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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
2017PREM0132-002024  
Dec. 7, 2017

Office of the Premier  
Ministry of Education

### **Premier announces new school and more classrooms for Surrey students**

SURREY – Nearly 1,000 students in Surrey’s Grandview Heights area will enjoy brand-new classrooms in the near future, Premier John Horgan announced today.

The Province will fund a new, \$24-million elementary school in Grandview Heights, along with a 300-seat, \$9-million addition at Pacific Heights Elementary school.

“Kids deserve a positive, healthy learning environment so they can have the opportunity to thrive in their education and succeed in life,” Premier Horgan said. “We’re investing in our kids and working hard to build the schools and additional spaces that are desperately needed in growing communities around the province.”

Construction is expected to begin at Pacific Heights in May 2018, and the new classrooms will be ready for students in September 2019. The new Grandview Heights elementary school is scheduled to open in the 2020-21 school year.

“My top priority is to focus on improving student outcomes in British Columbia, and learning environments are key to that,” said Minister of Education Rob Fleming. “Getting kids out of portables remains my mission, and these new student spaces are doing just that.”

This investment benefits families by giving children a chance to learn in a healthy, modern setting.

Enrolment forecasts for the Grandview Heights-area schools show a shortfall of more than 2,200 elementary seats in the next 10 years. Government is committed to getting students out of portables and into classrooms as quickly as possible.

“When our Premier committed to eliminate all portables in Surrey within four years, we were excited to see how that might unfold,” said Surrey Board of Education chair Shawn Wilson. “Our board is thrilled to see our number 1 capital project – a new Grandview-South Surrey area elementary school – become a reality.

“I thank Pacific Heights Elementary students, staff and parents for their patience and expect they will be excited and relieved to know additional classrooms are coming and that the district can get on with construction. We are hopeful that this is only the first step in a detailed and aggressive capital plan from the ministry.”

The new Grandview Heights elementary school, and the addition to Pacific Heights, will help to ease current and future enrolment pressures on nearby elementary schools, including Sunnyside, Rosemary Heights and Morgan.

To further reduce the use of portables in Surrey, the Province and the Surrey School District have established a project office to manage the city's large volume of capital projects.

**Quick Facts:**

- The new Grandview Heights elementary school will be built at 16650 - 23rd Ave. with a capacity for 655 students.
- The addition to Pacific Heights Elementary school will add 12 classrooms to that school.
- Both projects will be fully funded by the Government of British Columbia.
- These projects are in addition to the thousands of new seats currently being created for students in Surrey schools.
  - Work continues on the new 1,500-seat Salish Secondary, a new 1,500-seat Grandview Heights secondary, one new 605-seat Clayton-area elementary and one new 655-seat Clayton-area elementary.
  - Additions to Sullivan Heights, Panorama Park and Woodward Hill elementary schools also have been announced and will create up to a combined 600 new student seats.

**Contacts:**

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250 818-4881

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Surrey School District  
604 595-6189

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# MEDIA ADVISORY

Dec. 6, 2017

Office of the Premier

## **MEDIA ADVISORY – Office of the Premier – Surrey; teleconference**

SURREY – Media are invited to join Premier John Horgan and Minister of Education Rob Fleming for an announcement that will make life better for students in Surrey.

Event Date: Thursday, Dec. 7, 2017

Time: 11 a.m.

Location:

Pacific Heights Elementary school

Library

17148 - 26th Ave.

Surrey

Dial-in:

Vancouver: s.15,s.17

From Canada and USA: s.15,s.17

Participant Pass Code: s.15,s.17

### **Contacts:**

Jen Holmwood

Deputy Communications Director

Office of the Premier

250 818-4881

Ministry of Education

Government Communications and Public

Engagement

250 356-5963

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**Questions & Answers**  
**Additional student spaces in Surrey**  
December 7, 2017

**Q: Why can't you fund all of the capital projects needed in Surrey right now?**

- We have an ambitious capital plan that will make life better for British Columbians.
- We're going to build schools, hospitals, transit and transportation infrastructure in communities and create jobs in every corner of our province with \$14.6 billion in capital spending over three years.
- We are working to make sure students can learn in safe, healthy environments. The most urgent thing is to set a course for what expeditious, accelerated school construction looks like in Surrey.
- We also want to see the number of portables reduced as quickly as possible across the province, and this is a great step toward that goal.
- We have established a Project Office to manage the large volume of capital projects in Surrey to accommodate enrolment growth.
- We will work collaboratively with the City of Surrey and the school district to find solutions to speed up new school construction.

**Q: Are you still forcing the school district to pay 50% of new school construction costs?**

- The projects we are announcing today are fully funded by the Province.
- As one of B.C.'s fastest growing districts, we know it's critical that we find ways to speed up approvals and accelerate construction for Surrey schools.
- For future new schools, the Surrey School District will be required to fund 20% of the project costs – this is a big win for students and families.
- We continue to work with the school district and the City of Surrey to identify actions each of us can take to accelerate projects and get students out of portables.
- I'm proud of the relationship we've built with the City of Surrey and the Surrey School District, and I look forward to seeing it grow.

**Q: Why are you confining new school investment to Grandview Heights? What about the rest of Surrey?**

- I recognize that there are many more projects in fast-growing communities in B.C. that we need to take care of. These are just the first steps.
- This area is growing at an extremely rapid pace, and we needed to take action to make sure we can make life better for students and their families.
- By creating these extra spaces, it eases enrolment pressures at other schools including Sunnyside, Rosemary Heights, Morgan and East Kensington elementary schools.
- We are also working on the new Salish Secondary and Grandview Heights secondary school, as well as two new Clayton area elementary schools and additions to Sullivan Heights, Panorama Park and Woodward Hill elementary schools.
- This is about more than investment dollars – we are working the school district and the City of Surrey to find ways to accelerate capital projects.
- We have committed to eliminate the use of portables in Surrey schools in four years, and we are working diligently toward that goal.

**Q: Will the ministry fund the district's capital plan of 22 projects, building new schools or expanding existing schools?**

- We are working with the Surrey School District, and reviewing their capital plan, to create more spaces for students.
- We're open to changing policies that will allow us to spend and invest more quickly in getting new schools built, while at the same time ensuring that taxpayers are getting value for their investments.
- Right now, our focus is to get a lot more schools built more quickly.
- We're looking at how to do things differently than what has been done the past five to 10 years with reasonable policies that make sense not just for Surrey but for all of the growing school districts in the province.

**Q: When will you fund the rest of the seismic upgrades that are needed in Surrey?**

- The safety of students, teachers and support staff is our top priority.

- We have a goal to ensure every family in B.C. can send their children to seismically safe schools.
- We inherited a backlog of seismic projects that need to be expedited, and we are getting to work on that in Surrey and across the province.
- In Surrey, 75% of high-risk schools have had their upgrades completed.
- We are working with the Surrey School District to find ways to accelerate funding approvals and get to work on seismic upgrades.

**Q: Will Government create a policy that states non-temporary portables will be funded through means other than the operating budget?**

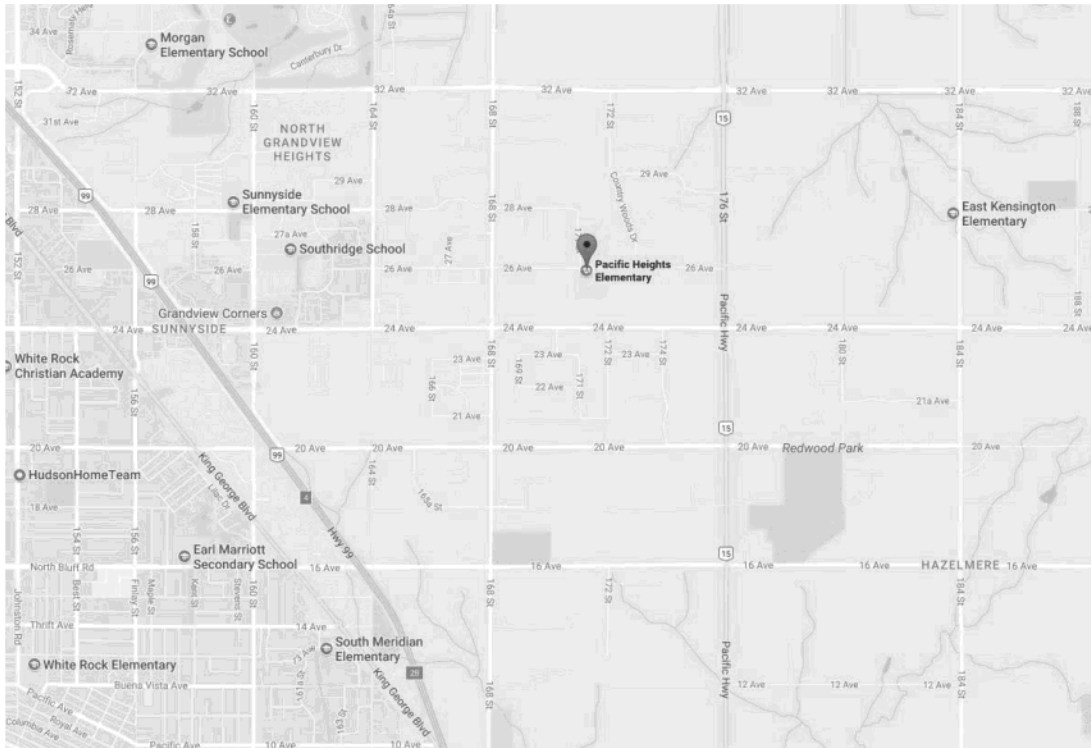
- We are looking at all of our options and working with the District to find ways to eliminate the use of portables in a way that best benefits students.

**Q: There are hundreds of education assistant (EA) jobs left unfilled in Surrey. What will government do to make sure students are getting the support they need?**

- School districts are very near the end of hiring over 3,500 full-time teachers, the largest hiring campaign of teachers in B.C.'s history.
- Filling specialist positions has historically been a challenge, not only in B.C. but in other provinces as well.
- We are also aware that the recent hiring has created pressures on Teachers Teaching on Call lists in some districts and districts are working to replenish those lists.
- That's why we appointed a task force of experts from the education sector to assess the current workforce challenges and bring back recommendations within the next six weeks on immediate actions we can take.
- We continue to monitor the situation and Make a Future, the recruitment support division of the BC Public School Employers' Association, continues to work with school districts to assist with their immediate recruitment requirements as well as the sector's long term workforce planning needs.

## Event Information / MC Notes / Minister Rob Fleming

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**Event:** Creating new student seats in Grandview Heights

**When:** Dec. 7 at 11:00 a.m. (pre-brief at 10:45 a.m.)

**Where:** Pacific Heights Elementary School (Library)

17148 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Surrey

**Length:** 30 minutes

**Speech:** 2-3 minutes

**Parking:** A parking space will be reserved.

**Key Participants:**

- Premier John Horgan (speaking)
- Minister Rob Fleming (speaking, emcee)
- Sundeep Chohan, principal, Pacific Heights Elementary (speaking)
- Laurie Larsen, trustee, Surrey School Board (speaking)
- Treena Carson-Piva, Pacific Heights Elementary PAC President (speaking)

**Other Attendees:**

- **Jagrup Brar**, MLA for Surrey-Fleetwood (TBC)
- **Rachna Sing**, MLA for Surrey-Green Timbers (TBC)
- **Gary Begg**, MLA for Surrey-Guildford (TBC)
- **Harry Bains**, MLA for Surrey-Newton (TBC)
- **Jinny Sims**, MLA for Surrey-Panorama (TBC)
- **Bruce Ralston**, MLA for Surrey-Whalley (TBC)
- Pacific Heights Elementary School students, teachers and support staff
- Media



**Background:**

Government is investing \$24 million to build a new 655-seat elementary school in Surrey's Grandview Heights area, and \$9 million to build a 300-seat addition to the nearby Pacific Heights Elementary School.

The Surrey School Board, City of Surrey, local development community, and local residents have all expressed concern with the shortage of student space in Surrey.

Enrolment forecasts for Grandview Heights area schools indicate a shortfall of more than 2,207 elementary seats within the next 10 years. Government has committed to "get students out of portables and into classrooms by building new schools in fast-growing communities."

The Grandview Heights area elementary schools, including Pacific Heights Elementary, are collectively operating over capacity with a combined shortfall of 401 seats this year and a capacity utilization of 124%. The level of growth in the Grandview Heights area cannot be accommodated through additions, boundary changes, or program moves.

The new Grandview Heights elementary school, and the addition to Pacific Heights, will help to ease current and future enrolment pressures on nearby schools including Sunnyside, Rosemary Heights, Morgan and East Kensington elementary schools.

**New Grandview Heights elementary school**

This new school is needed to address rapid enrolment growth at nearby schools. The new school will be built to accommodate 655 students on district-owned property at 16650-23rd Avenue. It is scheduled to be open for the 2020/21 school year.

The school will be arranged into six learning communities of four to five classrooms each, gathered around common collaborative area in support of 21st Century learning.

**Addition to Pacific Heights Elementary School**

Pacific Heights Elementary accommodates kindergarten to Grade 7. The operating capacity of the school is 308 with an actual 2017/18 enrolment of 426 students, and a capacity utilization of 138%.

The 12-classroom, 300-seat addition to the school will reduce the need for portables in the future.

Construction on the addition is scheduled to begin in May 2018 and be ready for students in September 2019.

**Surrey schools**

The Surrey School District currently has about 325 portables, up from about 270 last year.

These new investments are in addition to the thousands of seats currently under construction in Surrey schools. A new Grandview Heights Secondary and two new Clayton area elementary schools, as well as classroom additions at Sullivan Heights, Panorama Park and Woodward Hill elementary schools, have already been announced.

Work is underway on the 1,500-seat Salish Secondary, expected to be complete in fall 2018.

Growing student enrollment in Surrey continues to drive overcrowding and receive significant media attention. Since 2001, student enrollment has increased 18% – from 58,648 students to about 69,446 in 2015/16.

Recently, a summit was held in Surrey between Minister Rob Fleming and other ministry officials, as well as representatives from the City of Surrey and Surrey School District to discuss ways to accelerate new school construction to address space pressures.

A Surrey parents group held a rally at Earl Marriott Secondary School on Oct. 28, 2017 with a message to Government to "build schools now."

**Audience Size:** 20 – 25

**Contact:** Marlene Behrens, GCPE Events

**C:** 778 584-1253

**Itinerary:**

Time	Event Itinerary
Event Summary:	Podium announcement at Pacific Heights Elementary, announcing creation of new student spaces in Surrey, including new elementary school in Grandview Heights and addition to Pacific Heights.
Key contacts	Media relations: Sean Leslie, Scott McKenzie Photographer: Stephen Hargreaves Event Coordinator: Marlene Behrens
8:30 a.m.	Event Coordinator and AV Specialists on site for technical setup.
10:30 a.m.	Guests and stakeholders begin to arrive
10:45 a.m.	Pre-brief with speakers, led by Marlene Behrens, Event Coordinator Location: LST Room <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Premier John Horgan</b></li><li>• <b>Rob Fleming</b>, Minister of Education <b>MC</b></li><li>• <b>Sundeep Chohan</b>, Principal, Pacific Heights Elementary</li><li>• <b>Laurie Larsen</b>, Trustee, Surrey school board</li><li>• <b>Treena Carson-Piva</b>, PAC President</li></ul>
10:55 a.m.	Speakers move to announcement area
11:00 a.m.	Students go through coding exercise with Premier Horgan and Minister Fleming
11:05 a.m.	Speakers move to the podium area
11:06 a.m.	<b>Principal Sundeep Chohan</b> welcomes guests and introduces Minister Rob Fleming
11:07 a.m.	<b>Minister Fleming</b> introduces speakers and invites <b>Premier John Horgan</b> to the podium.
11:08 a.m.	<b>Premier John Horgan</b> delivers remarks.
11:11 a.m.	<b>Minister Fleming</b> thanks Premier Horgan, introduces Laurie Larsen
11:12 a.m.	<b>Laurie Larsen</b> delivers remarks.
11:14 a.m.	<b>Minister Fleming</b> thanks Laurie Larsen, introduces Treena Carson-Piva
11:15 a.m.	<b>Treena Carson-Piva</b> delivers remarks.
11:17 a.m.	<b>Minister Fleming</b> thanks Treena Carson-Piva, delivers closing remarks.
11:19 a.m.	Media availability from the podium. Moderated by Press Secretary.
11:30 a.m.	Premier, Minister, and stakeholders pose for photos with students
11:35 a.m.	Event concludes

Emcee Notes

for

Minister Rob Fleming

New Grandview Heights elementary school and addition to  
Pacific Heights Elementary

Thursday, Dec. 7, 2017

11:00 a.m.

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

### **KEY MESSAGES:**

- **We're determined to get a lot more done in Surrey.**
- **We've started by building a stronger relationship with the City of Surrey and the school district.**
- **Education is a top priority for our government, and we are committed to making sure that the use of portables to address growth pressures is not a long-term solution.**
- **We have committed to reducing the need for portables as long-term solutions for Surrey students.**

### **TRADITIONAL TERRITORY:**

- **Coast Salish people**

# INTRODUCTION:

- Thank you, Ms. Chohan for your introduction.
- And thank you everyone in the room for joining us, and the students for showing us how to code.
- Clearly, our province's future is in good hands.
- I first want to acknowledge the traditional territory of the Coast Salish First Nations.
- And introduce our speakers today.
  - Premier John Horgan
  - Laurie Larsen, trustee, Surrey School Board
  - Treena Carson-Piva, president, Pacific Heights PAC
- It's an honour for me to be here with Premier Horgan for an announcement that will make life better for students and families in Surrey.
- As minister, I want every student in B.C. to go to school in a safe, positive environment.
- The population in Surrey continues to grow at a rapid rate, and we need to invest in our schools and our students to make sure that happens.

- And that is why we are here today.
- Now, please welcome Premier John Horgan to the podium.

## **PREMIER HORGAN SPEAKS**

- Thank you, Premier Horgan.
- It is so important to me that we accelerate funding to meet the demand for student spaces in fast-growing districts like Surrey.
- I'm excited for students in Grandview Heights to be able to spend their school days in positive environments like this one.
- And of course, they have a brand new secondary school that is currently in the works as well.
- Now, I would like to welcome Laurie Larsen, from the Surrey Board of Education, to tell us what this means to this district.

## **LAURIE LARSEN SPEAKS**

- Thank you.

- It is thanks to the work of your board and the school district staff, as well as the staff in my ministry, that these investments can be made a reality.
- I look forward to growing our relationship.
- Now, please welcome the president of the Pacific Heights Parent Advisory Committee, Treena Carson-Piva, who can tell us what this investment means for families.

## **TREENA CARSON-PIVA SPEAKS**

- Thank you, Treena.
- Families like yours are the reason our government is making this investment.

## **CONCLUSION:**

- That brings us to the end of our announcement.
- Thank you all for coming today, and joining us as we build a better province for families.
- Premier Horgan will now take any questions from the media from the podium.

- And we would love a photo with our speakers and the students who welcomed us to their library after that.
  - Thank you.
- END -**



**December 7, 2017**

**Announcement: New Grandview Heights elementary school and addition to Pacific Heights Elementary**

**Speech Goals:**

- Announce that our government is investing \$24 million to build a new 655-seat elementary school in Surrey's Grandview Heights area, and \$9 million to build a 300-seat addition to the nearby Pacific Heights Elementary School.
- Highlight that our government is working hard to build the schools and additional spaces that are desperately needed in growing communities around the province.
- Communicate that education is a top priority for our government, and we are committed to making sure that the use of portables to address growth pressures is not a long-term solution

**Speech Arc:**

- Importance of healthy school environment, investing in kids.
- Announce \$33 million investment to build a new elementary school in Grandview Heights and a 12-classroom addition at Pacific Heights Elementary School.
- Talk about fast tracking other projects in Surrey and seismic upgrading.
- Conclude with commitment to put our kids first and invest in schools, classrooms, and a better future for our children.

**Format:**

- 4 minutes. Podium.

**Audience:**

- Pacific Heights Elementary School students, teachers and support staff.
- Media

**Special mentions:**

- **Rob Fleming**, Minister of Education (emcee)
- **Sundee Chohan**, principal, Pacific Heights Elementary (speaking)
- **Laurie Larsen**, Surrey School School Trustee (speaking)
- **Treena Carson-Piva**, Pacific Heights Elementary PAC President (speaking)

**Other Attendees:**

- **Jagrup Brar**, MLA for Surrey-Fleetwood (TBC)
- **Rachna Sing**, MLA for Surrey-Green Timbers (TBC)
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- **Jinny Sims**, MLA for Surrey-Panorama (TBC)
- **Bruce Ralston**, MLA for Surrey-Whalley (TBC)

**SPEAKING NOTES BEGIN NEXT PAGE**

- Thank you for your warm welcome.
- Good morning.
- Thank you for having me.
- I first want to acknowledge the traditional territory of the Coast Salish peoples.
- And recognize my colleagues in the room today.
- Thank you to students who gave me a lesson in coding just now.

- From that lesson, I don't think I have a future in coding, but I think they might be tech sector leaders one day.
- I'm thrilled to be here in Surrey to announce funding that will make life better for hundreds of students and their families.
- Kids deserve a positive, healthy learning environment so they can have the opportunity to thrive in their education and succeed in life.
- We also know that if they succeed, so does our economy.

- So we're investing in B.C. kids and working hard to build the schools and additional spaces that are desperately needed in growing communities around the province.
- And there is no greater example of that need than right here in Surrey.
- Today, I'm proud to announce that we're building a new elementary school in Grandview Heights and a 12-classroom addition here at Pacific Heights Elementary School.

- This \$33 million dollar investment will make school a better experience for Surrey kids and reduce portables.
- The new K-7 Grandview Heights elementary school will house 655 students and play a major role in addressing growth pressures in the area.
- It's scheduled to open for the 2020/21 school year.
- The addition to Pacific Heights Elementary will bring 12 new classrooms to the school.

- This means it will expand the school's capacity by 300 seats.
- They will be ready for students by September 2019.
- And these are just the first steps.
- We know that across the board, we need to get schools built in Surrey as quickly as possible, and we have committed to continue to work together to find solutions to accelerate projects.

- We have established a Project Office to manage the large volume of capital projects in Surrey to accommodate enrolment growth.
- We're working with local government and the school district in Surrey to speed up timeframes for new school construction.
- We have also committed to a review of our funding system and ensure we have a predictable and fair model for all school districts.



- And we're speeding up important seismic upgrade projects across B.C., and increase the number of projects completed.
- Our goal is to get every B.C. school district to a position that allows every student to go to a seismically safe school.
- Our government is getting to work to ensure our kids get the quality education and opportunities they deserve.
- It's time to put our kids first and invest in schools, classrooms, and a better future for our children.

- And I'm looking forward to seeing what a sustainable, strong, properly resourced education system can deliver for all British Columbians.
- Thank you.

## Infrastructure and Capital Spending: Surrey

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Capital spending in *Budget 2018* is expected to total \$26.2 billion over the three years of the plan (2018/19 to 2020/21), of which \$15.8 billion is for taxpayer-supported capital investments. The capital plan addresses key service and infrastructure priorities across the province and is built on the basis of affordable debt levels.

Provincial capital investments are made through school districts, health authorities, post-secondary institutions, Crown agencies and ministries. Capital funding is provided through a number of sources, including the provincial government, as well as the federal government, local governments and other third parties (e.g., private donors).

### Capital projects located in Surrey that are underway:

#### Health

- Fraser Valley Cancer Centre in Surrey – expansion of acute care unit chemotherapy area, \$8.0M (Provincial)
- Surrey Memorial Hospital Inpatient Psychiatric & Seclusion Room \$4.60M (provincial)

#### Housing

- BC Housing is providing \$15 million in capital funding for 50 transitional beds and 50 shelter beds for men and women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The project is located at 14150 Green Timbers Way in Surrey.
- BC Housing is providing capital funding to new Aboriginal housing developments through the Provincial Investment in Affordable Housing program. Elizabeth Fry Society of Greater Victoria is receiving \$1.3 million for a 15-unit project in Surrey, and Keginow Native Housing Society is receiving \$9.4 million for a 106-unit project in Surrey.
- The Province is providing capital funding of approximately \$13 million for three modular housing projects, totalling 160 supportive housing units for people who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness. The modular housing that will be located at three sites, including 10662 King George Blvd. and 13550-105 Ave. The third site will be confirmed at a later date. The new homes will be operated by Lookout Housing and Health Society. (Capital funding provided via Modular Housing program)

#### K-12 Education

- Grandview Heights Secondary – a new secondary school to provide 1,500 student spaces - \$60.6 million (\$45.4 million provincial, \$15.2 million School District)
- Burke Road Elementary – a new elementary school to provide 605 student spaces - \$22.3 million (\$16.7 million provincial, \$5.6 million School District)

Blue = Information submitted September Budget 2017 Update speaking engagements

Black = Information submitted recently for B2018

## Infrastructure and Capital Spending: Surrey

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- Regent Road Elementary – a new elementary school to provide 655 student spaces - \$26.0 million (\$21.7 million provincial, \$4.3 million School District)
- Salish Secondary – a new secondary School to provide 1,500 student spaces – \$55.2 million (\$45.6 million provincial, \$9.6 million School District)
- Edgewood Drive Elementary - a new elementary school to provide 655 student spaces – \$24.0 million (all provincial)
- Pacific Heights Elementary - 12 classroom addition to provide up to 300 more student spaces in Surrey - \$9.0 million (all provincial)
- Bear Creek Elementary – a seismic upgrade – \$3.1 million (all provincial)
- Mary Jane Shannon Elementary – a seismic upgrade – \$7.3 million (all provincial)

### Post-secondary Education

- Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) – Spruce Building Replacement Labs - \$22M (\$14.7M Provincial, \$7.3M Federal (SIF))
- Simon Fraser University –Sustainable Energy and Environmental Engineering (SE3P) Building - \$126M (\$45M Provincial, \$45M Federal (SIF), \$36M SFU and other)

### Transportation

- Surrey Central Station Upgrade. Project includes construction of a new north station house to improve accessibility, passenger amenities and capacity. Cost \$24M (\$7M provincial, \$3M federal, \$14M TransLink). Estimated completion 2019
- Replacement of the Pattullo Bridge, which is at the end of its service life, with a new four-lane structure. Cost \$1,377 million inclusive of removal of the existing structure. Completion expected 2023
- South of Fraser Rapid Transit Early Works. Includes widening of Bear Creek Bridge and utilities relocation as well as upgrades to transit exchanges at future LRT stations. Budget \$38M (BC \$12.7M, federal \$19M, TransLink \$6.3M). Estimated completion 2019

### Other

- Surrey Provincial Courthouse expansion (3 courtrooms and 2 hearing rooms): \$34M project and completion early 2018/19.

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[release number]  
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SURREY –Nearly 1,000 students in Surrey’s Grandview Heights area will enjoy brand new classrooms in the near future, Premier John Horgan announced today.

The Province will fund a new, \$24-million elementary school in Grandview Heights, along with a 300-seat, \$9-million addition at Pacific Heights Elementary School.

“Kids deserve a positive, healthy learning environment so they can have the opportunity to thrive in their education and succeed in life,” Premier Horgan said. “We’re investing in our kids and working hard to build the schools and additional spaces that are desperately needed in growing communities around the province.” s.13

s.13 at Pacific Heights in May 2018 and the new classrooms will be ready for students in September 2019, while the new Grandview Heights elementary school is scheduled to open in the 2020/21 school year.

s.13

This investment benefits families by giving children a chance to learn in a healthy, modern setting.

Enrolment forecasts for the Grandview Heights area schools show a shortfall of more than 2,200 elementary seats in the next 10 years. Government is committed to getting students out of portables and into classrooms as quickly as possible.

“When our Premier committed to eliminate all portables in Surrey within four years we were excited to see how that might unfold,” said Surrey Board of Education chair Shawn Wilson. “Our board is thrilled to see our No. 1 capital project – a new Grandview-South Surrey area elementary school – become a reality.

“I thank Pacific Heights Elementary students, staff and parents for their patience and expect they will be excited and relieved to know additional classrooms are coming and that the district can get on with construction. We are hopeful that this is only the first step in a detailed and aggressive capital plan from the Ministry.”

The new Grandview Heights elementary school, and the addition to Pacific Heights, will help to ease current and future enrolment pressures on nearby schools including Sunnyside, Rosemary Heights, Morgan s.<sup>13</sup>

To further reduce the use of portables in Surrey, the Province and the Surrey School District have established a project office to manage the city's large volume of capital projects.

**Quick Facts:**

- The new Grandview Heights elementary school will be built at 16650 23rd Avenue with a capacity for 655 students.
- The addition to Pacific Heights Elementary School will add 12 classrooms to the school.
- Both projects will be fully funded by the Government of British Columbia.
- These projects are in addition to the thousands of new seats currently being created for students in Surrey schools.
  - Work continues on the new 1,500-seat Salish Secondary, a new 1,500-seat Grandview Heights secondary school, and one new 605-seat Clayton area elementary and one new 655-seat Clayton area elementary.
  - Additions to Sullivan Heights, Panorama Park and Woodward Hill elementary schools have also been announced and will create up to a combined 600 new student seats.

**Contact:** Government Communications and Public Engagement  
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250 356-5963

Doug Strachan  
Surrey School District  
604 595-6189

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“Kids deserve a positive, healthy learning environment so they can have the opportunity to thrive in their education and succeed in life,” Premier Horgan said. “We’re investing in our kids and working hard to build the schools and additional spaces that are desperately needed in growing communities around the province.” s.13

s.13 at Pacific Heights in May 2018 and the new classrooms will be ready for students in September 2019, while the new Grandview Heights elementary school is scheduled to open in the 2020/21 school year.

s.13

This investment benefits families by giving children a chance to learn in a healthy, modern setting.

Enrolment forecasts for the Grandview Heights area schools show a shortfall of more than 2,200 elementary seats in the next 10 years. Government is committed to getting students out of portables and into classrooms as quickly as possible.

“When our Premier committed to eliminate all portables in Surrey within four years we were excited to see how that might unfold,” said Surrey Board of Education chair Shawn Wilson. “Our board is thrilled to see our No. 1 capital project – a new Grandview-South Surrey area elementary school – become a reality.

“I thank Pacific Heights Elementary students, staff and parents for their patience and expect they will be excited and relieved to know additional classrooms are coming and that the district can get on with construction. We are hopeful that this is only the first step in a detailed and aggressive capital plan from the Ministry.”

The new Grandview Heights elementary school, and the addition to Pacific Heights, will help to ease current and future enrolment pressures on nearby schools including Sunnyside, Rosemary Heights, Morgan <sup>s.13</sup>

To further reduce the use of portables in Surrey, the Province and the Surrey School District have established a project office to manage the city's large volume of capital projects.

**Quick Facts:**

- The new Grandview Heights elementary school will be built at 16650 23rd Avenue with a capacity for 655 students.
- The addition to Pacific Heights Elementary School will add 12 classrooms to the school.
- Both projects will be fully funded by the Government of British Columbia.
- These projects are in addition to the thousands of new seats currently being created for students in Surrey schools.
  - Work continues on the new 1,500-seat Salish Secondary, a new 1,500-seat Grandview Heights secondary school, and one new 605-seat Clayton area elementary and one new 655-seat Clayton area elementary.
  - Additions to Sullivan Heights, Panorama Park and Woodward Hill elementary schools have also been announced and will create up to a combined 600 new student seats.

**Contact:** Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Ministry of Education  
250 356-5963

Doug Strachan  
Surrey School District  
604 595-6189

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- This \$33 million dollar investment will make school a better experience for Surrey kids and reduce portables.

\*\*

- The new K-7 Grandview Heights elementary school will house 655 students and play a major role in addressing growth pressures in the area.
- It's scheduled to open for the 2020/21 school year.

\*\*

- The addition to Pacific Heights Elementary will bring 12 new classrooms to the school.

- This means it will expand the school's capacity by 300 seats.
- They will be ready for students by September 2019.

\*\*

- And these are just the first steps.
- We know that across the board, we need to get schools built in Surrey as quickly as possible, and we have committed to continue to work together to find solutions to accelerate projects.

- We have established a Project Office to manage the large volume of capital projects in Surrey to accommodate enrolment growth.
- We're working with local government and the school district in Surrey to speed up timeframes for new school construction.
- We have also committed to a review of our funding system and ensure we have a predictable and fair model for all school districts.

\*\*

- And we're speeding up important seismic upgrade projects across B.C., and increase the number of projects completed.
- Our goal is to get every B.C. school district to a position that allows every student to go to a seismically safe school.

\*\*

- Our government is getting to work to ensure our kids get the quality education and opportunities they deserve.

- It's time to put our kids first and invest in schools, classrooms, and a better future for our children.
- And I'm looking forward to seeing what a sustainable, strong, properly resourced education system can deliver for all British Columbians.
- Thank you.

**December 7, 2017**

**Announcement: New Grandview Heights elementary school and addition to Pacific Heights Elementary**

**Speech Goals:**

- Announce that our government is investing \$24 million to build a new 655-seat elementary school in Surrey's Grandview Heights area, and \$9 million to build a 300-seat addition to the nearby Pacific Heights Elementary School.
- Highlight that our government is working hard to build the schools and additional spaces that are desperately needed in growing communities around the province.
- Communicate that education is a top priority for our government, and we are committed to making sure that the use of portables to address growth pressures is not a long-term solution

**Speech Arc:**

- Importance of healthy school environment, investing in kids.
- Announce \$33 million investment to build a new elementary school in Grandview Heights and a 12-classroom addition at Pacific Heights Elementary School.
- Talk about fast tracking other projects in Surrey and seismic upgrading.
- Conclude with commitment to put our kids first and invest in schools, classrooms, and a better future for our children.

**Format:**

- 4 minutes. Podium.

**Audience:**

- Pacific Heights Elementary School students, teachers and support staff.
- Media

**Special mentions:**

- **Sundee Chohan**, principal, Pacific Heights Elementary (speaking, emcee)
- **Shawn Wilson**, chair, Surrey School Board (speaking)
- **Treena Carson-Piva**, Pacific Heights Elementary PAC President (speaking)
- **Rob Fleming**, Minister of Education

**Other Attendees:**

- **Jagrup Brar**, MLA for Surrey-Fleetwood (TBC)
- **Rachna Sing**, MLA for Surrey-Green Timbers (TBC)
- **Gary Begg**, MLA for Surrey-Guildford (TBC)
- **Harry Bains**, MLA for Surrey-Newton (TBC)
- **Jinny Sims**, MLA for Surrey-Panorama (TBC)
- **Bruce Ralston**, MLA for Surrey-Whalley (TBC)

**SPEAKING NOTES BEGIN NEXT PAGE**

## Event Proposal – For PREMIER’S OFFICE Consideration

<b>Ministry: Education</b>
<b>Event Title:</b> New schools coming to Langford
<b>Event Date:</b> Nov. 21, 27-30, Dec, 1,4, 6-8. <b>Time:</b> TBD <b>Is Date Firm or Flexible?:</b> Flexible
<b>Location:</b> Site of future school construction Corner of Constellation Ave. and Westshore Pkwy <b>OR</b> Belmont Secondary School 3041 Langford Lake Road Victoria

### INVITATION:

Government-led event.

### EVENT ORGANIZER:

GCPE, with support from Sooke School District.

### EVENT:

Announcing \$23.3 million to acquire 16 acres in Langford to be home to a new elementary school and middle school

### FUNDING :

Government of BC funding

### TARGET AUDIENCE:

Parents and media

### VENUE DESCRIPTION:

Empty land, future site of new schools

### EVENT PARTICIPANTS (SPEAKERS):

Premier John Horgan

Minister Rob Fleming (emcee)

Ravi Parmar, chair, Sooke School Board

Jim Cambridge, superintendent, Sooke School District

### KEY VALIDATORS & STAKEHOLDERS:

- Teachers, students and support staff
- School board trustees and Parent Advisory Committee

### STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS:

- District chair and trustees are anxious to have the Premier announce this purchase.
- Immediate plans to build schools on the site are not yet in place.
- Supports Government’s plan to get students out of portables.
- Langford has seen rapid population growth that has outpaced school construction.
- An addition to Royal Bay Secondary School is nearing funding approval.



**Proposal submitted by:**

Communications contact/phone:

Sean Leslie/250 356-8485

**Date submitted:**

Nov. 15, 2017

## Event Proposal – For PREMIER’S OFFICE Consideration

<b>Ministry: Education</b> <b>Event Title:</b> More seats in Surrey Schools
<b>Event Date:</b> Dec. 8 <b>Time:</b> TBD <b>Is Date Firm or Flexible?:</b> Flexible
<b>Location:</b> Pacific Heights Elementary School 17148 26 Ave., Surrey OR Site of future Grandview Heights elementary school

**INVITATION:**

Government-led event.

**EVENT ORGANIZER:**

GCPE, with support from Surrey School District.

**EVENT:**

Announcing \$33 million to create 955 new student spaces in Surrey, including a new \$24-million, 655-seat elementary school in Grandview Heights and a \$9-million, 300-seat addition to Pacific Heights Elementary School.

**FUNDING :**

Government of BC funding

**TARGET AUDIENCE:**

Parents and media

**VENUE DESCRIPTION:**

Pacific Heights Elementary School gymnasium, foyer or library

**EVENT PARTICIPANTS (SPEAKERS):**

Premier John Horgan  
Minister Rob Fleming (emcee)  
Shawn Wilson, chair, Surrey School Board  
Jordan Tinney, superintendent, Surrey School District  
Surrey Parent (TBC)

**KEY VALIDATORS & STAKEHOLDERS:**

- Teachers, students and support staff
- School board trustees and Parent Advisory Committee

**STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS:**

- Supports Government’s plan to get students out of portables.
- Surrey parents have been vocal about the need for more schools to get students out of portables.

<b>Proposal submitted by:</b> Communications contact/phone: Corinna Filion/250 356-8713
<b>Date submitted:</b> Nov. 16, 2017



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
[release number]  
December 7, 2017

Office of the Premier  
Ministry of Education

## Premier announces new school and more classrooms for Surrey students

SURREY – Nearly 1,000 students in Surrey’s Grandview Heights area will enjoy brand new classrooms in the near future, Premier John Horgan announced today.

The Province will fund a new, \$24-million elementary school in Grandview Heights, along with a 300-seat, \$9-million addition at Pacific Heights Elementary School.

"Kids deserve a positive, healthy learning environment so they can have the opportunity to thrive in their education and succeed in life," Premier Horgan said. "We're investing in our kids and working hard to build the schools and additional spaces that are desperately needed in growing communities around the province."

S.13 at Pacific Heights in May 2018 and the new classrooms will be ready for students in September 2019, while the new Grandview Heights elementary school is scheduled to open in the 2020/21 school year.

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"I thank Pacific Heights Elementary students, staff and parents for their patience and expect they will be excited and relieved to know additional classrooms are coming and that the district can get on with construction. We are hopeful that this is only the first step in a detailed and aggressive capital plan from the Ministry."

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**Contact:** Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Ministry of Education  
250 356-5963

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250 818-4881

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Surrey School District  
604 595-6189

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