

From: [Hawryluk, Kerri PAB:EX](#)
To: [Hawryluk, Kerri PAB:EX;](#)
Subject: NR: BIGGER, BETTER GARIBALDI SECONDARY OFFICIALLY RE-OPENS
Date: October 13, 2010 10:41:23 AM

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

2010EDUC0116-001246

Oct. 13, 2010

Ministry of Education

BIGGER, BETTER GARIBALDI SECONDARY OFFICIALLY RE-OPENS

MAPLE RIDGE - Maple Ridge-Mission MLA Marc Dalton was joined by students, parents, teachers and community officials today to celebrate the official re-opening of the expanded and upgraded Garibaldi Secondary.

"This school has undergone a complete transformation since its humble beginnings as the relatively small building that first opened its doors back in 1958," said Dalton. "The renewed Garibaldi is a state-of-the-art green school that will meet the needs of 21st Century students and continue to serve our community for many years to come."

The renovated school includes new science and computer labs, a central library and an additional 2,956 square metres of overall space, increasing capacity from 875 to 1,050 students.

Several design elements were added to increase the school's energy-efficiency and make it more environmentally friendly. Green features, which could save the school up to 60 per cent in yearly operating costs, include:

- * Increased natural light in classrooms.
- * Electronic controls and improved lighting that lowers energy costs.
- * Energy-efficient, low-velocity air circulation systems.
- * In-floor and in-wall heat.
- * Ground source (geothermal) heating and cooling.

"The upgraded facilities will improve learning opportunities for Garibaldi's students," said Education Minister Margaret MacDiarmid. "We want students to have access to the best possible learning environments. By prioritizing safety, using green design practices and focusing on in-school technologies that support learning, we are ensuring B.C. schools will remain among the best in the world."

Government invested \$20.66 million to conduct structural upgrades and create additional student space at Garibaldi Secondary. Along with more classrooms and improved learning facilities, existing sections of the school were also seismically upgraded.

"The expansion and revitalization of this school has been a very positive step for education in Maple Ridge," said Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows board chair Ken Clarkson. "As a more spacious, safe, environmentally-conscious school, Garibaldi Secondary is a real point of pride for this community and for our school district."

Since 2001, the Province has invested more than \$37.2 million in capital projects in the Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows school district, including the new Samuel Robertson Technical Secondary. During the same period, the Province has spent more than \$1.7 billion to complete 80 new and replacement schools, 148 additions, 26 renovation projects and 22 site acquisitions across B.C.

By the end of 2010-11, the Province will have committed more than \$3.9 billion in school capital and maintenance projects. All new and replacement schools have been constructed to meet the latest seismic standards.

-30-

Contact:

Public Affairs Bureau
Ministry of Education
250 356-5963

For more information on government services or to subscribe to the Province's news feeds using RSS, visit the Province's website at www.gov.bc.ca.