

NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BUSINESS COMMITTEE  
PUBLIC MEETING  
ACTION SHEET

DATE: March 8, 2023  
TO: Business Committee  
FROM: Mark Walsh, Secretary-Treasurer, Jacquie Poulin, Assistant Superintendent  
Pete Sabo, Executive-Director Planning & Operations'  
SUBJECT: Cedar Childcare

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### Recommendation

***That the Business Committee recommend that the Board of Education of School District No. 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) direct staff to apply through the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund to add a childcare space at Cedar Elementary to accommodate future childcare space needs.***

### Background

On October 27, 2021, the Board passed the following motion as recommended by staff:

***That the Board of Education of School District No. 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) direct staff to apply for the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund through the Ministry of Children and Families for funding childcare expansion for up to five school sites.***

### Discussion

After the October 2021 motion staff applied for and received approval for three replacement projects for Quarterway, Cilaire and Pleasant valley. These re-application and approvals allowed for additional funding considerations in consultation with MCFD.

Further to the three projects, data from the City of Nanaimo Mid-Island Region Child Care Action Plan (Dec 2020) indicates that Electoral Areas A, B, and C (A – Cedar, South Wellington, Yellow Point, Cassidy; B – Gabriola; C – Extension, Nanaimo Lakes, East Wellington, Pleasant Valley) will need an additional 134 spaces for 0 to 2 year-olds and an additional 112 spaces for 3 to 5 year olds by 2030 to meet a base target rate.

Cedar Elementary currently has Before and After School Care with 57 spaces that is full most days and has a minimal waitlist (currently 1 student).

At this time two programs would be targeted in Cedar Elementary, one for infants/toddlers and one for 3 to 5 year-olds. The District would look to have the 3 to 5 year olds space be designed with flexibility to alternately offer a 6 to 12 year-olds Before and After School Care program in the same space if the need shifted.

**Appendix A:** October 2021 Action Sheet