

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
INFORMATION BRIEFING NOTE

**DATE:** March 9, 2022  
**CLIFF:** 253956

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

**SUBJECT:** Former Quesnel Junior School Site

**PURPOSE:** Update on the status of the former Quesnel Junior School (QJS) Crown Land site and impacts of ongoing treaty negotiations.

**BACKGROUND:**

- Quesnel Junior Secondary school (QJS) was closed by the Quesnel School District (the District) at the end of the 2017/18 school year due to student safety concerns.
  - The Ministry of Education (Ministry) provided the District with funding to renovate Maple Drive Junior School, with students moving into the facility for the start of the school year September 2018.
  - In July 2019, the Government of British Columbia announced that it will provide up to \$52.2 million to replace QJS with a new facility at the site of the current Maple Drive Junior school.
  - The new QJS school will be open for the 2022/23 school year with the demolition of Maple Drive Junior School anticipated to occur over the summer of 2022.
  - The former QJS site is a board-owned property that is subject to a Crown Grant issued to the Board under the authority of the School Act with a trust condition that requires the property be used for educational purposes.
  - Demolition of the former QJS building has been completed as part of the replacement school project.
  - A childcare program continues to provide services within the District-owned childcare facility located on the northwest portion of the former QJS site. The District has recently invested significant funding to upgrade systems within the childcare centre to ensure it is operational and safe for the intended user group.
  - The District has maintained that they intend to continue operating the childcare program on the former QJS site to ensure continuity of learning and support to the young learners attending the District-owned childcare.
  - s.13; s.16; s.17
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- In April 2021, a slope northwest of Carson Elementary (Carson) failed.
  - The District proceeded to engage the services of a geotechnical engineering consultant, which concluded that the existing site of Carson does not meet current BC Building Code guidelines for safety against sliding.

- A short-term plan has been put in place to keep students safe. The plan includes:
  - Monitoring of the site by a geotechnical engineer at regular intervals and the installation of ground monitoring equipment.
  - Installation of four portables onsite to replace the four classrooms that will be closed to ensure the safety of students and staff. This will be completed in March 2022.
  - Acquiring movable playground equipment, as all current equipment has been impacted by the slide. This equipment will be relocated to a future school site.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

s.13; s.16; s.17

#### **CONCLUSION:**

s.13; s.16; s.17

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s.13; s.16; s.17

**Program ADM/Branch:** Chris Brown, Resource Management Division

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**Drafter:** Travis Tormala, Regional Director, Capital Management Branch

**Date:** February 21, 2022

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE (ECC)  
**INFORMATION BRIEFING NOTE**

**DATE:** April 25, 2022  
**CLIFF:** 280580

**PREPARED FOR:** Christina Zacharuk, Deputy Minister – **FOR INFORMATION**

**SUBJECT:** Proposed amendments to the *Ombudsperson Act*

**PURPOSE:** s.12; s.13; s.14

**BACKGROUND:**

s.12; s.13; s.14

s.12; s.13; s.14

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s.12; s.13; s.14

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12 ; s.13 ; s.14