

## Abbotsford School District Consolidation of Administrative Facilities & Property Disposition

February 28, 2024

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The Abbotsford Board of Education is considering consolidation of its' administrative and ancillary educational services into a single facility. Currently the board operates three separate facilities providing administrative and educational support services for the school district. These facilities include:

- School Board Office (SBO) - school district administrative services (Board, Finance, HR, International, Purchasing)
- Centre of Resources for Education (CORE) - curriculum department and learning support services/special education
- Information Technology Centre (ITC) - school district information technology services

Continuing to operate these separate facilities not only leads to increased operational costs but it detracts from the efficiency and cohesiveness of administrative functions.

The Board has ranked this consolidation project as a high priority in the 2020 Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP). Note that the LRFP is currently being updated and revised in conjunction with the Board's 2024 Strategic Plan.

The most cost-effective and suitable option available is for the relocation of the Curriculum/Learning Support Services and Information Technology departments to the existing school board office site. There is sufficient space at the school board office site to accommodate an addition to the existing building. The scope of this addition/renovation project is currently being determined.

As outlined in Board Policy 20: Disposal of Lands and Improvements, the Board of Education is undertaking broad public consultation to seek input on this matter, prior to giving further consideration.

### Description of the Properties

#### Centre of Resources for Education (CORE)

- Civic Address: 2606 Alliance Street, Abbotsford
- PID: 003-185-877
- Legal Desc: Lot: 163, Sec: 21, Township: 16, Plan NWP57623
- Lot size: 0.741 acres
- Building size: 1971 sq.m. plus an additional 309 sq.m. in the adjacent annex

- Zoning: P1 – Civic Institutional
- 2024 Assessment: \$6,337,000
- Additional Information: The property is not subject to a Crown Grant Trust.  
The property was originally constructed as a church, then used as a restaurant/banquet hall, before being acquired by the board in 1992 for use as a continuing education centre. It is poorly designed and in a poor location for its current use. The district has completed numerous renovations over the years trying to accommodate the growing needs of this department.

### CORE Parking Lot

- Civic Address: 33244 Walsh Ave., Abbotsford
- PID: 003-185-869
- Legal Desc: Lot: 162, Sec: 21, Township: 16, Plan NWP57623
- Lot size: 0.27 acres
- Zoning: C5 – City Centre Commercial
- 2024 Assessment: \$1,126,000
- Additional Information: The property is not subject to a Crown Grant Trust.



**Information Technology Centre (ITC)**

- Civic Address: 2343 McCallum Rd., Abbotsford
- PID: 011-306-556
- Legal Desc: Lot: W, Sec: 16, Township: 16, Plan NWP15939
- Lot size: 0.28 acres
- Building size: 588 sq. m.
- Zoning: C2 – Neighbourhood Commercial Zone
- 2024 Assessment: \$2,149,000
- Additional Information: The property is not subject to a Crown Grant Trust.  
The site was donated to the board in 1958 and was the previous site of the school board office.  
This property houses our information technology services department. It is in poor condition and is unsuitable for the intended use. The board previously attempted to sell the property in the 1990's but the sale did not materialize.

**Board Policy Considerations**

Board Policy 20 outlines the requirements and process the Board follows regarding the disposal of any facility/property.

- The Board will not dispose (as defined in the Interpretation Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 238) of a Facility by sale and transfer in fee simple unless such disposal is:
  - (a) to another board as defined in the School Act (which includes, for greater certainty, a francophone education authority);
  - (b) to an independent school (as defined in the Independent School Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 216) for educational purposes; or
  - (c) approved by the Minister (with any terms and conditions imposed by the Minister).
  
- The Board will undertake broad public consultation in connection with the potential disposal of the Facility and seek input from the education community, general public, local government, community organizations, the Conseil Scolaire Francophone de la Colombie-Britannique, local independent school authorities and local First Nations.
  
- If the Board decides to proceed with arrangements to dispose of a Facility, the Board will request ministerial approval for the disposition of the Facility and submit all required materials and information required by the Minister.