



Vancouver Board of Education

School District No. 39

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

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February 2, 2015

Honourable Peter Fassbender
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045, Stn Pro. Govt.
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fassbender,

Peter
RE: Queen Mary Seismic Project

The Province approved a capital project agreement for the upgrade and partial replacement of Queen Mary Elementary School in November, 2012 as part of the seismic mitigation program. The original budget for the project was set at \$16.67 million with \$3.64 million in below the line reserves for identified risks and estimated economic adjustments.

In January 2014 the Ministry of Education approved the transfer of \$1.73 million from below the line reserves to deal with cost increases related to the change to PST/GST, price escalation and supplementary site scope (largely related to the need to replace a 60-70 year old sewer/drainage system). In order to minimize the transfer from the reserve, a number of scope reductions were also made with respect to the school (reduced building area, interior and exterior finishes and landscaping).

On December 19, 2014, I wrote to you requesting the ability to access a portion of the remaining reserves to fund the original scope items that had been reduced to help cover the additional costs (in particular taxes). VBE staff have been working with Ministry staff on this issue.

Further with respect to this item, on January 26, 2015 the VBE Board approved the following motion:

That the VSB requests an emergency meeting with the Minister of Education and appropriate staff to discuss concerns with funding the Queen Mary Project.

Thank you for your consideration of the above request.

Yours truly,

Christopher Richardson
Trustee Chairperson

c: VBE Trustees
Dr. Steve Cardwell, Superintendent
Rick Krowchuk, Secretary Treasurer

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