@gov.bc.ca | (778) 405-1945  
 Finance and Admin Officer: **Brenda.Walker**@gov.bc.ca | (250) 896-9230

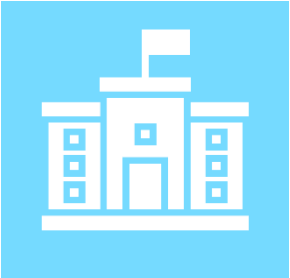
# Roles & Responsibilities

Ministry of Infrastructure



60 Boards of Education

*Defines priorities and programs*



*Own and operate public schools*

*Allocates Funding*



*Develop project funding requests*

*Oversight on capital projects*



*Delivers capital projects*

# Program Overview – Major Capital



Expansion Projects



Site Acquisition



New Schools



Additions



Seismic Mitigation Program



Replacement Projects



Rural District Program



Building Envelope Program

# Program Overview – Minor Capital



Annual Facility Grant



Bus Acquisition Program



School Enhancement Program



Playground Equipment Program

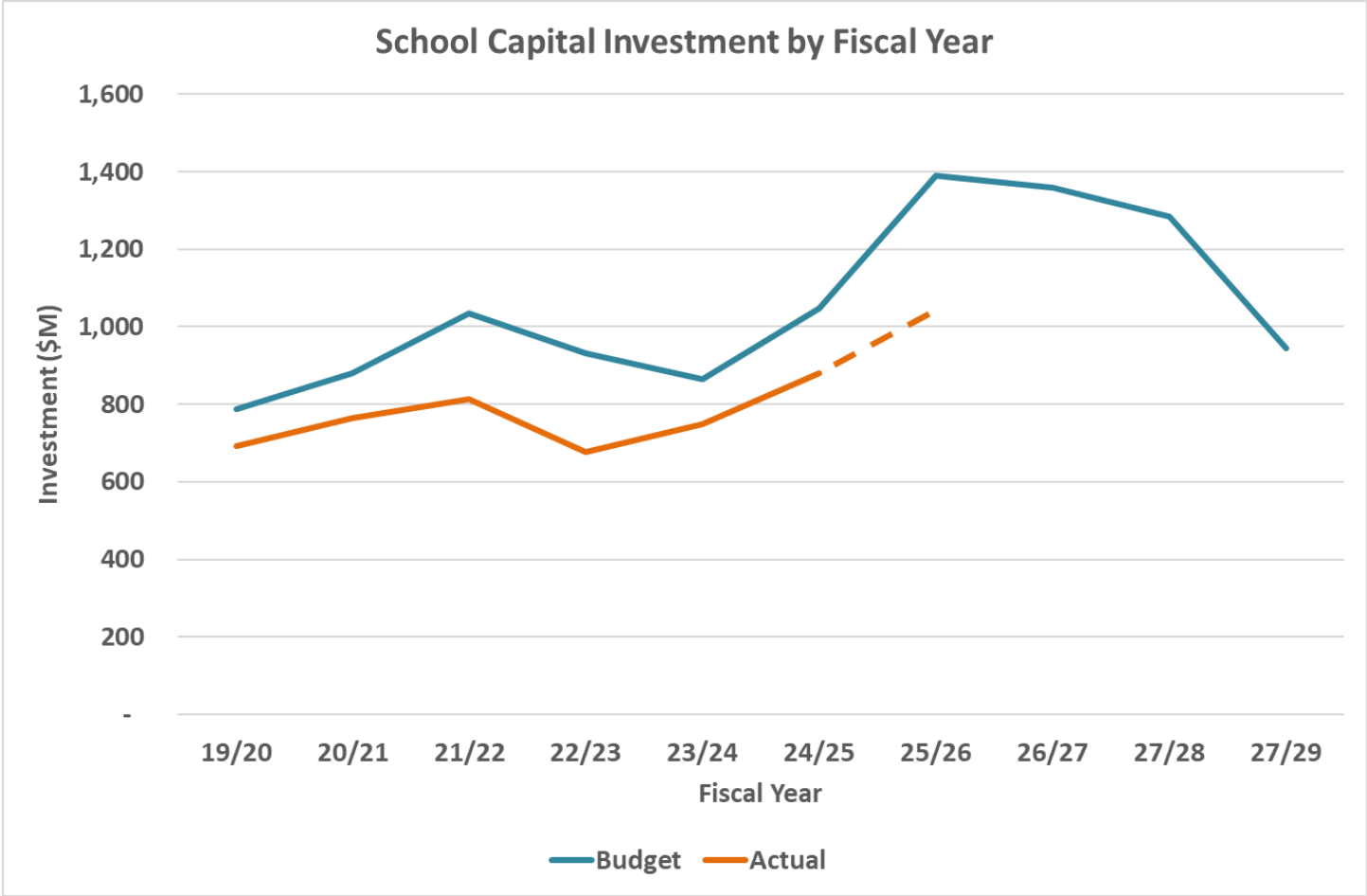


Carbon Neutral Capital Program

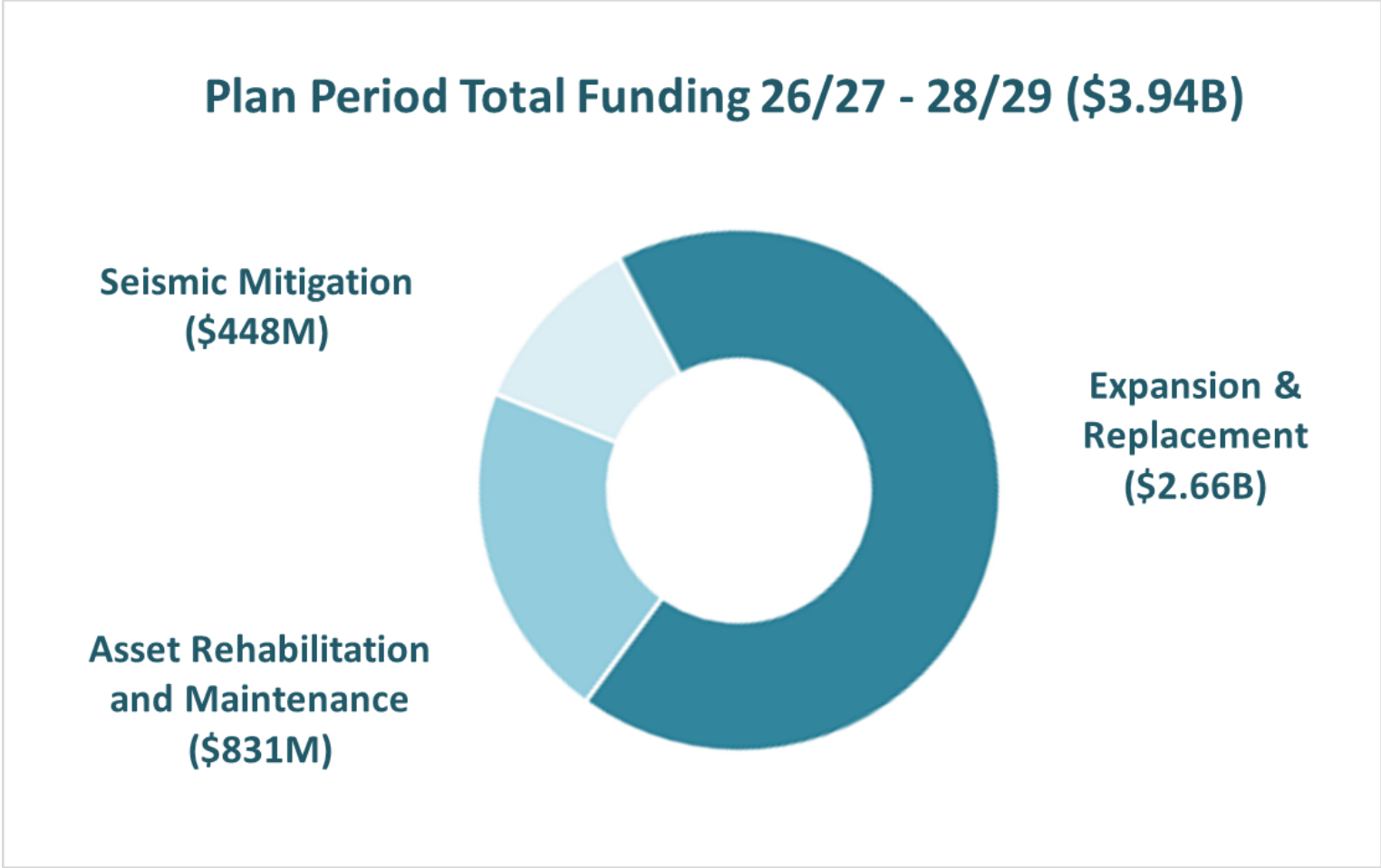


School Food Infrastructure Program

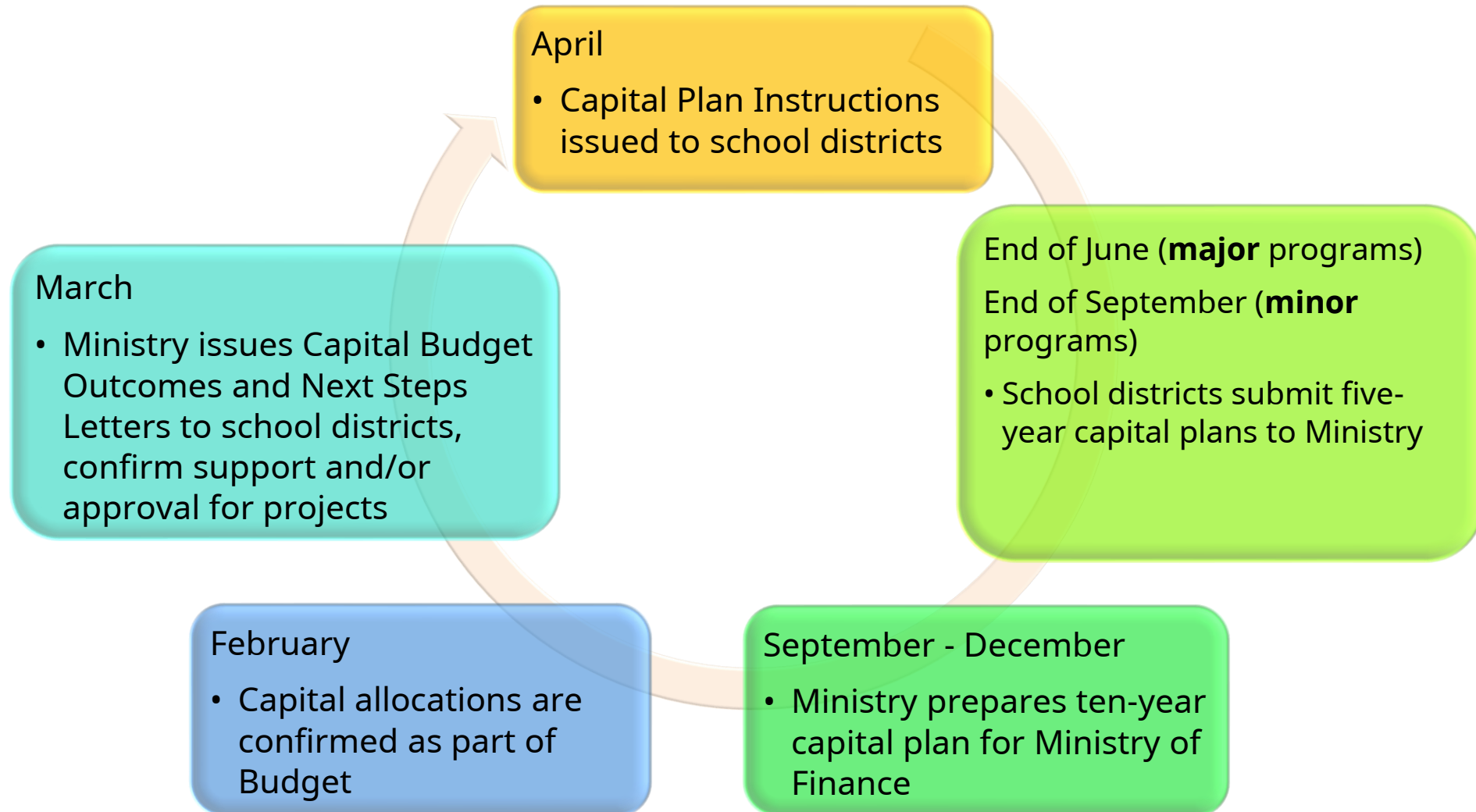
# Historical School Capital Investments



# Budget 2026



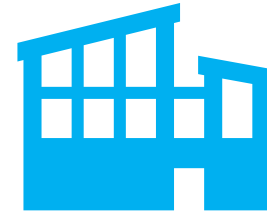
# Annual Capital Planning Cycle



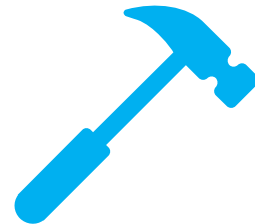
# Primary Drivers Informing Capital Spending in B.C.'s Public Education System



Enrolment Growth



Health and Safety



School Condition and Performance

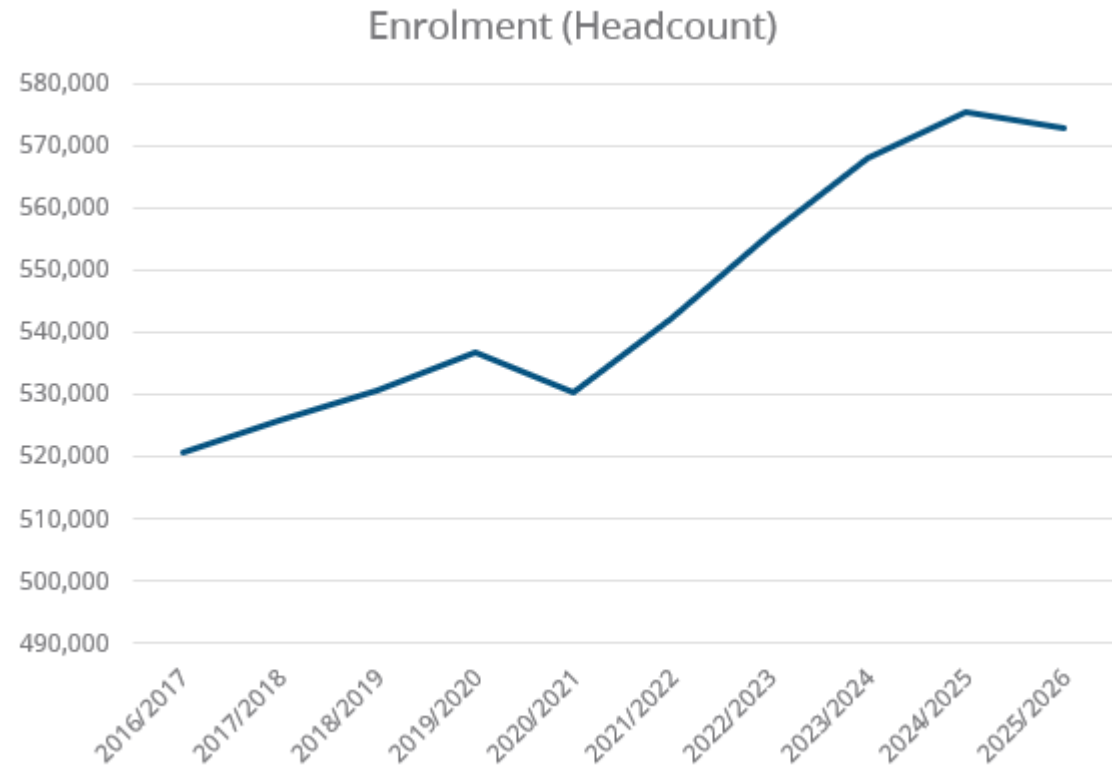


Minority Language Rights



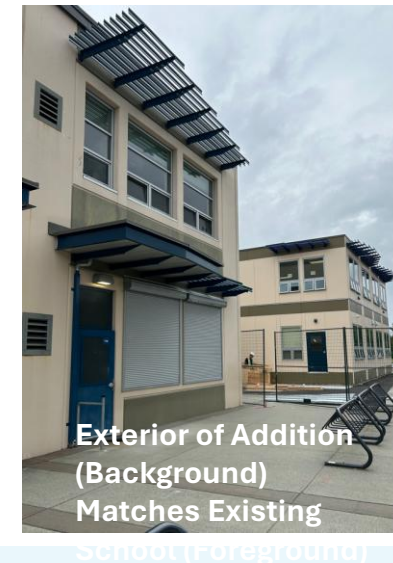
## Enrolment Growth

- Since 2021, enrolment growth has emerged as the largest pressure informing capital spending in the K-12 sector.
- From 2021 to 2025, actual enrolment increases have been roughly 10,000 year-over-year.
- While enrolment growth is starting to taper, there is still work to be done to mitigate the reliance on portables and there are still areas of growth



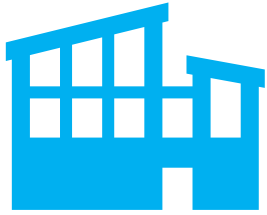
# Prefabricated Additions

- Since Fall of 2023, the province has invested more than \$484.1 million for 37 prefabricated additions, which will create almost 7,900 student seats.
- This investment has been delivered in 17 school districts throughout B.C, including many high growth communities.
- Expect more prefabricated addition projects to be approved this year.



# Standardized Designs

- In fulfillment of mandate objectives, the Ministry is undertaking work to implement standardized designs for schools.
- The intent is to begin with elementary schools as they're the most straightforward.
- School districts, architects, engineers, and the broader construction sector are key stakeholders and will be involved in the process of scoping out and implementing these designs.

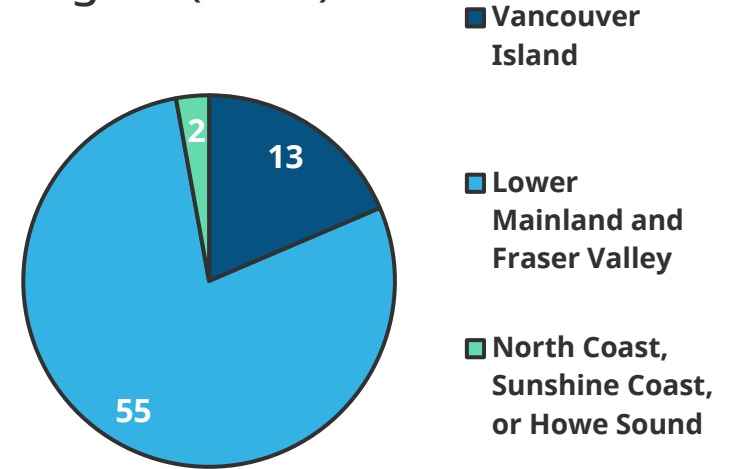


# Health & Safety (1 of 2)

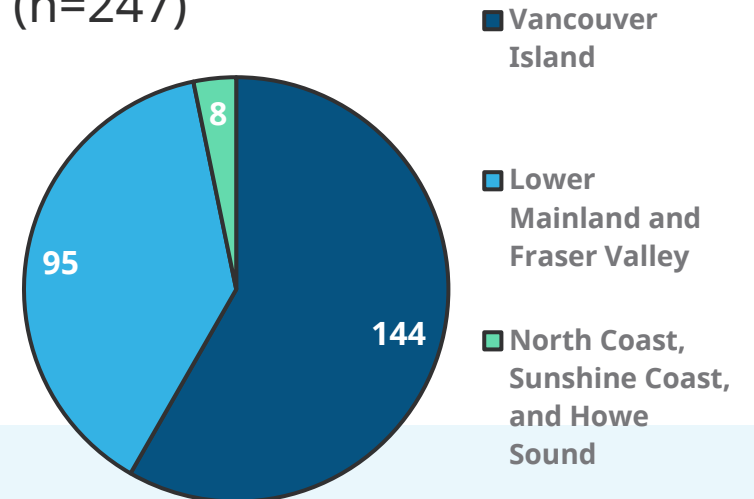
## -Seismic

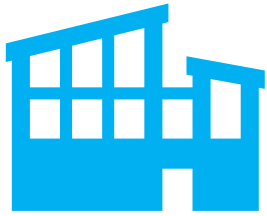
- Since September 2017, government has committed over \$1.9B for seismic upgrades and replacements at 70 schools.
- These 70 seismic projects will generate over 39,000 seismically safe seats.
- There are a further 247 schools as future priorities for seismic mitigation.

Approved Seismic Projects Since 2017 by Region (n=70)



Remaining Seismic Schools by Region (n=247)



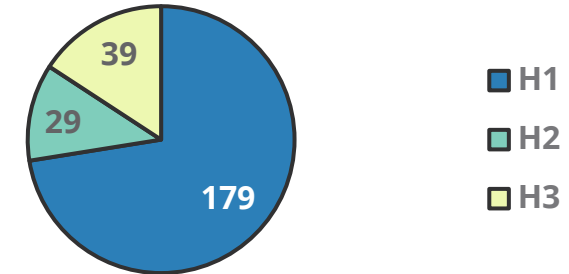


# Health & Safety (2 of 2)

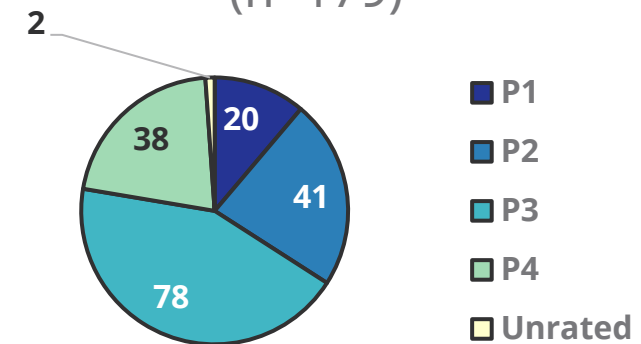
## -Seismic

- Of the 247 future priorities, 179 have a high seismic risk (H1).
- Of those 179 schools, 20 have a probable risk rating (P-rating) of P1 and 41 have a rating of P2 – these schools have the highest risk of structural failure in a moderate seismic event.
- The next iteration of the Seismic Retrofit Guidelines, SRG2023, were recently finalized and released.
- Some Success Factors:
  - Focus on highest risk schools
  - Ensure that school will be required for foreseeable future
  - Synergizing additions/seismic upgrades

Remaining High Risk Schools by Risk Rating (n=247)



H1-Rated Schools by Probable Risk Rating (n=179)



# School Condition & Performance



Year	INF Routine Capital Program Allocations (AFG, BEP, CNCP, SEP)	Immediate Deferred Maintenance (Cost of repairs and upgrades required within 1 year)	Total Deferred Maintenance (Cost of repairs and upgrades required within 5 years)	Average Provincial Facility Condition Index (FCI) for Total Asset Inventory
2025/26	\$269M	\$409M	\$10.50B	0.45
2024/25	\$258M	\$425M	\$9.61B	0.45
2023/24	\$243M	\$422M	\$8.97B	0.44
2022/23	\$226M	\$363M	\$7.77B	0.44
2021/22	\$226M	\$437M	\$7.67B	0.47
2020/21	\$205M	\$441M	\$7.05B	0.47
2019/20	\$193M	\$491M	\$6.95B	0.44
2018/19	\$193M	\$343M	\$6.70B	0.43
2017/18	\$195M	\$396M	\$6.28B	0.43
2016/17	\$174M	\$332M	\$6.26B	0.42
2015/16	\$152M	\$305M	\$6.09B	0.42
2014/15	\$98M	\$296M	\$5.98B	0.41

# Minority Language Rights



- In a June 2020 decision, the Supreme Court of Canada reinforced the Province's obligations to ensure that s.23 minority language rights holders are provided an equivalent educational experience.
- A new **Capital Strategy for the CSF** is being implemented including the following pillars:
  - Legislative changes that enable the Minister to designate and transfer land and improvements from majority boards to the CSF;
  - The creation of a CSF Project Office and dedicated ministry project team to expedite planning, business case development and project delivery;
  - Collaboration with GeoBC to identify Crown Land sites that may be suitable for future CSF schools.

# Questions