

Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools Facility and Capital Plan for 2016-2019

2016-2019 Ranking – Total Value of 3 Projects: \$39,209,852

- 1. New Morinville Elementary School**
- 2. K-9 School in Erin Ridge, St. Albert**
- 3. Modernization of VJM**

Descriptions of current priorities (in order):

1. New Morinville Elementary School – project awarded in “planning status” on October 8, 2014

As a result of 2012 legislation that enabled the Sturgeon School Division to operate public secular education in the Town of Morinville, the Minister assigned an elementary school to the newly operating Public School Board. The strong retention of our students within one fewer school has resulted in a Sept 2014 average utilization rate of 87.7% (88.2%-Sept 2013) for the three GSACRD schools that operate in Morinville. Important to this matter, is the fact that the only elementary school, Notre Dame, has a current utilization rate of over 100%. Given this unusually high utilization rate and the 7-8% growth rate in Morinville, it is important that a new elementary school will be developed to accommodate our anticipated needs.

Key Drivers: Legislation
Projected Cost: **\$15,194,533**

2. K-9 School in Erin Ridge, St. Albert – project awarded in “planning status” on October 8, 2014

New Kindergarten to Grade 9 School in Erin Ridge (North, St. Albert) - enrolment pressures
In the 2010 - 2011 School Year, the existing attendance boundary in the East Kingswood area of St. Albert was removed to promote parental choice in selecting elementary programming. This decision enabled new students who reside in close proximity to Neil M. Ross School to attend its programs, while also enabling new opportunities to be in place for Vital Grandin which offers a Fine Arts and Media Enhancement (FAME) program. It is anticipated that the expected growth in both school communities will assist their feeder junior high school, R.S. Fowler, to experience growth as well. The total impact of these expected enrolment trends will be the need to plan for a new elementary school to the north of these programs, in the rapidly developing Erin Ridge area.

Key Drivers: Demographics
Projected Cost: **\$19,989,800**

3. Modernization of VJM– project awarded in “planning status” on October 8, 2014

Modernization of Vincent J. Maloney (VJM) Junior High School - to meet school program needs
This additional upgrade would result in the modernization of instructional spaces that house programming for students with diverse learning needs, library services, and Career and Technology Studies.

Key Drivers: Program Changes

Projected Cost: **\$4,025,519**

CURRENT PROJECT: *Modernization of SACHS* (formerly priority #1) – project “in progress”

The Premier's 50/70 committed Alberta to constructing 50 new schools and the modernization of another 70 existing facilities, with an estimated total investment of over \$2 billion. All of those projects are now underway and the *Modernization of SACHS is one of those projects, formally announced by MLA Stephen Khan at a student rally on February 4, 2014 at St. Albert Catholic High School*. Projects were selected through a comprehensive assessment of various factors including school boards’ priorities, health and safety of students and staff, enrolment projections, current utilization, facility conditions and capacity for program delivery.

Work on the projects began immediately following the project’s announcement. All of the projects posted to the Education website are in various stages of planning and design. Getting “shovels in the ground” is just one step in the process. There are many other critical steps that have to take place first, such as geotechnical investigations, schematic designs, stakeholder consultations, procurement, tendering, contracting, and permitting.

Moving forward, the government will continue to work closely with local school boards and stakeholders to explore potential community partnerships and innovative ways of maximizing the use of existing and new school space.

With the first phase of the *Modernization of SACHS* completed in 2008, an additional capital investment will result in overall enhancements for student programming. Upgrades will include the improvement of washroom facilities, HVAC systems, other mechanical and electrical upgrades, programming for students with diverse needs, physical education facilities, and improved learning and career technology facilities for all students.

A meeting was held between the District, Alberta Education, and Infrastructure on February 27, 2014 to provide an orientation on the approach to be taken and it was confirmed that Infrastructure would take the lead on project management with Jurisdictional input on scope and design.

The target date for construction to begin is late June/early July 2015, with completion, in three phases, targeted for September 2016. The project liaison between the District and the Province is the District’s Director of Facilities.

Phase 1A will include the conversion of several classrooms into the Learning Commons, art room, music room, and additional classrooms. Phase 1B will include the lunch study/cafeteria, science rooms, washrooms, and additional classrooms. Phase 1C will include the Learning Commons/Library, locker rooms, and fitness rooms. The Mechanical will involve on-going work throughout all three phases.

Key Drivers: Technological Change
Projected Estimated Cost: **\$21,230,336** (to be confirmed once scope is finalized)