

From: ["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)
To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
Date: 2/17/2023 8:00:20 AM
Subject: VSB - proposed disposition of QE Annex
Attachments: 2023Feb15 re QEA letter COV.pdf

Hello Mayor and Council,

Please find attached for your information a letter from Vancouver School Board staff regarding the potential disposition of the Queen Elizabeth Annex. As you may be aware, the VSB approved the closure of the QE Annex in June of this year and is presently considering a declaration that the site is surplus to the education needs of the district.

VSB staff are recommending that the Board declare the QEA site as surplus and make it available through sale or long-term lease to the Francophone public school board, Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique (CSF). Funds generated by VSB through a sale or long-term lease of the land would provide capital revenue that can then be directed for priority capital investment such as building a new school in an area with enrolment demand, as well as expanding or seismically upgrading an existing school.

In aggregate, the VSB has significant excess capacity in its facilities, although there is an acute shortage of school space within certain neighbourhoods. We understand that the rationalization of underutilized facilities by the VSB has been identified by the Province as a factor in consideration of capital investment for new schools in Vancouver (including a new school in South East False Creek).

We (City staff) have no concern regarding the proposed transfer of the QE Annex to the CSF. Subject to any alternate direction from Council, we would plan to provide a response to the attached correspondence confirming same.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please let me know.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
City Manager
City of Vancouver
paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Sḵwəxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

February 15, 2023

Paul Mochrie, City Manager
City of Vancouver
Email: paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca

Re: Queen Elizabeth Annex Surplus Consideration

Good afternoon Paul,

Last year in June 2022, the Vancouver School Board approved the closure of [Queen Elizabeth Annex](#) (QEA). Now the Board is considering if the QEA site should be declared surplus to the educational needs of the District. Under the [School Act](#) and Board [Policy 20 – Disposal of Land or Improvements](#), the Board must first decide to surplus the land before exploring alternative land use possibilities.

QEA is located in the Dunbar area. The annex accommodates an average of 70 students and is considered a small school when compared to a preferred elementary school size of 300-500 students. Based on the District's [future enrolment forecasts](#), the site will not be needed for educational purposes in the future.

As shared during the [public engagement](#) regarding the QEA closure, if the Board decides to surplus the QEA site, the District recommends the Board dispose the site to the Francophone public school board, Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique (CSF), either through sale or long-term lease. There is serious interest from CSF to acquire the QEA site.

Potential funds generated from a sale or long-term lease of the land would provide capital revenue for the Board, that can then be directed for priority capital investment such as building a new school in an area with enrolment demand, as well as expanding or seismically upgrading an existing school.

As part of the engagement process, the District welcomes feedback from the City of Vancouver about the Board's consideration to declare QEA as surplus to District needs and proceed with disposition of the site and buildings to CSF. Please submit your feedback to engage@vsb.bc.ca by March 1, 2023. Your feedback will be included as part of the engagement summary report and submitted to the Board for consideration. The Board will decide if the site is surplus at a public Board meeting on April 11, 2023.

For more information about the surplus consideration, visit govsb.ca/QEAsurplus.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Regards,



David Nelson
Deputy Superintendent