



June 21, 2016

Ref: 187847

Teresa Rezansoff, President  
British Columbia School Trustees Association  
**Email: [teresa.rezansoff@sd51.bc.ca](mailto:teresa.rezansoff@sd51.bc.ca)**

Dear Ms. Rezansoff:

Thank you for your gracious letter of May 20, 2016, in support of the increase in funding for capital projects around British Columbia and for recognizing the changes made regarding the streamlined process for the capital projects approval process.

The safety of children in BC is a top priority for the Ministry of Education and we agree staff and students should have safe and well-functioning school facilities. We also appreciate Surrey is growing rapidly and the need for capital funding is paramount. Additionally, as you mentioned, our School Enhancement Program provides school districts with funds to improve facilities and addresses the needs within these communities.

Thank you also for acknowledging the work of our Ministry staff in the Planning and Major Projects Division. The improvements to date are a direct result of feedback from you and your Association, as well as other partners and key stakeholders across the education sector. We are committed to seeking ways to streamline the process, improve transparency and ensure investments are made in schools where and when they will have the most impact.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Shanna Mason, Assistant Deputy Minister, Planning and Major Projects Division, by phone at (250) 356-1883, or by email at [Shanna.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shanna.Mason@gov.bc.ca).

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Mike Bernier  
Minister