

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### RELATED MINISTRIES AND INITIATIVES

#### Ministry of Education

[www.bced.gov.bc.ca](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca)

#### Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development

[www.aved.gov.bc.ca](http://www.aved.gov.bc.ca)

**ReadNow BC** [www.readnowbc.ca](http://www.readnowbc.ca)

#### StrongStart BC Early Learning Centres

[www.bced.gov.bc.ca/early\\_learning](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/early_learning)

**Your BC Government** [www.gov.bc.ca/yourbc](http://www.gov.bc.ca/yourbc)

#### Vancouver 2010 Education Program

[www.vancouver2010.com/edu](http://www.vancouver2010.com/edu)

#### Labour Market Agreement

[www.workbc.ca/lma\\_lmlda/index.htm](http://www.workbc.ca/lma_lmlda/index.htm)

### LINKS FOR K-12 STUDENTS

#### LearnNowBC

[www.learnnowbc.ca](http://www.learnnowbc.ca)

#### Sharing the Dream

[www.sharingthedream.gov.bc.ca](http://www.sharingthedream.gov.bc.ca)

### LINKS FOR POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS

#### Education Planner/Transfer Guides

Provincewide: 604 412-7700

[www.educationplanner.bc.ca](http://www.educationplanner.bc.ca)

[www.bctransferguide.ca](http://www.bctransferguide.ca)

#### Industry Training Authority

Toll-free provincewide: 1 866 660-6011

[www.itabc.ca](http://www.itabc.ca)

**Online Learning** [www.bccampus.ca](http://www.bccampus.ca)

#### Private Career Training

Toll-free: 1 800 661-7441

[www.pctia.bc.ca](http://www.pctia.bc.ca)

#### Services for New Immigrants

[www.WelcomeBC.ca](http://www.WelcomeBC.ca)

## MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER



Literacy, numeracy and a commitment to lifelong learning are the keys to success in a knowledge-based economy. Over the past eight years, we've worked with parents, students, trustees and educators to help children reach their full potential. We've increased funding for education to the highest levels in

history, despite declining enrolment, and we've worked with our education partners to address class sizes and protect the right of parents to volunteer in schools.

We're providing more money for students with special needs to ensure that they have the opportunities they deserve and the support they need. We're seismically upgrading schools across B.C. to give kids safe places to learn and grow. Our government will continue to work with boards of education and communities to improve learning outcomes, while Superintendents of Achievement will help measure progress and success.

We're protecting and enhancing education investments, while seeking new efficiencies that can direct administrative savings to new performance incentives that will be developed through the Learning Roundtable. By remaining focused on our goal of being the best-educated, most literate jurisdiction on the continent, we'll be prepared to take full advantage of future opportunities to benefit our children and communities.

Honourable Gordon Campbell  
Premier of British Columbia



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### SERVICE BC

(For information on any provincial government service or program)

Monday to Friday: 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Toll-free provincewide: 1 800 663-7867

Telephone device for the deaf (TDD) in B.C.: 1 800 661-8773

[WWW.SERVICEBC.GOV.BC.CA](http://WWW.SERVICEBC.GOV.BC.CA)

### SIGN UP FOR THE PREMIER'S NEWSLETTER:

[PREMIERSOFFICE@GOV.BC.CA](mailto:PREMIERSOFFICE@GOV.BC.CA)

### SEND YOUR COMMENTS TO:

E-MAIL: [PREMIER@GOV.BC.CA](mailto:PREMIER@GOV.BC.CA)

**BUILDING THE FUTURE**   
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### **INCREASING RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS**

We've increased K-12 education funding year over year, while student enrolment has continued to decline. This year Boards of Education will share \$4.55 billion in operating funding, the highest level of funding ever.

Per pupil funding is estimated to be \$8,323 this year, representing a \$2,107 increase since 2000/01. We're providing an estimated \$308.4 million in supplementary funding for special needs students in 2009/10.

We've implemented the Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) program in 21 school districts to help new immigrant children and their families integrate into school life in B.C.



### **SUPPORTING EARLY LEARNING AND LITERACY**

We're going to start delivering full day kindergarten for 5-year-olds in schools throughout British Columbia in September 2010.

We're expanding StrongStart BC centres, which are free early program for pre-school aged children accompanied by a parent or caregiver. There are now more than 200 StrongStart BC centres operating in communities across the province. We're continuing to invest in literacy initiatives through the ReadNow BC literacy action plan. We're also continuing to support public libraries.

We are implementing pre-literacy pilots to help immigrants and refugees who are not literate in their first language to read and write English, and Early Years Refugee Pilots to help newcomer refugee children and their families prepare for school.



### **INVESTING IN SAFE, HEALTHY SCHOOLS**

A positive learning environment is critical to student achievement. To ensure B.C. students have safe, healthy schools, the Province is:

- » Investing \$1.5 billion to complete seismic upgrades.
- » Directing another \$500 million in capital funding over the next three years for further seismic upgrades, renovations, replacement schools and new schools.
- » Investing \$30 million in nine neighbourhoods of Learning projects throughout B.C. that will see schools and community organizations working together to provide services under one roof.
- » Requiring schools to establish codes of conduct that convey both what is acceptable conduct, such as respecting self and others, and unacceptable conduct, such as acts of bullying, harassment or intimidation.
- » Expanding the Action Schools! program including more than 1,600 schools with students from Kindergarten to Grade 9.
- » Implementing 30 minutes of mandatory daily physical activity for all K-12 students and removing the sale of unhealthy foods and beverages from B.C. schools.
- » Partnering with the Union of B.C. Municipalities and the B.C. School Trustees Association through the School Community Connections program to offer more than \$7.7 million in funding to support partnerships between school boards and local governments.

### **OPENING UP ACCESS TO POST-SECONDARY LEARNING**

Since 2001, government has created seven new universities to serve British Columbians, including Thompson Rivers University and the University of British Columbia Okanagan. We've approved nearly 260 new degree programs since 2001. We have created more than 35,500 new full-time post-secondary student spaces in B.C.'s universities, colleges, provincial institutes and the Industry Training Authority since 2001.

Tuition increases are capped at the rate of inflation for the fourth consecutive year, and we've provided more than \$2.0 billion in student financial assistance since 2001.

\$94.5 million has been invested to create the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions, a unique joint collaboration between the province's four research-intensive universities (UVic, UBC, SFU, and UNBC), the private sector and the B.C. government.

British Columbia and the federal government announced \$497 million in April 2009 for upgrades to post-secondary campuses, creating more than 3,000 direct jobs and building and renewing campus infrastructure. The total investment in these projects is \$519 million including contributions from institutions. Since 2001 B.C. has invested \$1.8 billion in facilities and post-secondary campuses across the province.



### **IMPROVING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY**

We've developed and signed 45 Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreements to help schools focus on Aboriginal achievement and cultural understanding, so that every student can achieve their best. Boards of education are developing achievement contracts that set out the student achievement goals for each school district, and Superintendents of Achievement monitor planning at the school-district level.

We're helping students develop strong reading skills through district literacy plans.

A teacher discipline registry protects B.C. students and provides the public with information about educators who have been disciplined by the B.C. College of Teachers.

