## MJW-DBN | Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot

From: Carling, Emma EDUC:EX <Emma.Carling@gov.bc.ca>

To: EDUC DL Minister's Office <EDUCMINO@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>, Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX

<Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: July 16, 2021 9:47:01 AM PDT

Attachments: 248280 DBN-MJW\_Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot (FINAL July 16

2021).pdf

Good morning

Attached is a Briefing Note Seeking approval to expend child care contingency funds in FY 2021/22 through expansion of Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot projects. Staff are requesting a decision by <u>August 6</u> so that contracts can be issued.

Please let me know if Minister would prefer to arrange for a briefing on this subject.

Thank you

Emma Carling | a/ Senior Executive Assistant

Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Education Ph: 236-478-3347 E: <a href="mailto:emma.carling@gov.bc.ca">emma.carling@gov.bc.ca</a>

# MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DECISION BRIEFING NOTE

**DATE:** July 14, 2021

**CLIFF:** 248280

**PREPARED FOR:** Honourable Jennifer Whiteside, Minister – **FOR DECISION** 

**SUBJECT:** Early Learning

**PURPOSE:** Seeking approval to expend child care contingency funds in FY 2021/22

through expansion of Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot projects.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

- In 2019/20, the Ministry of Education (EDUC) implemented a Seamless Day Kindergarten
  Pilot (Pilot), creating school age care spaces in classrooms to support continuity of learning
  (see Appendix A: Overview of Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot).
- EDUC provided seed funding to SD53 (Okanagan-Similkameen) for the Pilot in 2019/20 and expanded funding in 2020/21 to three additional districts. New districts have expressed interested in participating in the Pilot (see Appendix B: Interested Districts and Selection Process).
- Section <u>85.2</u> of the *School Act* enables boards to offer before-and-after school care on board property to enrolled students on a cost-recovery basis.
- The Province announced 20 more Seamless Day pilot sites will be added in 2021/22.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

- The Budget 2021 Letter indicates that Treasury Board (TB) approved funding for up to \$4.272M in 2021/22 Notional Contingencies to expand the Pilot program to 24 district sites.
- s.12; s.17
- \$1.424M will be spent in FY 2021/22 s.12; s.17
   s.12; s.17 (See Appendix C: FY 2021/22 Budget Breakdown).
- All school districts participating in the pilot will receive a \$50K grant within this fiscal to support operations. The remaining \$224K (of \$1.424M) is for additional staffing resources and non-staffing administrative costs.
- s.12
- Pilot sites use grants for operational start-up costs, relief support salaries, supplies, and services. Grants partially pay for ECEs salary and benefit costs and Boards supplement this.
- 23 Boards and an Independent School Authority have expressed interest in participating in the Pilot expansion (see Appendix B: Interested Districts and Selection Process).
- Expansion pilots will open in fall 2021<sup>s.12</sup>
   s.12 (See Appendix D: Implementation Plan).

#### **OPTIONS:**

Option 1: Approve \$1.424M of the contingency expenditure to enable project implementation and engage in partnership agreements with the new school districts.

#### Pros:

- Supports continuity of learning across the day for students in 20 more schools.
- Enables boards to establish board-operated child care programs.

#### Cons:

- Program is an expensive model for child care.
- Labour implications need to be considered with BC Public School Employers Association.

s.13; s.17

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

\$1.424M of the \$4.272M contingency funding will be spent in FY 2021/22 (see Appendix C). \$.12

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND PRIVACY IMPLICATIONS:

A Privacy Impact Assessment will be completed. No IT systems impacts identified at this time.

#### LINKS TO OTHER MINISTRIES:

Ministries of Children and Family Development and Health have supported plan development.

Option: 1		
Approved/Not Approved Jennifer Whiteside Minister	Date Signed	

#### Attachments:

- 1. Appendix A: Overview of Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot
- 2. Appendix B: List of Interested Districts and Selection Process
- 3. Appendix C: FY 2021/22 Childcare BC Budget Seamless Day Funding Request Breakdown
- 4. Appendix D: Implementation plan

Program ADM/Branch: Jennifer McCrea, Assistant Deputy Minister, Learning Division

Program Contact (for content): Angie Calleberg, Director, Early Learning

Drafter: Kira Reynolds, Manager, Early Learning

Date: June 22, 2021

2

#### Appendix A: Overview of Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot

The Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot is modeled after Ontario's seamless day for 4- and 5-year-olds, where certified Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) provide before-and-after school care and support learning alongside the classroom teacher.

In BC, the Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot operates in four school districts to provide continuity of learning for students for the full day.

- 1. SD53: Okanagan Similkameen
- 2. SD45: Sunshine Coast
- 3. SD46: West Vancouver
- 4. SD69: Qualicum

Boards may only operate child care on a cost-recovery basis and are expected to charge parent fees for any before-and-after school care services they provide. To assist with operating costs, boards can apply for government operating funding/fee reduction programs through the Ministry of Children and Family Development and allow parents who qualify for subsidy benefits to enroll.

May 2021 amendments to the Child Care Licensing Regulation created a new School Age Care on School Grounds category which streamline the licensing process for boards offering before-and-after school care.

In contrast to other early care and learning spaces, the model does not require capital start-up funding, since the program runs in existing classrooms.

s.13

### **Appendix B: List of Interested Districts and Selection Process**

School districts that have expressed interest and are proposed for selection in the Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot as of June 22, 2021.

\*confirmed status means that the district has met all selection criteria and is ready to partner with the Ministry

Metro school districts	Status
SD 39 – Vancouver	confirmed
SD 40 – New Westminster	confirmed
SD 48 – Sea to Sky	awaiting confirmation
SD 93 – Conseil scolaire francophone (CSF)	confirmed
Fraser Valley school districts	Status
SD 35 – Langley	confirmed
SD 33 – Chilliwack	confirmed
Vancouver Island school districts	Status
SD 62 – Sooke	confirmed
SD 64 – Gulf Islands*	confirmed
SD 68 – Nanaimo-Ladysmith	confirmed
Kootenay Boundary school districts	Status
SD 08 – Kootenay Lakes*	confirmed
SD 10 – Arrow Lakes*	confirmed
SD 50 – Haida Gwaii*	confirmed
SD 91 – Nechako Lakes*	confirmed
SD 60 – Peace River North*	confirmed
Thompson-Okanagan school districts	Status
SD 22 – Vernon	confirmed
SD 23 – Central Okanagan	confirmed
SD 73 – Kamloops-Thompson	confirmed
SD 74 – Gold Trail*	confirmed
SD 83 – North Okanagan-Shuswap	confirmed
Independent school:	Status
Society of Christian Schools BC (2 schools)	confirmed

<sup>\*</sup>Denotes rural/remote

Schools districts continuing as Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilots into FY 2021/22.

Current Pilot Sites	School Name	Status	Open Date
SD 53 – Okanagan-Similkameen	Oliver Elementary	Confirmed	Sep 2019
SD 45 – Sunshine Coast	West Sechelt Elementary	Confirmed	Mar 2021
SD 46 – West Vancouver	Hollyburn Elementary	Confirmed	Apr 2021
SD 69 – Qualicum	Forest Park Elementary	Confirmed	Sep 2021

#### **Pilot Site Selection Process:**

#### School districts have been selected based on:

- Expression of interest data based on an 'Expanding before and after school environmental scan completed in May/June 2020' (54 out of 60 school districts responded)
- Geographical representation
- Rural and remote locations
- Meeting the criteria (i.e. suitable location, Kindergarten teacher who choses to participate, approval from District Leadership and Board of Education or Independent School Authority) for school districts interested in implementation of the Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot (criteria approved by the Director and Assistant Deputy Minister in the Learning Division)
- The number of EDUC Early Learning grants given to the school district (i.e. for other EDUC child care BC initiatives such as "Changing Results for Young Children" and/or "Strengthening Early Years to Kindergarten Transitions" projects)

#### Process for contacting school district Superintendents/district Leadership Teams:

- Sent an initial email confirming the school district expression of interest based on their responses to the environmental scan May/June 2020
- Established a time and date for a Zoom call with the school district Leadership team (most often the Superintendent and District Staff were on the Zoom call which lasted about 1 hour)
- School District Leadership Teams moved forward meeting the criteria (e.g., confirm Board of Education approval)
- School districts emailed confirmation when all criteria were met
- When all criteria were met, they were added to the list of "CONFIRMED SCHOOL DISTRICTS" (indicating they are ready for Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot implementation)
- NOTE: All school districts are aware EDUC is not able to confirm Seamless Day
  Kindergarten Pilot grants until the funding is in place and selections are finalized. Once
  approved for the pilot, school districts will have completed the groundwork, including
  beginning the process of licensing the classrooms.
- Confirmed and interested school districts were offered on-going support through individual Zoom meetings and a series of Seamless Day Information Sessions that included topics such as Human Resource concerns, budgeting, licensing, accessing the revenue streams, applying for MCFD grants and parent subsidies, and building a community of practice.

# Appendix C: FY 2021/22 Budget Breakdown

Seamless Day	21/22
Existing – 4 sites; grants to districts	\$200K
New – 20 sites; grants to districts	\$1M <sup>i</sup>
Administrative – 1 Executive Director	\$139K
Estimated non-staffing administrative costs	\$85K <sup>ii</sup>
TOTAL	\$1.424M

# Appendix D: Implementation Plan

DELIVERABLE/MILESTONE	TARGET DATE	STATUS
Confirm preferred implementation approach (Approved	Jun 18, 2021	Complete
ADM Briefing Note/Cliff #247592)		
Initial site selection based on readiness and interest	Jun 30, 2021	Complete
Confirm funding envelope	Jul 30, 2021	
Complete Privacy Impact Assessment	Jul 30, 2021	
Notify selected sites	Aug 16, 2021	
Selected sites seek a child care license, develops a	Aug 19 – Oct 30, 2021	
budget, and begins hiring process		
Establish a community of practice/Advisory group	Aug 30, 2021	
s.12		
Establish research and evaluation framework	Sep 30, 2021	
Contract with an external evaluator for research and	Oct 15, 2021	
evaluation		
20 new Seamless Day Pilot sites are open and operational	Nov 1, 2021	
s.13		

## RE: 9730 - Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilots

From: Carling, Emma EDUC:EX <Emma.Carling@gov.bc.ca>
To: Gajdics, Peter EDUC:EX <Peter.Gajdics@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX <Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: July 22, 2021 8:49:38 AM PDT

**Morning Peter** 

Yes, this was sent to MO; however, we have not received approval yet. I have a due date of August 6<sup>th</sup> noted.

**Thanks** 

#### Emma Carling | a/ Senior Executive Assistant

Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Education Ph: 236-478-3347 E: <a href="mailto:emma.carling@gov.bc.ca">emma.carling@gov.bc.ca</a>

From: Gajdics, Peter EDUC:EX <Peter.Gajdics@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: July 22, 2021 8:38 AM

To: Carling, Emma EDUC:EX <Emma.Carling@gov.bc.ca> Cc: Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX <Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca> Subject: 9730 - Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilots

Hi, I see this one still sitting with you. Can you please advise if this was sent to MO for MJW review/approval? I don't think there was a briefing, but we needed MJW sign off. Thanks.

Peter Gajdics

Executive Administrative Assistant
Assistant Deputy Minister's Office
Learning Division
Ministry of Education
T: 604 775-4043

This e-mail message may contain privileged or confidential information. You may not disclose, use, distribute, or copy this message or attachment in any way without permission from the sender. If you received this e-mail message in error, please delete.

### RE: MJW-DBN | Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot

From: Carling, Emma EDUC:EX <Emma.Carling@gov.bc.ca>

To: EDUC DL Minister's Office <EDUCMINO@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>, Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX

<Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 16, 2021 10:26:57 AM PDT

Attachments: 248280 DBN-MJW Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot (FINAL July 16

2021).pdf

Good morning

I've been advised that Minister has approved the attached DBN. Would you kindly confirm via email, and I will advise the Division.

Thank you

#### Emma Carling | a/ Senior Executive Assistant

Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Education Ph: 236-478-3347 E: <a href="mailto:emma.carling@gov.bc.ca">emma.carling@gov.bc.ca</a>

From: Carling, Emma EDUC:EX Sent: July 16, 2021 9:47 AM

To: EDUC DL Minister's Office <EDUCMINO@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>; Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX <Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: MJW-DBN | Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot

Good morning

Attached is a Briefing Note Seeking approval to expend child care contingency funds in FY 2021/22 through expansion of Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot projects. Staff are requesting a decision by <u>August 6</u> so that contracts can be issued.

Please let me know if Minister would prefer to arrange for a briefing on this subject.

Thank you

#### Emma Carling | a/ Senior Executive Assistant

Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Education Ph: 236-478-3347 E: emma.carling@gov.bc.ca

# MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DECISION BRIEFING NOTE

**DATE:** July 14, 2021

**CLIFF:** 248280

**PREPARED FOR:** Honourable Jennifer Whiteside, Minister – **FOR DECISION** 

**SUBJECT:** Early Learning

**PURPOSE:** Seeking approval to expend child care contingency funds in FY 2021/22

through expansion of Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot projects.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

- In 2019/20, the Ministry of Education (EDUC) implemented a Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot (Pilot), creating school age care spaces in classrooms to support continuity of learning (see Appendix A: Overview of Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot).
- EDUC provided seed funding to SD53 (Okanagan-Similkameen) for the Pilot in 2019/20 and expanded funding in 2020/21 to three additional districts. New districts have expressed interested in participating in the Pilot (see Appendix B: Interested Districts and Selection Process).
- Section <u>85.2</u> of the *School Act* enables boards to offer before-and-after school care on board property to enrolled students on a cost-recovery basis.
- The Province announced 20 more Seamless Day pilot sites will be added in 2021/22.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

- The Budget 2021 Letter indicates that Treasury Board (TB) approved funding for up to \$4.272M in 2021/22 Notional Contingencies to expand the Pilot program to 24 district sites.
- s.12; s.17
- \$1.424M will be spent in FY 2021/22 s.12; s.17
   ts.12; s.17 (See Appendix C: FY 2021/22 Budget Breakdown).
- All school districts participating in the pilot will receive a \$50K grant within this fiscal to support operations. The remaining \$224K (of \$1.424M) is for additional staffing resources and non-staffing administrative costs.
- s.12
- Pilot sites use grants for operational start-up costs, relief support salaries, supplies, and services. Grants partially pay for ECEs salary and benefit costs and Boards supplement this.
- 23 Boards and an Independent School Authority have expressed interest in participating in the Pilot expansion (see Appendix B: Interested Districts and Selection Process).
- Expansion pilots will open in fall 2021 \$.12 \$.12 (See Appendix D: Implementation Plan).

#### **OPTIONS:**

Option 1: Approve \$1.424M of the contingency expenditure to enable project implementation and engage in partnership agreements with the new school districts.

#### Pros:

- Supports continuity of learning across the day for students in 20 more schools.
- Enables boards to establish board-operated child care programs.

#### Cons:

- Program is an expensive model for child care.
- Labour implications need to be considered with BC Public School Employers Association.

s.13; s.17

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

\$1.424M of the \$4.272M contingency funding will be spent in FY 2021/22 (see Appendix C) s.12

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND PRIVACY IMPLICATIONS:

A Privacy Impact Assessment will be completed. No IT systems impacts identified at this time.

#### LINKS TO OTHER MINISTRIES:

Ministries of Children and Family Development and Health have supported plan development.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Option: 1

Approved Not Approved

Approved Date Signed

Jennifer Whiteside

Minister

#### Attachments:

- 1. Appendix A: Overview of Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot
- 2. Appendix B: List of Interested Districts and Selection Process
- 3. Appendix C: FY 2021/22 Childcare BC Budget Seamless Day Funding Request Breakdown

August 16, 2021

4. Appendix D: Implementation plan

2

**Program ADM/Branch:** Jennifer McCrea, Assistant Deputy Minister, Learning Division

Program Contact (for content): Angie Calleberg, Director, Early Learning

Drafter: Kira Reynolds, Manager, Early Learning

Date: June 22, 2021

#### Appendix A: Overview of Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot

The Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot is modeled after Ontario's seamless day for 4- and 5-year-olds, where certified Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) provide before-and-after school care and support learning alongside the classroom teacher.

In BC, the Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot operates in four school districts to provide continuity of learning for students for the full day.

- 1. SD53: Okanagan Similkameen
- 2. SD45: Sunshine Coast
- 3. SD46: West Vancouver
- 4. SD69: Qualicum

Boards may only operate child care on a cost-recovery basis and are expected to charge parent fees for any before-and-after school care services they provide. To assist with operating costs, boards can apply for government operating funding/fee reduction programs through the Ministry of Children and Family Development and allow parents who qualify for subsidy benefits to enroll.

May 2021 amendments to the Child Care Licensing Regulation created a new School Age Care on School Grounds category which streamline the licensing process for boards offering before-and-after school care.

In contrast to other early care and learning spaces, the model does not require capital start-up funding, since the program runs in existing classrooms.

s.13

### **Appendix B: List of Interested Districts and Selection Process**

School districts that have expressed interest and are proposed for selection in the Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot as of June 22, 2021.

\*confirmed status means that the district has met all selection criteria and is ready to partner with the Ministry

Metro school districts	Status
SD 39 – Vancouver	confirmed
SD 40 – New Westminster	confirmed
SD 48 – Sea to Sky	awaiting confirmation
SD 93 – Conseil scolaire francophone (CSF)	confirmed
Fraser Valley school districts	Status
SD 35 – Langley	confirmed
SD 33 – Chilliwack	confirmed
Vancouver Island school districts	Status
SD 62 – Sooke	confirmed
SD 64 – Gulf Islands*	confirmed
SD 68 – Nanaimo-Ladysmith	confirmed
Kootenay Boundary school districts	Status
SD 08 – Kootenay Lakes*	confirmed
SD 10 – Arrow Lakes*	confirmed
SD 50 – Haida Gwaii*	confirmed
SD 91 – Nechako Lakes*	confirmed
SD 60 – Peace River North*	confirmed
Thompson-Okanagan school districts	Status
SD 22 – Vernon	confirmed
SD 23 – Central Okanagan	confirmed
SD 73 – Kamloops-Thompson	confirmed
SD 74 – Gold Trail*	confirmed
SD 83 – North Okanagan-Shuswap	confirmed
Independent school:	Status
Society of Christian Schools BC (2 schools)	confirmed

<sup>\*</sup>Denotes rural/remote

Schools districts continuing as Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilots into FY 2021/22.

Current Pilot Sites	School Name	Status	Open Date
SD 53 – Okanagan-Similkameen	Oliver Elementary	Confirmed	Sep 2019
SD 45 – Sunshine Coast	West Sechelt Elementary	Confirmed	Mar 2021
SD 46 – West Vancouver	Hollyburn Elementary	Confirmed	Apr 2021
SD 69 – Qualicum	Forest Park Elementary	Confirmed	Sep 2021

#### **Pilot Site Selection Process:**

#### School districts have been selected based on:

- Expression of interest data based on an 'Expanding before and after school environmental scan completed in May/June 2020' (54 out of 60 school districts responded)
- Geographical representation
- Rural and remote locations
- Meeting the criteria (i.e. suitable location, Kindergarten teacher who choses to participate, approval from District Leadership and Board of Education or Independent School Authority) for school districts interested in implementation of the Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot (criteria approved by the Director and Assistant Deputy Minister in the Learning Division)
- The number of EDUC Early Learning grants given to the school district (i.e. for other EDUC child care BC initiatives such as "Changing Results for Young Children" and/or "Strengthening Early Years to Kindergarten Transitions" projects)

#### Process for contacting school district Superintendents/district Leadership Teams:

- Sent an initial email confirming the school district expression of interest based on their responses to the environmental scan May/June 2020
- Established a time and date for a Zoom call with the school district Leadership team (most often the Superintendent and District Staff were on the Zoom call which lasted about 1 hour)
- School District Leadership Teams moved forward meeting the criteria (e.g., confirm Board of Education approval)
- School districts emailed confirmation when all criteria were met
- When all criteria were met, they were added to the list of "CONFIRMED SCHOOL DISTRICTS" (indicating they are ready for Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot implementation)
- NOTE: All school districts are aware EDUC is not able to confirm Seamless Day
  Kindergarten Pilot grants until the funding is in place and selections are finalized. Once
  approved for the pilot, school districts will have completed the groundwork, including
  beginning the process of licensing the classrooms.
- Confirmed and interested school districts were offered on-going support through individual Zoom meetings and a series of Seamless Day Information Sessions that included topics such as Human Resource concerns, budgeting, licensing, accessing the revenue streams, applying for MCFD grants and parent subsidies, and building a community of practice.

# Appendix C: FY 2021/22 Budget Breakdown

Seamless Day	21/22
Existing – 4 sites; grants to districts	\$200K
New – 20 sites; grants to districts	\$1M <sup>i</sup>
Administrative – 1 Executive Director	\$139K
Estimated non-staffing administrative costs	\$85K <sup>ii</sup>
TOTAL	\$1.424M

# Appendix D: Implementation Plan

DELIVERABLE/MILESTONE	TARGET DATE	STATUS
Confirm preferred implementation approach (Approved	Jun 18, 2021	Complete
ADM Briefing Note/Cliff #247592)		
Initial site selection based on readiness and interest	Jun 30, 2021	Complete
Confirm funding envelope	Jul 30, 2021	
Complete Privacy Impact Assessment	Jul 30, 2021	
Notify selected sites	Aug 16, 2021	
Selected sites seek a child care license, develops a	Aug 19 – Oct 30, 2021	
budget, and begins hiring process		
Establish a community of practice/Advisory group	Aug 30, 2021	
s.12		
Establish research and evaluation framework	Sep 30, 2021	
Contract with an external evaluator for research and	Oct 15, 2021	
evaluation		
20 new Seamless Day Pilot sites are open and operational	Nov 1, 2021	
5.13		

## MJW SNs | TB - Year 4 Childcare BC

From: Restall, Emma EDUC:EX <Emma.Restall@gov.bc.ca>, Carling, Emma

EDUC:EX <Emma.Carling@gov.bc.ca>

To: EDUC DL Minister's Office <EDUCMINO@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>, Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX

<Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca>, Sampson, Laura EDUC:EX

<Laura.Sampson@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: February 17, 2021 1:57:38 PM PST

Attachments: Minister Speaking Notes for Year 4 Childcare BC.pdf

Good afternoon

Staff have prepared the attached Speaking Notes for Minister's use when the Year 4 Childcare BC item is heard at Treasury Board.

Thank you

#### Emma Restall | Documents Coordinator

Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Education Ph: 236-478-3347 E: <a href="mailto:emma.restall@gov.bc.ca">emma.restall@gov.bc.ca</a>

# **Minister Speaking Notes for Year 4 Childcare BC**

Page 021 of 209 to/à Page 022 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 023 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

### For MJW's Info | MCFD's Year 4 CC TB Sub

From: Sampson, Laura EDUC:EX <Laura.Sampson@gov.bc.ca>
To: EDUC DL Minister's Office <EDUCMINO@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>, Restall, Emma EDUC:EX

<Emma.Restall@gov.bc.ca>, Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX
<Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca>, Carling, Emma EDUC:EX

<Emma.Carling@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: February 17, 2021 5:08:57 PM PST

Attachments: s.12; s.13

#### Good evening,

Please find attached the TB sub and supporting documents for MCFD's Budget 2021 Year 4 Child Care TB submission.

Regards,

#### Laura Sampson | Senior Executive Assistant

Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Education Ph: 250-387-2026 E: laura.sampson@gov.bc.ca



# **Treasury Board Submission – Budget 2021**

Minister: Honourable Mitzi Dean and Honourable Katrina Chen

Ministry: Children and Family Development (MCFD)

**Type** Government Priority - Child Care Programs

Rank: 2 of 2 Key Priority Requests

**Date:** 15/02/2021 Ministry Document #:

Page 026 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.17

Page 027 of 209 to/à Page 032 of 209  $\,$ 

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 033 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.17

Page 034 of 209 to/à Page 044 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 045 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.17

Page 046 of 209 to/à Page 050 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 051 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.17

Page 052 of 209 to/à Page 053 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 054 of 209 to/à Page 060 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.17

Page 061 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 062 of 209 to/à Page 064 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.17

Page 065 of 209 to/à Page 070 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 071 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 072 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 073 of 209 to/à Page 078 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 079 of 209 to/à Page 081 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 082 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 083 of 209 to/à Page 089 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 090 of 209 to/à Page 091 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 092 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 093 of 209 to/à Page 094 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 095 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 096 of 209 to/à Page 100 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 101 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 102 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 103 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 104 of 209 to/à Page 107 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 108 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 109 of 209 to/à Page 123 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 124 of 209 to/à Page 126 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 127 of 209 to/à Page 129 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 130 of 209 to/à Page 131 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 132 of 209 to/à Page 137 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 138 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 139 of 209 to/à Page 141 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 142 of 209 to/à Page 143 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 144 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 145 of 209 to/à Page 146 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 147 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 148 of 209 to/à Page 149 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 150 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 151 of 209 to/à Page 152 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 153 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 154 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 155 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 156 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 157 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 158 of 209 to/à Page 159 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Page 160 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.17

Page 161 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13

Page 162 of 209 to/à Page 164 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.17

Page 165 of 209 to/à Page 166 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13

Page 167 of 209 to/à Page 168 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.17

Page 169 of 209 to/à Page 170 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13

Page 171 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.17

Page 172 of 209 to/à Page 181 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13

Page 182 of 209 to/à Page 185 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.17

### RE: EDUC Briefings for Minister Chen

From Talbot, Sarena MCF:EX <Sarena.Talbot@gov.bc.ca>

To: Beale, William EDUC:EX <William.Beale@gov.bc.ca>, Lindsay-Baugh, Anna

EDUC:EX <Anna.LindsayBaugh@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: February 18, 2021 3:13:35 PM PST

Hi folks,

I realise you are still likely treading water but MSKC asked me about this today so I thought I'd check in. Let me know if it would be easier to flow the request through the staff level.

thanks! sarena

From: Talbot, Sarena MCF:EX Sent: February 2, 2021 4:10 PM

To: Beale, William EDUC:EX <William.Beale@gov.bc.ca>; Lindsay-Baugh, Anna EDUC:EX

<Anna.LindsayBaugh@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Banh, Lindsay MCF:EX <Lindsay.Banh@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: EDUC Briefings for Minister Chen

Hi friends,

Thanks for all your support that past few days!

Minister Chen is keen to learn more about EDUC and would love to get some EDUC 101 briefings set up to help inform future decisions together.

We thought to start with an overview of the legislative authority of education (overview of authorities/governance between school boards/Ministry under the school act) and how that influences stakeholder/partner issues.

Then future briefings could include more specifics about early learning within the school system such seamless day pilots, etc.

I expect MJW's schedule would preclude her from joining but of course leave that to you folks to decide.

Thanks, Sarena

#### Sarena Talbot (she/her)

Senior Ministerial Advisor

The Hon. Katrina Chen

Minister of State for Child Care

## **Seamless Day**

From MacDonald, Scott D EDUC:EX < D.Scott.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>

To: Whiteside, Jennifer EDUC:EX <Jennifer.Whiteside@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Beale, William EDUC:EX <William.Beale@gov.bc.ca>, Lindsay-Baugh, Anna

EDUC:EX <Anna.LindsayBaugh@gov.bc.ca>, Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX

<Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: March 3, 2021 6:40:35 AM PST

#### **SEAMLESS DAY:**

• Currently are currently 5 school districts in various stages for Seamless Day.

- The plan for next budget is to support these districts for a total three year commitment and depending on funding would expand to additional interested school districts.
- No formal commitments made to districts until funding is known. We have a lot of interest from districts based on an environmental scan of readiness for school age childcare done in 2020. We have numerous districts interested to offer seamless day.

#### **FUNDED THROUGH EDUCATION:**

- Fully Operational
  - School District 53 Okanagan Similkameen in the second year of a three year provincial commitment
- Districts currently in Licensing Phase, expected opening Spring 2021:
  - School District 45 West Vancouver
  - School District 46 Sunshine Coast
  - School District 69 Parksville Qualicum

#### FUNDED THROUGH MCFD new spaces Fund:

• School District 8 - Kootney Lake

# Childcare move to EDUC

From: McKenzie, Scott GCPE:EX <Scott.1.McKenzie@gov.bc.ca>

To: Beale, William EDUC:EX <William.Beale@gov.bc.ca>, Lindsay-Baugh, Anna

EDUC:EX <Anna.LindsayBaugh@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Filion, Corinna GCPE:EX <Corinna.Filion@gov.bc.ca>, Burton, Meribeth

GCPE:EX <Meribeth.Burton@gov.bc.ca>, Pelech, Keefer EDUC:EX

<Keefer.Pelech@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: March 31, 2021 9:00:31 AM PDT

Attachments: QA\_CC\_move\_to\_EDUC\_30Mar21.docx

Hello again, sharing this QA from MCFD on the move of the child care file to Education, which includes feedback from our program staff.

This will be used by Minister Chen when she's meeting with people concerned about the move and will be the basis for correspondence about this issue.

Let me know if you have any questions or changes you'd like to see.

Thanks,

Scott

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS CHILD CARE MOVING TO MINISTRY OF EDUCATION Ministry of Children and Family Development

March 2021

# **General Key Messages:**

- Access to early years programming helps kids build a strong foundation for learning that helps set them on the path to success.
- Moving the responsibility of child care to the Ministry of Education by 2023 is an exciting and long-anticipated change.
- It means the legislative authority for child care will move to the Minister of Education, and the Minister of State for Child Care and public service staff working on child care programs will move to the Ministry of Education.
- This is an important step towards integrating child care into the broader learning environment so kids can more easily transition from their early learning and care programs into the K-12 school system.
- However, it is just one part of building an affordable, quality and inclusive child care system that families can depend on.
- We've learned a lot in the first three-and-a-half years of our Childcare BC plan about how child care is delivered in B.C., and where the gaps and challenges are.
- The next step in our Childcare BC plan is to determine the best system for universal and inclusive child care in B.C.
- We are still very early in this process more information on consultations will be shared as plans are developed.

#### **Sector Partner Key Messages:**

- We want to reassure existing child care providers that they will remain a critical part of our child care system.
- We know that there is anxiety in the sector and that transitions can be hard.
- We will share more information as details are developed.
- We thank all providers for their patience and are committed to working together towards our common goal of providing affordable, quality and inclusive child care for B.C. families.

#### **Questions & Answers:**

#### Q1. When will child care transfer to the Ministry of Education?

- In my mandate letter, Premier Horgan tasked me with working with the ministers of education and children and family development to develop a strategy to transition the responsibility of child care to the Ministry of Education by 2023.
- I anticipate meeting the timeline in my mandate letter.

#### Q2. Why are you making this move?

- For too long, the child care system has been fragmented and disjointed, with little coordination or government support.
- Since we formed government in 2017, we've been pulling together the pieces to build a universal and inclusive child care system that will better serve families in B.C.
- Moving child care to the Ministry of Education is an important step towards integrating child care into the broader learning environment so kids can more easily transition from their early care programs into the K-12 school system.
- The move means the Minister of Education will have legislative authority for child care and the Minister of State for Child Care, and public service staff working on child care programs will move to the Ministry of Education.
- I want to assure existing child care providers that they will remain a critical part of our child care system.
- Our province will join eight out of 13 provinces/territories in Canada by moving provincial responsibility for child care to the Ministry of Education.

#### Q3. What does this move mean for child care providers? What does it mean for parents?

- By moving responsibility for child care to the Ministry of Education, we will be able to better align early learning and child care with the K-12 education system.
- We want to reassure existing child care providers that they will continue to be an important part of the universal and inclusive child care system we are building together.
- We will also work closely with school districts to create more before- and after-school child care on school
  grounds, which will help make life easier for parents as they will know their children are being cared for at
  one place throughout the day.
- Over time, parents will benefit from more consistent, quality, affordable and inclusive child care across the province.
- These are early days and there's plenty of work ahead.
- We will share more information as plans are developed.

#### Q4. Will responsibility for the licensing of child care facilities move to the Ministry of Education as well?

- Rules and guidelines for licensed child care facilities are found in the Community Care and Assisted Living
  Act, the Child Care Licensing Regulation, and the standards of practice.
- Regional health authorities are legislated to monitor licensed child care facilities and report to the Ministry
  of Health.
- Child care licensing follows the same structure and governance used for other community licensing programs in B.C.
- At this time, we're focussed on transitioning legislative authority, the Minister of State for Child Care and public service staff working on child care programs to the Ministry of Education.

#### Q5. How will family and license-not-required child care centres be impacted by the move?

- Family and licence-not-required child care centres are a critical part of our communities especially in rural areas.
- Childcare BC is our 10-year plan to deliver universal and inclusive child care by working with all partners to
  provide a range of flexible early learning and child care programs to meet the unique needs of families in
  B.C.
- In-home child care is a great option for thousands of families, and we're committed to continuing to support our licensed family child care partners.
- We do not anticipate any immediate changes to government's relationships with family and child care centres when responsibility for child care moves to the Ministry of Education.
- Registered licence-not-required child care centres will continue to be supported by their local Child Care Resource and Referral Centre.

#### Q6. How will for-profit child care providers be impacted by the move?

- Partnerships are critical to building a universal and inclusive child care system that meets the needs of B.C. families and communities.
- That's why we're working with a variety of partners, including public-sector, for-profit and non-profit organizations, employers, municipalities, Indigenous governments, school districts and others to create the child care spaces families need.
- Our partners can rest assured that they will continue to play an important role in developing the universal and inclusive child care system B.C. families have been waiting for.

# Q7. Some of our partners from Indigenous communities are apprehensive about the move. What are you doing to ensure their concerns are addressed in the transition plan?

- We are committed to creating opportunities for Indigenous peoples to be full partners in our work and building a clear and sustainable path towards lasting reconciliation that aligns with the *Declaration on the* Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act
- Working alongside Indigenous peoples every step of the way is critical to a smooth transition.
- We will be looking for their guidance on how to best move forward.

# Q8. What will the move mean for early childhood educators? Many have been advocating for higher pay similar to what teachers are getting. Will that be addressed?

- Part of building a universal child care system is making sure that early childhood educators (ECEs) receive the training, support, compensation and professional recognition they deserve.
- We're taking action to support ECEs, starting with our *Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy*, which includes bursaries, training and wage enhancements for those who work in the sector.
- The move to the Ministry of Education will help to support the alignment of education professions in early care and learning.
- There's more to do, but we're making progress to support those at the heart of quality child care B.C.'s early childhood educators.

#### Q9. How will this move impact children with support needs?

- Our goal is to build a universal and inclusive child care system that will support B.C. families for generations.
- Ensuring that child care providers have the tools, training and support they need to provide inclusive child care is critical to supporting B.C. families.
- By moving responsibility for child care to the Ministry of Education we expect that, over time, children
  with support needs will benefit from better and more connected supports in both the early learning and
  child care and education systems and a smoother transition from early learning to the K-12 system.

# Q10. Does the move to the Ministry of Education mean everyone working in child care will have to become a certified Early Childhood Educator?

- These are early days and there's plenty of work ahead to determine how best to deliver quality child care in a universal system.
- Child care staff are the workforce behind the workforce enabling many parents to go back to work or school and contribute to the economy, while knowing their child is being well cared for.
- We know the child care sector has struggled with low wages and high staff turnover for years.
- We are investing in training opportunities and wage enhancements for early childhood educators to ensure quality and provide stability to the sector.
- There are many amazing early learning and care professionals who have also learned on the job.
- That's one of the reasons we launched the BC Early Years Professional Development Hub, which gives
  early care and learning professionals a chance to virtually discuss the latest trends and techniques in child
  care and take courses online.
- We need all hands on deck to build the universal and inclusive child care system that B.C. families need and deserve.

#### Q11. Will the role of child care providers change under the Ministry of Education?

- Partnerships are critical to building a universal and inclusive child care system.
- Our relationships with our partners will continue when responsibility for child care moves to the Ministry of Education.
- The move means the Minister of Education will have legislative authority for child care and the Minister of State for Child Care and public service staff working on child care programs will move to the Ministry of Education.
- This will improve alignment with our partners as we build the universal and inclusive child care system B.C. families need and deserve.
- These are early days and there is plenty of work ahead.
- More information on consultations will be shared as plans are developed.
- The first three years of our 10-year Childcare BC plan have proven that we can accomplish more when we work together and that's exactly what we'll continue to do.

# Q12. Many child care providers are concerned they won't be able to compete with the cost of child care that will be able to be provided on school grounds. Won't this move put other types of child care out of business?

- Our community partners including non-profit, for-profit and other types of child care providers play a
  critical role in bringing forward child care solutions that meet the unique needs of families in every part of
  our province.
- We currently have affordability initiatives and operating funding support that is open to all licensed child care providers.
- As we develop a comprehensive affordable, inclusive universal child care system, we will continue to work with our partners to support all types of child care.
- Childcare BC is an ambitious plan and we're committed to working with all our partners to deliver a universal and inclusive child care system that will support families for generations to come.

#### Q13. Will school districts run their own child care centres on school grounds?

- We made changes made to the *School Act* to make it even easier for school boards to create and operate before- and after-school care.
- Some school districts are working with non-profit partners to operate licensed child care on school grounds.
- Other school districts like Sunshine Coast (SD 46) and Okanagan-Similkameen (SD 53) have directly hired early care and learning professionals to provide child care at schools.
- By continuing to partner with school districts, local governments, Indigenous communities, as well as forprofit and non-profit child care providers, we're putting our province on the path to universal child care.

#### Q14. Does this move mean you will be supporting more Seamless Day sites over other before- and afterschool care options?

- The Seamless Day pilot project is one of the service delivery options being trialed in a few school districts across the province.
- We are also interested in exploring other service delivery models in partnership with school districts to help more families access affordable, quality and inclusive child care.
- Reducing the number of transitions between child care and school has positive academic, behavioral and social outcomes for children.
- More information will be shared as plans are developed.

Q15. Does this move mean there will be less funding for other partners like non-profits, municipalities, and local governments to work with the Province on child care opportunities in their communities?

- We've invested a historic \$2 billion over three years in child care programs that are helping to lower parent fees, support early childhood educators and accelerate the creation of spaces.
- The most recent funding intake for the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund closed in November 2020 and the next round of recipients will be announced in the coming months.
- Planning is underway for the next phase of our Childcare BC plan as we continue working with all partners to bring affordable, quality child care to more families.
- The pandemic continues to highlight the fact that investments in child care are vital to families, to communities and to our economy.
- Budget 2021 will continue to support people, businesses and communities through the COVID-19 pandemic and prepare B.C. for a strong economic future.

### RE: RESPONSE TO REQUEST: Info request to prep for meeting with Teri Mooring

From Lindsay-Baugh, Anna EDUC:EX <Anna.LindsayBaugh@gov.bc.ca>

To: Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>, Sanderson, Melanie PSSG:EX

<Melanie.Sanderson@gov.bc.ca>, Sanderson, Melanie EDUC:EX

<Melanie.Sanderson@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Pelech, Keefer EDUC:EX <Keefer.Pelech@gov.bc.ca>, MacDonald, Scott D

EDUC:EX < D.Scott.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: April 28, 2021 1:12:45 PM PDT

Thanks very much for this! I very much appreciate the information and will share with MJW.

In terms of Abbotsford, while recognizing it is a local issue, the Minister needs more information than what is provided below, at least for her internal information.

Thank you very much!

Sincerely, Anna

From: Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: April 28, 2021 10:22 AM

To: Lindsay-Baugh, Anna EDUC:EX <Anna.LindsayBaugh@gov.bc.ca>; Sanderson, Melanie PSSG:EX

<Melanie.Sanderson@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Pelech, Keefer EDUC:EX <Keefer.Pelech@gov.bc.ca>; MacDonald, Scott D EDUC:EX

<D.Scott.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RESPONSE TO REQUEST: Info request to prep for meeting with Teri Mooring

Importance: High

Hi, Anna – as per your request, please see the responses provided for each of the items listed below. Let me know if there are any questions – thanks.

From: Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX < Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca >

Sent: April 27, 2021 8:19 AM

**To:** Godin, Keith EDUC:EX < <a href="mailto:Keith.Godin@gov.bc.ca">Keith.Godin@gov.bc.ca</a>; Stewart, Melanie EDUC:EX < <a href="mailto:Melanie.J.Stewart@gov.bc.ca">Melanie.J.Stewart@gov.bc.ca</a>; McCrea, Jennifer EDUC:EX < <a href="mailto:Liddy@gov.bc.ca">Liddy@gov.bc.ca</a>; Liddy, Eleanor EDUC:EX < <a href="mailto:Liddy@gov.bc.ca">Eleanor.Liddy@gov.bc.ca</a>;

Nicholls, Cloe EDUC:EX < Cloe.Nicholls@gov.bc.ca >; Bawa, Reg R EDUC:EX < Reg.Bawa@gov.bc.ca >

Cc: MacDonald, Scott D EDUC:EX < D.Scott.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca >; Leslie, Sean GCPE:EX < Sean.Leslie@gov.bc.ca >

Subject: FOR DISCUSSION: Info request to prep for meeting with Teri Mooring

Importance: High

FYI – for discussion at Exec this morning...thanks.

From: Lindsay-Baugh, Anna EDUC:EX < Anna.LindsayBaugh@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: April 26, 2021 6:20 PM

To: Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX < <a href="mailto:Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca">Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca</a>

Cc: Pelech, Keefer EDUC:EX < Keefer.Pelech@gov.bc.ca >; Sanderson, Melanie PSSG:EX

< Melanie. Sanderson@gov.bc.ca >

Subject: Info request to prep for meeting with Teri Mooring

Importance: High Hi Sheila,

Hope your day is going well!

Minister is going to be speaking with Teri Mooring this week and she called me earlier today and raised the following items that MJW will need some info on before calling her:

s.13

Page 197 of 209

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

Thank you for your help! Sincerely, Anna

--

Anna Lindsay-Baugh (she/her) Ministerial Advisor to Hon. Jennifer Whiteside Minister of Education

e: anna.lindsaybaugh@gov.bc.ca|p: 778-677-4091

# **Seamless Day Kindergarten**

From: Teri@bctf.ca <teri@bctf.ca>

To: educ.minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, EDUC EDUC:EX

<EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: DM.Education@gov.bc.ca, EDUC DM EDUC:EX <DM.Education@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: June 2, 2021 3:19:00 PM PDT

Attachments: image003.png, 2021-05-31 Letter to Minister Whiteside re Seamless Day

Childcare.pdf

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Please see the attached letter.

TM/mgs:tfeu

\_\_\_\_\_

Teri Mooring President British Columbia Teachers' Federation 100-550 West 6th Avenue Vancouver, BC V5Z 4P2

Phone: 1-800-663-9163, 604-871-2159

Fax: 604-871-2290 Email: teri@bctf.ca



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

June 2, 2021

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

#### Dear Minister Whiteside:

I am writing to you to express the Federation's concerns regarding the Seamless Day Kindergarten program currently being trialed by the Ministry of Education and the planned expansion of this trial project to 20 more school districts next year.

The Federation supports the provision of affordable childcare, but it is vital that any integration of childcare into the K-12 system be fully funded and done with full consultation of all stakeholders. It's unfortunate that this consultation didn't occur at the beginning of the first trial location launched in Fall 2019. Instead, the Federation only received its first official briefing on the topic in May 2021.

The Federation requests that BCTF members be involved as part of any Ministry consultation, planning, or other process related to the implementation of Seamless Day Kindergarten in BC. This includes ongoing consultation with the BCTF and our locals in those school districts that are part of the program.

We are aware that some school districts have been consulting with local unions from the beginning of the pilot projects, but without clear Ministry expectations this is not, and will not be the case in all school districts.

In all cases, teacher participation in the Seamless Day Kindergarten program should be voluntary and there should be plans in place if a change in staffing results in a teacher not having volunteered to be part of the Seamless Day Kindergarten program.

We also recommend that consideration be given to the teacher's workspace and resources. Elementary school classrooms are used by classroom teachers beyond the bookends of the school day in order to adequately prepare and plan for student learning experiences. When the teacher's classroom space is being used for Seamless Day Kindergarten, it limits their ability to do preparation within the space. The majority of the essential resources within those classrooms have been funded by, and are the property of, the individual teachers. It is essential that any plan take these logistical concerns into account.

Honourable Jennifer Whiteside June 2, 2021

The BCTF is very much in favour of the seamless childcare program and is on the record as supporting the expansion of much needed childcare spaces in the province. With proper communication and consultation, we are confident these types of initiatives will be highly successful.

Sincerely,

Teri Mooring President

pc: Scott MacDonald, Deputy Minister of Education

TM:mgs/tfeu

# Letter from Minister Jennifer Whiteside (Ref 247885)

From: Minister, EDUC EDUC:EX <EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

To: teri@bctf.ca

Cc: Minister, MCF MCF:EX <MCF.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, MacDonald, Scott D

EDUC:EX <D.Scott.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>, CC Minister MCF:EX

<CC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: July 14, 2021 2:17:45 PM PDT Attachments: 247885 Mooring Outgoing.pdf

Please find attached a letter from the Minister of Education.



July 14, 2021

Ref: 247885

Teri Mooring, President British Columbia Teacher's Federation Email: teri@bctf.ca

Dear Ms. Mooring:

Thank you for your letter of June 2, 2021, regarding the Seamless Day Kindergarten pilot. As the Ministry of Education continues to support the expansion of child care on school grounds as a key mandate commitment, I appreciate hearing from you on this topic.

The Ministry of Education first introduced a Seamless Day Kindergarten pilot as proof of a concept that expanded school-age child care spaces on school grounds by using an existing classroom. The Seamless Day model combines the expertise of certified Early Childhood Educators, who provide quality early childhood experiences before and after school, with a classroom teacher to support continuity of learning for children during the school day.

As announced in Budget 2021, the pilot will be expanded from four to twenty-four school districts beginning fall 2021. The purpose of the expansion is to support more families in accessing child care on school grounds and to provide a seamless experience for children as they transition from before school care into Kindergarten classroom learning environments.

To support the expansion of the Seamless Day Kindergarten pilot, ministry staff have been in contact with key education partners, like the British Columbia Teacher's Federation (BCTF), as well as with school districts. In June 2020, several districts expressed an interest in the pilot. This spring, ministry staff were in contact with those districts to ascertain their current interest in participating in the expansion of the pilot. Interested districts are expected to contact their local union presidents, including the BCTF, to ensure support for participation in the pilot. In addition, key criteria for districts includes ensuring that teacher interest and willing support for participation in the pilot has been clearly identified. Please be assured that Kindergarten teacher participation is completely voluntary and essential to the success of the pilot.

As the Ministry works on finalizing school district selections for the pilot expansion, we will ensure that any district participating has a policy in place that will account for teacher staffing shifts that could happen throughout the school year. I appreciate you highlighting this concern.

.../2

Later this summer, in conjunction with MCFD the Ministry will be starting a broad engagement process on early care and learning to support the transition of child care to the Ministry of Education by 2023. We know collaboration with our education partners is imperative to our success. We look forward to working together with the BCTF, along with the education and child care sectors, to build the first new social program in a generation that will benefit British Columbia's children and families. It is encouraging to know that the BCTF supports seamless child care and favours the path to an affordable, accessible, quality, and inclusive early care and learning system.

I look forward to continuing conversations with the BCTF in the months ahead.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Whiteside

Minister

pc: Honourable Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Child Care

Honourable Mitzi Dean, Minister of Children and Family Development

D. Scott McDonald, Deputy Minister of Education

### FW: MJW-DBN | Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot

From: Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX <Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca>
To: Beale, William EDUC:EX <William.Beale@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Lindsay-Baugh, Anna EDUC:EX <Anna.LindsayBaugh@gov.bc.ca>, Purdy,

Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>, Carling, Emma EDUC:EX

<Emma.Carling@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: July 16, 2021 4:43:46 PM PDT

Attachments: 248280 DBN-MJW\_Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot (FINAL July 16

2021).pdf

Hi – resending as requested by Jenn. Thanks and have a good weekend.

Best, ~Julie

From: Carling, Emma EDUC:EX < Emma. Carling@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: July 16, 2021 9:47 AM

To: EDUC DL Minister's Office <EDUCMINO@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>; Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX <Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: MJW-DBN | Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot

#### Good morning

Attached is a Briefing Note Seeking approval to expend child care contingency funds in FY 2021/22 through expansion of Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilot projects. Staff are requesting a decision by <u>August 6</u> so that contracts can be issued.

Please let me know if Minister would prefer to arrange for a briefing on this subject.

#### Thank you

#### Emma Carling | a/ Senior Executive Assistant

Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Education Ph: 236-478-3347 E: <a href="mailto:emma.carling@gov.bc.ca">emma.carling@gov.bc.ca</a>

# Short List Pilot Sites - by electoral district.docx

From: Beale, William EDUC:EX <William.Beale@gov.bc.ca>

To: Whiteside, Jennifer EDUC:EX <Jennifer.Whiteside@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Pelech, Keefer EDUC:EX <Keefer.Pelech@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: July 21, 2021 4:05:29 PM PDT

Attachments: Short List Pilot Sites - by electoral district.docx

Hi Minister, Jen looking for a decision on this so they can get postings up to do some hiring.

Attached are the districts that are ready now. If we have major concern Jen offered to connect with other districts to see if we could speed them up.

	Elementary School Name	Electoral district	MLA				
Metro school districts							
SD 39 – Vancouver	s.17	Vancouver-Mt. Pleasant	Hon. Melanie Mark (NDP)				
SD 40 – New Westminster	Qayqayt Elementary	New Westminster	Hon. Jennifer Whiteside (NDP)				
SD 48 – Sea to Sky	s.17	West Vancouver- Sea to Sky	Jordan Sturdy (LIB)				
SD 93 – Conseil scolaire francophone (CSF)	A school in Kelowna	TBD	TBD				
Fraser Valley school distr	icts						
SD 35 – Langley	Nicomekl Elementary	Langley	Andrew Mercier (NDP)				
SD 33 – Chilliwack	Central Community	Chilliwack	Dan Coulter (NDP)				
Vancouver Island school districts							
SD 62 – Sooke	Millstream Elementary	Langford-Juan de Fuca	Hon. John Horgan (NDP)				
SD 64 – Gulf Islands*	Fulford Elementary	Saanich North and the Islands	Adam Olsen (Green)				
SD 68 – Nanaimo- Ladysmith	Errington Elementary	Mid-Island Pacific Rim	Hon. Josie Osborne (NDP)				
<b>Kootenay Boundary schoo</b>	districts						
SD 08 – Kootenay Lakes*	Winlaw Elementary	Nelson-Creston	Brittny Anderson (NDP)				
SD 10 – Arrow Lakes*	Burton Elementary	Kootenay West	Hon. Katrine Conroy (NDP)				
SD 50 – Haida Gwaii*	Sk'aadgaa Naay Elementary	North Coast	Jennifer Rice (NDP)				
SD 91 – Nechako Lakes*	Mouse Mountain Elem.	Nechako Lakes	John Rustad (LIB)				
SD 60 – Peace River North*	Taylor Elementary	Peace River North	Dan Davies (LIB)				
Thompson-Okanagan scho	ol districts						
SD 22 – Vernon	Okanagan Landing Elementary	Vernon-Monashee	Harwinder Sandhu (NDP)				
SD 23 – Central Okanagan	Bankhead Elementary	Kelowna lake country	Norm Letnick (LIB)				
SD 73 – Kamloops Thompson	Arthur Hatton Elementary	Kamloops-north Thompson	Peter Milobar (LIB)				
SD 74 – Gold Trail*	Cayoosh Elementary	Fraser-Nicola	Jackie Tegart (LIB)				
SD 83 – North Okanagan Shuswap	ТВС	Shuswap	Greg Kyllo (LIB)				
Independent school:							
Society of Christian Schools BC (2 schools)	Abbotsford Christian School	Abbotsford- Mission	Pam Alexis (NDP)				
•	AND		Hon. Sheila Malcolmson				

# Seamless Day – Kindergarten Pilot Sites

Nanaimo Christian	Nanaimo	(NDP)
School		

<sup>\*</sup>Denotes rural/remote

Schools districts continuing as Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilots into FY 2021/22.

Current Pilot Sites	School Name	Open Date	Electoral District	MLA
SD 53 – Okanagan- Similkameen	Oliver Elementary	Sep 2019	Boundary- Similkameen	Roly Russell (NDP)
SD 45 – Sunshine Coast	West Sechelt Elementary	Mar 2021	Powell-River Sunshine Coast	Hon. Nicholas Simons (NDP)
SD 46 – West Vancouver	Hollyburn Elementary	Apr 2021	West Vancouver- Capilano	Karin Kirkpatrick (LIB)
SD 69 – Qualicum	s.17	Sep 2021	Nanaimo	Hon. Sheila Malcolmson (NDP)a

# RE: 9730 - Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilots

From: Carling, Emma EDUC:EX <Emma.Carling@gov.bc.ca>
To: Gajdics, Peter EDUC:EX <Peter.Gajdics@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX <Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: July 22, 2021 8:49:38 AM PDT

**Morning Peter** 

Yes, this was sent to MO; however, we have not received approval yet. I have a due date of August 6<sup>th</sup> noted.

**Thanks** 

#### Emma Carling | a/ Senior Executive Assistant

Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Education Ph: 236-478-3347 E: <a href="mailto:emma.carling@gov.bc.ca">emma.carling@gov.bc.ca</a>

From: Gajdics, Peter EDUC:EX <Peter.Gajdics@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: July 22, 2021 8:38 AM

To: Carling, Emma EDUC:EX <Emma.Carling@gov.bc.ca> Cc: Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX <Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca> Subject: 9730 - Seamless Day Kindergarten Pilots

Hi, I see this one still sitting with you. Can you please advise if this was sent to MO for MJW review/approval? I don't think there was a briefing, but we needed MJW sign off. Thanks.

Peter Gajdics

Executive Administrative Assistant
Assistant Deputy Minister's Office
Learning Division
Ministry of Education
T: 604 775-4043

This e-mail message may contain privileged or confidential information. You may not disclose, use, distribute, or copy this message or attachment in any way without permission from the sender. If you received this e-mail message in error, please delete.