

Overview

The complete Strategic Facilities Plan, as proposed by Stantec Consulting Ltd., can be found on the School District 61 web site. This is a large file (88mb):

http://www.sd61.bc.ca/finsrvs/ops1011/agendas/2011_06_13.pdf

The Request for Proposals was approved by trustees back in 2010. Section 3.1 indicates the scope of the project: “The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) wishes to retain a Consultant to prepare a comprehensive Strategic Facilities Plan for the entire district.”

The RFP can be found here:

http://www.sd61.bc.ca/super/pdf/FacilitiesLongRangePlans/4.Strategic_Facilities_Plan_Request_for_Proposal.pdf

June 22, 2011 update - a five minute audio recording of my presentation to the school board can be found here:

http://www.bratzer.net/school_board_june20.mp3

Text Examples

Unfortunately, the plan submitted by Stantec to School District 61 appears to contain text that has been copied from various public web sites without attribution. The original sources do not appear to have not been credited. Below are seven examples:

1) Page 3 of the Executive Summary (repeated on pages 63 and 69 of the Strategic Facilities Plan):

“The first Public Sector Energy Conservation Agreement (PSECA) was created as a partnership between BC Hydro and the Government of B.C. to help public sector organizations reduce provincial greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, energy consumption and operating costs, as well as support government achieve its goal of carbon neutrality.”

The sentence is modified slightly from the text on a Ministry of Environment web page:

<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/cas/mitigation/pseca.html>

“The first Public Sector Energy Conservation Agreement (PSECA) was created in 2007 as a partnership between BC Hydro and the Government of B.C. Budget 2008 committed \$75 million over three years to help public sector organizations

reduce provincial greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, energy consumption and operating costs, as well as support government in achieving its goal of carbon neutrality.”

2) Page 13 of the Strategic Facilities Plan:

“StrongStart BC early learning programs provide school-based early learning services for adults and their young children, aged birth to five, at no cost to families. Both children and adults can benefit from StrongStart BC early learning programs – children have access to high-quality learning environments and benefit from social interactions while the adults who accompany them learn new ways to support learning, both at the program and at home.

Qualified early childhood educators lead learning activities, including stories, music and art to help children get ready for success in kindergarten. Parents and caregivers attending StrongStart BC programs can expect to participate in organized sessions like story time, in play activities, and in serving a healthy snack. Parents and caregivers are likely to discover new ways to support their children’s learning at home, and may make valuable connections with others attending the program.”

These paragraphs are the same as text from the following Ministry of Education web page:

http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/early_learning/strongstart_bc/

3) Page 13 of the Strategic Facilities Plan:

“Schools have offered half day kindergarten for many years. Some schools have also offered full day programs for specific groups of children (Aboriginal, English language learners, and certain types of students with special needs). It has been up to boards of education or individual schools to decide whether to include full day kindergarten in their education programs.

Now, the Ministry of Education is phasing in universal access over 2 years. Full day kindergarten is currently available for over half of BC’s eligible kindergarten students. By September 2011, full day kindergarten will be available across the province.”

These paragraphs are the same as text from the following Ministry of Education web page:

http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/early_learning/fdk/

4) Page 13 and 14 of the Strategic Facilities Plan (and repeated on page 58):

“School districts are encouraged to consult with community partners and organizations to find unique and innovative ways to design schools with community use in mind and create places where people have better access to educational and community services.”

“Neighbourhood Learning Centre schools may include many services, such as child-care programs, office space, health clinics, sports programs, seniors’ centres or family resource centres.”

These sentences are the same as text from the Neighbourhood Learning Centres web page:

<http://www.neighbourhoodlearningcentres.gov.bc.ca/about/welcome.php>

5) Pages 58 and 59 of the Strategic Facilities Plan:

“The School Community Connections Program is jointly administered on behalf of the Ministry of Education through a collaborative partnership between the Union of British Columbia Municipalities and the British Columbia School Trustees’ Association.”

“The School Community Connections Program has been helping schools around BC to bring in and involve their communities.”

“Boards of Education and local governments may apply jointly for a maximum of three grants up to \$25,000 per school district. Depending on the number of applications that are submitted, an additional \$5,000 per school district may be available.

The 2010 program continues the goals of:

- encouraging the co-location of services for students, their families and the community at large within school facilities;
- making greater utilization of available or new school facilities; and
- encouraging collaborative, long-term facilities planning that takes into account the needs of the whole community.”

These sentences are the same as text from the School Community Connections web page:

<http://www.schoolconnections.ca/>

6) Page 12 of the Strategic Facilities Plan:

“Cloverdale Traditional School is a community of children, staff and parents whose aim is to inspire the human spirit through achievement in citizenship, intellectual development and creative expression.”

This sentence is the same as text from the Cloverdale school web page:

<http://www.sd61.bc.ca/school/cloverdale/>

7) Page 12 of the Strategic Facilities Plan:

“Learning programs are flexible, adapted to learning styles and rates of each learner, and skill based. Assessment is ongoing and includes self-evaluation within an anecdotal reporting format. Sundance does not give letter grades. We believe this provides more freedom for educational programs and activities. The focus is not on competition with others, but striving for one's personal best.”

This paragraph is the same as text from the Sundance school web site:

<http://www.sd61.bc.ca/school/sundance/alternative.html>

Other school districts

Stantec is also involved in strategic facility planning for a number of other school districts, including:

School District 67 (Okanagan Skaha)

<http://sd67.bc.ca/media/documents/long%20range%20facilities%20plan.pdf>

School District 33 (Chilliwack)

<http://www.sd33.bc.ca/sites/default/files/Regular%20Meeting%20Minutes%202011-04-26.pdf>

School District 34 (Abbotsford)

http://esb.sd34.bc.ca/Reference_Library/ESB_Minutes/Minutes_Finance%20Feb%207,%202011.pdf

School District 35 (Langley)

http://www.sd35.bc.ca/district/maintenance/documents/facilities_planning/100329-willoughby_pir.pdf

School District 47 (Powell River)

<http://www.prpeak.com/articles/2011/03/16/news/doc4d800ae2367df051750225.txt>

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