



NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION PUBLIC MEETING

INFORMATION SHEET

DATE: February 26, 2020
TO: Board of Education
FROM: Scott Saywell, Superintendent/Acting Secretary Treasurer
SUBJECT: Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) Update/Timeline

Background:

Nanaimo Ladysmith school district's Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) was last completed on September 2, 2015. The previous plan focused on addressing 13 years of enrolment decline and the associated loss of revenue that results from fewer students. The April 26, 2017, 'Becoming Sustainable' Facilities Plan Update, which was an update to the 2015 LRFP, recommended school closures and consolidation as one of the strategies to reduce annual operating costs, reduce future capital expenses, and identify capital assets for future consideration.

As a result of implementing these recommendations, we are now on a much stronger financial footing. One of the strategies employed, at the time, was the closure of facilities not required for school space needs.

The district's circumstances have materially changed since the last LRFP update. In addition to being on stronger financial footing, NLPS is now experiencing enrolment growth following 13 years of decline. NLPS has added a significant number of classroom spaces to meet the needs of the school community and to meet the requirements of the recent Supreme Court of Canada ruling on classroom size and composition. Both of these dynamics have led the district into a future requiring additional space to support optimal teaching and learning.

Changes to the 2015 National Building Code (NBC2015) reflected significantly increased assumptions for ground force motions from a Cascadia Fault subduction event off the west coast of Vancouver Island and Haida Gwaii. Specifically, the expectations are for more intense shaking on Vancouver Island and Haida Gwaii (more than 2x the intensity in some regions) than previously assumed, as well as greater impacts in areas with soft soils. Three secondary schools and 29 elementary schools in NLPS have recently been re-assessed and identified as requiring seismic upgrading. By comparison, only three schools had been previously identified under the old building code guidelines.

As a result of these changing circumstances, NLPS began the next phase of facilities planning at the end of 2019 and is looking for input on the development of our LRFP, which along with the Board's Strategic Plan, will guide its vision and decisions concerning facilities, over the next 10-15 years.

Over the coming months, NLPS will be hearing from its partners, community members, parents and local governments as we gather feedback to develop our new LRFP. Our approach is intended to be collaborative in nature, with ample opportunity for the public to come to a greater understanding of some of the challenges and opportunities facing the district, and to provide direct input into the LRFP document as it is developed.

Long Range Facilities Plan Timeline Development:

		Status:
1	Project Initiation & Initial Data Gathering	Complete
2	Development of Board LRFP Guiding Principles	Complete
3	LRFP Draft 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated Enrolment projections • Strategy Considerations • Background Materials • Board review and public consultation 	May 2020
4	Stakeholder Engagement (see table below)	Throughout life of project
6	LRFP Draft 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board review and public consultation 	June 2020
7	Finalized and Board approved LRFP	July 2020
8	Implementation of LRFP	2020/21 School Year

Specific Engagement Approach and Timeline:

A three-phased engagement approach will occur throughout the life of the project.

Engagement Phase:	IAP2 Public Participation Goal:	Specific Actions:	Status
<u>Phase One: Setting the Stage</u>		Board approves engagement goals, objectives, principles Board approves stakeholder engagement plan	Completed
<u>Phase 2: Gathering Input</u>	INFORM/CONSULT	Launch public engagement website and release LRFP background document on constraints and opportunities of current educational programming, facilities, enrolment projections, etc. <u>Backgrounder documents on website:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Engagement Framework <input type="checkbox"/> Qs and As <input type="checkbox"/> Commonly used terms <input type="checkbox"/> Educational Program Overview <input type="checkbox"/> Enrolment <input type="checkbox"/> Facilities Condition Index <input type="checkbox"/> Seismic	Completed

Engagement Phase:	IAP2 Public Participation Goal:	Specific Actions:	Status
		<p>Survey public on “How would you like to be engaged?”</p> <p>Release results of survey “How would you like to be engaged?”</p> <p>Announce dates of public open house based on survey results</p>	
	CONSULT/INVOLVE	<p>Meet with Board to discuss LRFP process</p> <p>Host first public open house to inform, consult and involve the public in the LRFP process.</p>	<p>February 2020</p> <p>March 31, 2020</p>
<u>Phase 3: Building the Plan</u>	INVOLVE	<p>Survey public to inform Board of Education decisions</p> <p>Summary document provided to public outlining what was heard during consultations.</p> <p>Draft LRFP provided to public on public engagement website for comments.</p> <p>Host public open house to discuss what was heard in earlier stages and gather input on Draft LRFP.</p>	<p>April 2020</p> <p>April 2020</p> <p>May 2020</p> <p>June 2020</p>
	INVOLVE	<p>Revised LRFP document provided to the public including a report out on how key considerations/options raised during the earlier consultations were addressed.</p>	July 2020