



British Columbia
School Trustees
Association

December 14, 2022

The Honourable Rachna Singh
Minister of Education and Child Care
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, B.C. V8W 9E2
educ.minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Singh,

Subject: Inflation and Cost Escalation

At the British Columbia School Trustees Association's most recent Provincial Council meeting, our membership, representing all 60 boards of education in B.C., passed the following resolution:

"BCSTA urge the Ministry of Education and Child Care to provide emergency funding adjustments to February budgets in order to address inflationary cost pressures on districts."

As noted in the enclosed motion rationale, school districts across the province face substantial financial pressures related to increasing inflation. While not unique to public education, as this concern touches all parts of the nation, we must highlight the damage not addressing these increasing costs will have on students and their future success.

B.C.'s boards of education will establish their budgets as we enter the new year. Through debate and discussion at our meeting of provincial councillors, it was clear that inflationary funding rate adjustments are required to enable districts to continue offering the programs and supports students rely on and expect. As we emerge from the pandemic, providing high-quality education for students and support for families who depend on a wide variety of school-related programs is crucial.

We ask that you collaborate with the Ministry of Finance and government to include increases for these costs so that districts may continue fulfilling the Ministry of Education and Child Care's mandate to the best of their abilities.



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On behalf of our membership, I thank you for considering our request. I am available to discuss how we can best approach the upcoming budget and provide additional context at your earliest opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Broady". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Carolyn Broady

President

British Columbia School Trustees Association

Motion: P120228.1

Enclosure: Original motion rationale

CC: Katrine Conroy, Minister of Finance, Ministry of Finance
Christina Zacharuk, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education and Child Care
BCSTA member boards of education
Suzanne Hoffman, CEO, BCSTA
BCSTA Board of Directors