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PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ORDER OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION

I, Christy Clark, Minister of Education, hereby make the attached School Opening and Closure Order.

Oct 24 02
Date


Minister of Education

(This part is for administrative purposes only and is not part of the Order.)

Authority under which Order is made:

Act and section: School Act, sections 73 and 168(2)(p)

Other (specify): _____

SCHOOL OPENING AND CLOSURE ORDER

Opening of Schools

1. If a school board decides to open a new school or to reopen a previously closed school under section 73 of the *School Act*, the board must, without delay, provide the Ministry with written notification of the decision containing the following information:
 - (a) the school's name,
 - (b) the school's facility number,
 - (c) the school's address, and
 - (d) the date on which the school will open or reopen.

Closure of Schools

2.
 - (1) In this Ministerial Order, closing a school permanently means the closing, for a period exceeding 12 months, of a school building used for purposes of providing an educational program to students.
 - (2) Despite subsection (1), the closing of a school for the purpose of effecting repairs, renovations or additions to a school building shall not be deemed to be a permanent closure of the school if the board intends to reopen the building upon completion of the repairs, renovations or additions.
3.
 - (1) The board must develop and implement a policy that includes a public consultation process with respect to permanent school closures and this policy must be made available to the public.
 - (2) When considering closing a school permanently, the board must apply the policy referred to in subsection (1).
4. The power of a board to permanently close a school under section 73 of the *School Act* must be exercised only by bylaw.
5. If a board decides to permanently close a school under section 73 of the *School Act*, the board must, without delay, provide the Minister with written notification of the decision containing the following information:
 - (a) the school's name,
 - (b) the school's facility number,
 - (c) the school's address, and
 - (d) the date on which the school will close.