

## NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### BUSINESS COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING

#### INFORMATION SHEET

DATE: December 7, 2022  
TO: Business Committee  
FROM: Mark Walsh, Secretary-Treasurer  
Pete Sabo, Executive Director Planning & Operations  
Brian Hackwood, Assistant Director Planning & Operations  
Kelsey Bakewell, Facilities Planning Manager  
Phil Barkhouse, Maintenance Manager  
SUBJECT: École North Oyster Update

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#### **Background:**

The purpose of this Information Sheet is to provide the Board with a status update on various activities relating to École North Oyster, including the Active School Travel (AST) Project, Building Envelope Project (BEP), the Water Use Agreement, and water quality.

#### **Discussion:**

##### **Active School Travel Update:**

The École North Oyster “Active School Travel (AST) Project” is addressing some of the issues that ENO has been experiencing both on and off school property.

These issues include poor accommodation on school site for daily transportation demands, insufficient parking, vehicle speeds in school zones, ineffective signage, unsafe crossing, insufficient lighting, unsafe roadway for users, and shortage of road safety awareness and training for students and families.

A School Travel Action Plan was completed in 2019 and a Stakeholder Committee was put together, including District Staff, Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure (MOTI), ICBC and District Facilities Staff to make recommendations based on the Plan.

Recommendations are as follows in priority order:

PRIORITY	NOTIONAL COST	STAKEHOLDER	STAKEHOLDER DECISION
1. Parking Lot Addition	\$35,000	SD68	Approved in Principle
2. Dynamic Speed Signs on SD68 property	\$45,000	SD68	Approved in Principle
3. Asphalt Pathway (from x-walk to front entrance of ENO)	\$15,000	SD68	Approved in Principle
4. Promote Parking at NOCC	0	ENO	Ongoing
5. Protect Parking entrances with barriers	\$10,000	SD68	Approved in Principle
6. Promote Bus Usage	0	ENO	Ongoing
7. Additional Street Lighting	Unknown	ENO	Approved in Principle
8. Permanent Bollards on Roadway	N/A	MOTI	Not Supported
9. Rumble Strips on Roadway	N/A	MOTI	Not Supported
10. Speed Humps on Roadway	N/A	MOTI	Not Supported
11. Painting on Roadway (School Zone Indicator)	N/A	MOTI	Not Supported
12. Pedestrian Activated X-Walk	N/A	MOTI	Not Supported
13. Dynamic Speed Signs on MOTI property	N/A	MOTI	Not Supported
<b>Total Notional Budget</b>		<b>\$105,000</b>	

To date, NLPS has completed:

- Crossing guard in place
- #2 – Installation of dynamic speed sign on school property
- #3 – Installing an asphalt pathway from the crosswalk to the front entrance of school
- #5 – Installing barriers to protect parking entrances
- Lease renewal at NOAHS - use of their parking lot for Drop-off and Pick-up in exchange for water supply/snow clearing

MOTI installed pedestrian indicating lighting at the x-walk connecting the North Oyster Community Center parking lot.

As the school did not support the addition of staff parking, Priority #1 was not completed.

To date, NLPS has funded approximately \$38,000 on improvements and \$12,000 per year in Crossing Guard expenses on the ENO Active School Travel Project.

The school principal commented that:

- The district has provided funding for an adult crossing guard from 8:00-8:30 am and 2:00-2:30 pm to help students/parents cross Cedar Road in a safe and orderly manner and that this is working well.
- The speed signs installed by the district have been seen to be a help in reducing the speed of vehicles passing through the school zone.
- Parents parking along Cedar Road to drop off their kids continues to be a problem, however the availability of the North Oyster Community Center for drop off in the AM and pick up in the PM has greatly reduced the number of cars that chose to park along the street.
- The school sends frequent reminders to parents about the availability of the community lot and address unsafe unloading/loading of children in front of the school with individual drivers as needed.

- The number of parents pulling into the staff parking lot to drop off their kids has almost completely stopped since the North Oyster Community Center parking became an approved/legitimate option. This has been well received by staff.

### **BEP Project Update:**

Construction activities on the BEP Project are expected to continue into the first quarter of 2023, as the contractor has been experiencing supply chain issues and material delivery delays. Measures have been put in place to reduce the likelihood of water ingress into the school, following the flooding that took place in September.

All but one of the displaced classrooms from the flooding incident have been remediated, and students are back in their classrooms. Staff are working closely with our insurance adjuster to ensure that the best interests of NLPS are met.

### **Water Use Agreement:**

An official Water Use Agreement has been recently signed between the District and NOAHS (North Oyster & Area Historical Society), effective on October 1, 2022 (see attached Appendix A). This agreement is for a term of three years with an expiration date of September 30, 2025.

By means of this agreement, NLPS is continuing to grant NOAHS use of the well water from the NLPS water source. Additionally, NOAHS has agreed to provide NLPS access to the parking lot during school operating hours for parent drop off and pick up. NLPS will provide snow clearing as operationally required, to the portions of North Oyster Community Centre parking lot on the days snow clearing is being provided to École North Oyster's parking lot. This will facilitate the use of the parking by parents.

### **Water Quality Update:**

#### **Monitoring:**

NLPS follows the established bacteriological monitoring program in consultation with the Drinking Water Officer. At a minimum, monthly bacteriological samples must be submitted for bacteriological analysis to a laboratory approved by the Provincial Health Officer. Based on the results of the monitoring program, the monitoring requirements may be extended or altered by the Drinking Water Officer.

The raw water supply is chemically sampled every five years at a minimum and includes those parameters specified by the Drinking Water Officer. The water quality must meet or be lower than the maximum acceptable concentration (MAC) limits as listed in the most recent edition of the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality (GCDWQ), prepared by the Environmental Health Directorate, Health Canada.

NLPS maintains two other well water sites: Mountain View Elementary and Gabriola Elementary.

**Post Fire:**

The water supply is monitored quarterly for contaminants due to the Schnitzer recycling metal fire and sent to Island Health to protect the quality. This will continue until further notice.

**Appendix A - Water Use Licence Agreement**

