



PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

March 7, 2025

Sent to all BCSTA Members

Statement from Carolyn Broady, President of the BC School Trustees Association

Today, the Honourable Jenna Sudds, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, and the Honourable Lisa Beare, British Columbia's Minister of Education and Child Care, announced an agreement that will enable British Columbia to enhance school food programs for up to 90,000 kids in just over 1,000 schools across the province this year.

President Broady was pleased to be invited to the official announcement.

"I extend my gratitude to the Governments of Canada BC British Columbia for their commitment to the health and well-being of students through the signing of a bilateral agreement on school food programs. This agreement represents a significant step forward in ensuring that every child in our province has access to nutritious meals during their school day.

The BCSTA continues to be inspired by the profound benefits that such initiatives can yield. The National School Food Program has proven successful in alleviating food insecurity for students, enabling them to focus on their education rather than hunger. With the anticipated savings of up to \$800 per year for families with school-aged children, this agreement will not only ease the financial burden on households, especially in these uncertain times, but also create an environment where children can thrive.

We know that full bellies feed hungry minds, and healthy meals, accessible at school, are fundamental to our student's academic success. By investing in school food programs, governments today are investing in tomorrow, our future—our children. This fosters educational equity and ensures that every student, regardless of their background, can reach their full potential.

I commend the collaborative efforts of our provincial government and the federal partners in prioritizing the well-being of our children. As we move forward with this agreement, we will focus on enhancing existing school food programs, ensuring they are accessible, sustainable, and tailored to the diverse needs of our communities.

I know this is crucial funding for our rural and remote communities, where access to school food programs can often be limited. The enhancements to breakfast and lunch programs will be particularly impactful, providing much-needed support to families in these areas.

As this agreement is signed, let us remember that when we invest in our children's health and well-being, we are investing in a brighter, healthier future for all of British Columbia. Together, we can ensure that no child goes hungry at school and that every student has the opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed."

Carolyn Broady
President, British Columbia School Trustees Association

BC Gov News Release

[The governments of Canada and British Columbia reach a bilateral agreement on school food](#)