



April 21, 2016

Ref: 186675

Megan Dykeman, Vice-Chair  
Board of Education  
School District No. 35 (Langley)  
**Email: [mdykeman@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:mdykeman@sd35.bc.ca)**

Dear Ms. Dykeman:

Thank you for your email sent March 15, 2016, addressed to the Honourable Mike Bernier, Minister of Education, regarding the new secondary school on Willoughby Slope in Langley.

As discussed with Shanna Mason, Assistant Deputy Minister, Planning and Major Projects Division, on February 5, 2016, our staff are actively working with your District to complete the approval process for the partial replacement of Langley Secondary School (LSS) prior to the development of a new secondary school in the Willoughby area.

Seismically upgrading schools identified as high-risk continues to be a top priority for the Ministry of Education. The Province has committed funds to reduce seismic risks, and works closely with school districts to ensure available funds are used to upgrade all high-risk schools across the province expeditiously and as cost effective as possible. LSS has been identified as a high-risk school and needs to be updated for the safety of staff and students.

The Ministry is reviewing the Five-Year Capital Plan submissions and will be responding to each school district identifying which local capital priorities align with provincial priorities, and provide direction on next steps. The Ministry recognizes that a new secondary school in the Willoughby Slope of the Township of Langley is ranked as a high priority for your District. The new Willoughby Slope secondary school is required to reduce the significant pressure from the ongoing growth in population. A letter from the Ministry regarding your Capital Plan submission will be arriving in the near future and will provide information on the Ministry's support for future priorities.

We have also received your request for approval of disposal of the four properties you referenced in your letter. Ministry staff are currently reviewing your request and will advise you of the outcome within the next few weeks.

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If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Shanna Mason, Assistant Deputy Minister, Planning and Major Projects Division, at [Shanna.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shanna.Mason@gov.bc.ca) or by phone at (250) 356-6570.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dave Byng', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dave Byng  
Deputy Minister