

From: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 3:36 PM
To: Palmer, Joel EDUC:EX
Cc: Filion, Corinna GCPE:EX; Leslie, Sean GCPE:EX; Spillett, Ryan Y EDUC:EX; Nyikes, Michael EDUC:EX; Bawa, Reg R EDUC:EX
Subject: RE: Tight deadline - Media Request: Seismic Upgrades

Thanks Joell

From: Palmer, Joel EDUC:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 3:36 PM
To: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX
Cc: Filion, Corinna GCPE:EX; Leslie, Sean GCPE:EX; Spillett, Ryan Y EDUC:EX; Nyikes, Michael EDUC:EX; Bawa, Reg R EDUC:EX
Subject: RE: Tight deadline - Media Request: Seismic Upgrades

Suggested edits to #1 and #2

Media Request
Subject: Seismic Upgrades

Reporter: Tina Lovgreen, Reporter
CBC - Vancouver

Request: Questions followed by responses on background (DRAFTS):

Q) Wondering if you could share with me a statement on whether the new UBC innovation of EDCC, which we were presented with today, will be used to retrofit the 155 high-risk B.C. schools that are in need of seismic upgrades?

Response:

- The ministry and school districts work directly with the Engineers and Geoscientists of BC to determine the most effective construction materials to use in specific projects under the ministry's Seismic Mitigation Program. If new construction materials or techniques become known and available, then they will be assessed under the program and implemented when appropriate.

Q) How many of them will be upgraded using this material?

Response:

- It is far too early to say. This is a relatively new product. Each seismic project will utilize the most appropriate materials for the specific circumstances of the project.

Q) When can we see the upgrading be done/completed?

Response:

- Government will expedite seismic upgrades for high risk schools in B.C as quickly as possible.
- We live in an earthquake zone and all of us need to focus on being prepared. This means working to improve our public infrastructure, including schools.
- As of now, 165 out of 346 seismic projects have been completed.
- Our Government is committed to fast-tracking seismic projects to make schools safer for students and teachers. We are working with school boards, and local municipal officials to meet an ambitious timeline.

Q) Can we also find out why Jamieson Elementary School was selected as the first school?

Response:

- Connect with the school district and university to discuss why they selected Jamieson Elementary.

From: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 3:12 PM
To: Palmer, Joel EDUC:EX
Cc: Filion, Corinna GCPE:EX; Leslie, Sean GCPE:EX; Spillett, Ryan Y EDUC:EX; Nyikes, Michael EDUC:EX; Bawa, Reg R EDUC:EX
Subject: RE: Tight deadline - Media Request: Seismic Upgrades

Joel,

Are you ok with the response below? thanks, Craig

From: Bawa, Reg R EDUC:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 3:09 PM
To: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX
Cc: Fillion, Corinna GCPE:EX; Leslie, Sean GCPE:EX; Spillett, Ryan Y EDUC:EX; Nyikes, Michael EDUC:EX; Palmer, Joel EDUC:EX
Subject: RE: Tight deadline - Media Request: Seismic Upgrades

Craig –can you hold this one until you discuss with Joel – he did not receive this email

From: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 2:19 PM
To: Bawa, Reg R EDUC:EX
Cc: Fillion, Corinna GCPE:EX; Leslie, Sean GCPE:EX; JOELPALM@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca; Spillett, Ryan Y EDUC:EX; Nyikes, Michael EDUC:EX
Subject: Tight deadline - Media Request: Seismic Upgrades

Hi Reg,

Are you ok with the responses below? Note the 3 p.m. deadline so if you can approve soon that would be great!
Thanks,
Craig

Media Request
Subject: Seismic Upgrades

Reporter: Tina Lovgreen, Reporter
CBC - Vancouver

Request: Questions followed by responses on background (DRAFTS):

Q) Wondering if you could share with me a statement on whether the new UBC innovcation of EDCC, which we were presented with today, will be used to retrofit the 155 high-risk B.C. schools that are in need of seismic upgrades?

Response:

s.13

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Response:

s.13

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Response:

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Q) Can we also find out why Jamieson Elementary School was selected as the first school?

Response:

- Connect with the school district and university to discuss why they selected Jamieson Elementary.

Deadline ASAP

Cutler, Rosa EDUC:EX

From: Palmer, Joel EDUC:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2017 4:01 PM
To: Spillett, Ryan Y EDUC:EX
Cc: Ballman, Lesley EDUC:EX
Subject: FW: IN_Richmond Seismic
Attachments: IN_Richmond Seismic.docx

Also for review in advance of Friday announcement

From: McKenzie, Scott GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2017 11:08 AM
To: Palmer, Joel EDUC:EX
Cc: Leslie, Sean GCPE:EX; Fillion, Corinna GCPE:EX; Morrison, Carol GCPE:EX; Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX
Subject: IN_Richmond Seismic

Hi Joel, with the announcement in Richmond on Friday I wanted to check in to see if there is any updates needed or new info that can be included in the attached issue note.

Thanks,

Scott McKenzie
Public Affairs Officer
Ministry of Education Communications
Office: 250 356-1884
Cell: 250-893-4126

ADVICE TO MINISTER

**CONFIDENTIAL
ISSUES NOTE**

Ministry of Education

Date: Aug 22, 2017

Date Updated:

Minister Responsible: Rob Fleming

Richmond Seismic

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **Our Government is committed to fast-tracking seismic projects to make schools safer for students and teachers.**
- **Only three schools have been upgraded in Richmond in the past 15 years. This is not good enough.**
- **We are committed to seismically upgrading all 24 high-risk schools in Richmond**
- **We are currently working with the district to help them expedite following projects for funding approval:**
 - **Hugh Boyd Secondary**
 - **WD Ferris Elementary**
 - **Tomsett Elementary**
 - **Steves Elementary**
 - **Quilchena Elementary**
 - **James Whiteside Elementary**

BACKGROUND:

Seismic Assessment History in Richmond School District

- The assessment of high-risk schools in Richmond has shifted substantially since the initiation of the Seismic Mitigation Program (SMP) based on changes in science relating to the unique type of soils in the area.
- In 2015, the Federal Government updated its risk analysis of seismic activity across Canada. This resulted in a change to the magnitude and duration of seismic activity in

many areas of B.C. This in turn, has resulted in both a change to the Seismic Retrofit Guidelines of B.C. and the BC Building Code (being released summer 2017).

- In 2014, following the major seismic event in Christ Church New Zealand, another assessment of schools in Richmond was undertaken and this resulted in 25 schools being identified as high seismic risk.
- In 2007, Strong Motion Sensor were installed across the lower mainland that began providing readings of seismic and soil activity.
- In January 2010, new scientific thinking on the behavior of soils and the impact on schools resulted in the number of high risk schools being reduced to five schools.
- In 2004, 27 schools were assessed to be moderate/high or high seismic risk and requiring mitigation.

Long Range Facilities Planning

The district has seen its overall funding increase by close to 20% since 2001 – despite having almost 12% fewer students – while per pupil funding rose almost 35%.

Richmond's enrolment over the past five years has been trending down resulting in a 7% decrease from 2011/12 to 2015/16 (22,342 to 20,756). Richmond's current overall utilization is 78%.

As such, the district began a long range planning exercise in 2015 which included potential school closures. This planning process affected the district's ability to prioritize seismic mitigation of schools.

In October 2016 the district cancelled the planning exercise and ceased closure consultation and submitted a resolution to the ministry amending their 5 Year Capital Plan to include all 25 high-risk seismic projects without prioritization.

Progress on Projects in Richmond

- Three schools are mitigated: Garden City Elementary, Steveston Secondary, and Samuel Brighthouse Elementary.
- Three schools have been in business case development since 2014. They are: William Cook Elementary, James Gilmore Elementary and Hugh Boyd Secondary.
- In spring 2016 the Ministry directed the district to complete the business cases for William Cook Elementary and Hugh Boyd Secondary and submit by September 30, 2016 for funding decision. As of February 16th, 2017 the district continues to work with their costing consultants to complete their business cases.

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- On January 31, 2017 the ministry, with the advice of APEGBC, has rendered a decision of the risk and scope of repairs that provide absolute clarity to the district on scope of repairs for the above schools which should enable them to finalize their business cases. The district is aiming to have the business cases complete by February 27, 2017.

ADVICE TO MINISTER

Program Area Contact:	Ryan Spillett	250 882-3699
File Created:	Aug 22, 2017	
File Updated:		
File Location:	n:\education lan\operations\issues notes\capital & seismic\in_richmond seismic.docx	

Cutler, Rosa EDUC:EX

From: Ballman, Lesley EDUC:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 1, 2017 1:29 PM
To: Palmer, Joel EDUC:EX; Spillett, Ryan Y EDUC:EX
Subject: RE: IN_Richmond Seismic
Attachments: IN_Richmond Seismic - LB edits.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Please see the attached with my comments and revisions using track changes.

Lesley

From: Palmer, Joel EDUC:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2017 4:01 PM
To: Spillett, Ryan Y EDUC:EX
Cc: Ballman, Lesley EDUC:EX
Subject: FW: IN_Richmond Seismic

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Ministry of Education Communications
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Cell: 250-893-4126

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