

## 16. Mental Health Funding for Counsellors in Schools

**SUBMITTED BY:** *SD46 (Sunshine Coast)*

### **BE IT RESOLVED:**

That BCSTA advocate to the Ministries of Health, Mental Health and Addictions, and Children and Family Development to accelerate implementation of the *Pathway to Hope* integrated mental health and substance use care plan by increasing sustained and targeted funding for additional school and integrated counsellors to deliver mental health care in school settings.

### **Rationale:**

School districts are increasingly using education dollars to respond to health issues. As school districts are increasingly expected to support child and youth mental health, we also must be provided with additional supports and financial resources to address this increased need.

The government's *Pathway to Hope* includes four sets of priority actions for the next three years, including improved wellness for children, youth and young adults. Given the impact of COVID-19 on mental health in children and youth, it is necessary to accelerate this plan and increase funding for mental health services in schools.

This motion advocates for the BCSTA motion Funding for Mental Health and Wellness Initiatives for Districts.

### **References:**

- [Government of BC, \*A Pathway to Hope: A roadmap for making mental health and addictions care better for people in British Columbia\*](#)
- [BCSTA 2019 AGM 2019 Motion 9: Funding for Mental Health and Wellness Initiatives for Districts](#)

**This is an action motion and does not change or contradict any existing Foundational or Policy Statement.**

**This motion relates to Policy Statements 4.2.2P (Health-Promoting Schools), 4.2.3P (Preventative Health Care Programs) and 4.2.4P (Substance Misuse Prevention).**