



October 12, 2023

Ref: 292671

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

Dear Carolyn Broady:

Thank you for your letter of July 12, 2023 regarding ongoing funding and support for technology.

The Ministry of Education and Child Care (the Ministry) provides school districts with capital funding for school maintenance projects annually, to ensure schools are safe and functioning well. Also, the Ministry provides capital funding for new schools, replacement schools and additions.

Each year boards of education receive Annual Facility Grant (AFG) funding which can be used at their discretion to address a variety of priorities, including technological infrastructure upgrades to accommodate computer and telecommunications networks at existing facilities. In 2023/24, AFG was increased from \$120.5 million to a record-setting \$147.1 million via *Budget 2023*, allowing school districts more flexibility to address local needs. For new school, replacement school and addition projects, the Ministry provides an equipment budget which can be used for technological infrastructure and associated equipment.

I appreciate your comments on the importance of access to technology in classrooms across BC. Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Rachna Singh
Minister

pc: BCSTA Board of Directors
Michael Nyikes, Director, Capital Management Branch
Damien Crowell, A/Executive Director, Capital Management Branch