

BCCPAC Town Hall

Wednesday, April 5, 2023

SFAF & Feeding Futures



?a səyem'. ?əy sweyəl. Tansi.

I would like to acknowledge that I am speaking to you all today from the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the həṅqʻəmín'əm speaking people of the Katzie First Nation and Kwantlen First Nation.

I would like to acknowledge the knowledge keepers of the many traditional territories on whose lands we operate including those who are represented here tonight. To our Métis partners and friends, we see and hear you. We recognize that there is still work to be done on this path to truth and reconciliation.

Every Child Matters
Publication - For Grades 5-12

The Survivor's Flag link

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Special Guests tonight include:

BCCPACBoard Members

BC Chapter of the Coalition for Healthy School Food

Samantha Gambling – Project Coordinator Sue-Ann Banks – Indigenous Lead

Samantha: Universal accessibility is one best practice for removing stigma - ensuring that when a program is served, all students in a class or school have access to that program. Other best practices are student engagement (involving students in designing program, preparing food, serving food, etc)., and teaching food literacy education in the school curriculum

Farm to School BC Conference 2023



Student & Family

Affordability Fund



DM Bulletin - Instructions to School Districts Aug 2022 *link*

The funding can be used to:

- 1. Improve students' access to nutritional food / meals, before, during and after the school day
- 2. Directly offset costs to parents, guardians, and students, such as school supplies or other cost pressures they are facing using existing mechanisms such as hardship policies

Spending on Food Security

- Spending by the district on Food Security should be in addition to any planned or budgeted spending on food and meals programs.
- Districts are encouraged to use healthy, local and/or B.C. food where possible and to utilize existing processes and providers (including not-for-profits).
- Funding can be spent to:

Increase nutritional opportunities for students throughout the day
Provide nutritional food and meal support to additional students
Provide additional food and meal supports to students with dependent children where appropriate



Local Processes

- School districts must engage with Indigenous rightsholders (e.g., through their Indigenous Education Council) to determine any unique needs of Indigenous students.
- School districts must use the funding in as flexible, private and stigma free manner as possible, utilizing existing hardship fund processes with additional flexibility. Boards should use this opportunity to review their hardship policies to include stigma and barrier-free access to supports.
- District Parent Advisory Councils should be included in the process, and information on the support available should be communicated to all school staff (specifically counsellors) as they interact daily with students.
- Boards should also engage with equity-deserving communities to ensure that the unique needs of all diverse student populations are met.



What can this money be used for?

The funding can be used to:

- Improve students' access to nutritional food / meals, before, during and after the school day and, or
- Directly offset costs to parents, guardians, and students, such as school supplies or other cost pressures they are facing using existing mechanisms such as hardship policies.

Spending on Food Security:

Districts are encouraged to expand their existing food and meal programs to serve more students and funding can be spent to:

- \checkmark Increase nutritional opportunities for students throughout the day
- ✓ Provide nutritional food and meal support to additional students
- ✓ Provide additional food and meal supports to students with dependent children where appropriate.



Feeding Futures School Food Programs Funding



From the ECC:

Feeding Futures School Food Programs Funding

- The Government of B.C. has announced \$214 million over 3-years for school districts to create or expand food programs in their schools.
- This funding will immediately help to ensure that students in B.C. are properly fed for learning to enhance positive academic and health outcomes.

Student and Family Affordability Funding

- Funding is being allocated in a similar manner to the Student and Family Affordability Fund (SFAF).
- Districts will have the flexibility over the first school year (23/24) to continue supports established with SFAF that increase student food security as longer-term food programming supports are put into place.



From the ECC:

School Year 23/24

- Each district's long-term delivery model of school food programming is expected to work towards stigma-free access to nutritious food this will take time.
- This funding allows school districts to expand their work with existing partners and to develop new partnerships.
- Community partners, Parents Advisory Councils and corporate donors will continue to play a key role in supporting school food programs and helping alleviate food insecurity in their communities. Food insecurity in schools reflects the larger issue of food insecurity in the surrounding community.
- <u>BC School Food</u> contains information on how to start and/or expand a school food program. Additional resources will continue to be added to the website as they are developed.



School Food Announcement April 4 2023

Build a School Food Program

Feeding Futures - Instructions to School Districts

Feeding Futures - Q&A

Nourish Cowichan Society: Food For Students

How Partnering with Community Groups can be successful



From the ECC:

The funding is expected to reach the 20% of the students who are facing food insecurity across the province.

Can we (school districts) keep working with non-profit organizations or current community partners?

 Yes, community inclusion is essential for a long-term model of feeding students; non-profit organizations, corporate donors and parent advisory councils will continue to play a vital role alongside schools to deliver school food programs.

The delivery of food programs is expected to be stigma-free, considering models such as opt-in and pay-what-you-can, in addition to supplementing with coordination with the surrounding community

The support from community non-profit organizations, corporate donors and parent advisory councils will continue to play a vital role alongside schools to address student hunger for weekends and school closures (e.g., spring break).



2023/24 Estimated Operating Grants

Also includes a link per District

Summary of Grants 2023/24

Updated April 2023 (each school district)

- CommunityLINK policy
- •CommunityLINK funding information
- Provincial Operating Grants

The Equity of Opportunity Supplement provides funding to districts to support additional services to students by recognizing children and youth in care, children and youth receiving nonclinical mental health supports and low-income families in the school district.



Shared Links

Student & Family Affordability Fund Questionnaire

Inclusive & Sustainable BC: A mission-oriented approach

BC's Economic Plan: A Plan for Today, A Vision for Tomorrow

YouTube Video

Highlight around 15:45 – The importance of procurement policies and additionality.

Our Food Future: Cultivating a Circular Framework



BCCPAC Website

BCCPAC Workshops

BCCPAC Volunteer Registration

2023 BCCPAC Conference & AGM Registration

Support & Resources info@bccpac.bc.ca

1 866 529 4397



Thank you to everyone for attending and for your participation!

We would love to hear from you!

Please provide any feedback you would like to share with the subject line: TownHall

info@bccpac.bc.ca