



August 29, 2023

Ref: 291935

Carolyn Broady, President
British Columbia School Trustees Association
Email: myuen@bcsta.org

Dear Carolyn Broady:

Thank you for your letter of July 20, 2023, regarding targeted funding for accessible washroom upgrades.

The Ministry of Education and Child Care is committed to ensuring accessible and equitable educational facilities for all students. Each year, the Ministry provides funding through programs such as the School Enhancement Program (SEP) and Annual Facility Grant (AFG) which can be used to improve accessibility at existing schools across the province.

In 2023/24, AFG was increased from \$120.5 million to \$147.1 million via *Budget 2023*. This increase allows school districts more flexibility to address local priorities, such as accessibility upgrades, and to ensure schools are safe and functioning well. School districts are responsible for identifying and prioritizing projects for funding consideration within programs such as SEP and AFG.

I appreciate your comments on the importance of accessibility within educational facilities across the province. Please feel free to contact Chris Brown, Assistant Deputy Minister, Resource Management Division by email at Chris.Brown@gov.bc.ca with any further questions or comments you may have regarding provincial capital funding for accessibility in schools.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Rachna Singh
Minister