

July 12, 2022

Ref: 281549

Tracy Loffler, Chair Board of Education School District No. 75 (Mission) **Email: tracy.loffler@mpsd.ca** 

Dear Tracy Loffler:

Thank you for your letter addressed to the Honourable John Horgan, Premier, of June 1, 2022, regarding the deferral of the Mission Senior Secondary School (Mission Secondary) Seismic Replacement project. I recognize the frustration this has brought for the Board of Education and the larger community of Mission and appreciate the time you have taken to communicate the needs of your District.

The Mission Secondary project was first supported by the Ministry of Education and Child Care in March 2019 as a Seismic Mitigation project. The Mission School District was directed to proceed to Stage 1 of business case development, known as a Concept Plan, with a view to finalizing the Concept Plan by Summer 2020. The District was advised to explore multiple options in the Concept Plan, including a seismic upgrade with an addition, a seismic upgrade with a partial replacement and addition, and a full seismic replacement. Pending completion and approval of the Concept Plan, the next stage in business case development was for the District to develop a Project Definition Report, which is intended to further define the scope and costs of the project in preparation for funding approval.

The 2022/23 5-Year Capital Plan intake saw severe enrolment pressures in many communities across the province as well as pressing life safety concerns at existing school facilities. These pressures are required to be accommodated within finite capital allocations, ultimately resulting in a small number of concept plans or business cases being delayed.

Moving forward, the Mission Secondary project request may be included in the District's 2023/24 Capital Plan Submission as a replacement project, alongside other capital priorities for the District. The Ministry will consider this funding request as part of the next budget cycle, alongside requests from all 60 provincial school districts.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Chris Brown, Assistant Deputy Minister, Resource Management Division by email at <u>Chris.Brown@gov.bc.ca.</u>

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In closing, I would like to thank you for your commitment and dedication to School District No. 75 (Mission) and the students of Mission Secondary.

Sincerely,

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Jennifer Whiteside Minister

pc: Chris Brown, Assistant Deputy Minister, Resource Management Division Francois Bertrand, Executive Director, Capital Management Branch Capital Management Branch