



MPP Rickford Announces New K-12 School in Rainy River

Province Invests \$10,063,039 to Build 311 Student School

NEWS

December 3, 2020

RAINY RIVER — Today, Greg Rickford, MPP for Kenora–Rainy River, on behalf of Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, announced Ministry of Education Capital Priorities and Child Care funding of \$10,063,039 to build a new Kindergarten to grade 12 school in Rainy River.

“I’m extremely proud to announce our government is building a new Kindergarten to grade 12 school to serve the communities across the Rainy River region,” said Rickford. “We remain committed to delivering on what matters most to the hardworking people and families in Northwestern Ontario. This funding is another example of our commitment to supporting our students and the future generations living in Kenora-Rainy River.”

The project will include 311 new student spaces. This will support the consolidation of Rainy River High School and Riverview Elementary, along with a previously approved 2 room child-care centre (1 toddler, 1 preschool), in Rainy River.

The 2020 funding is in support of an overall project cost of \$16.8 million with an anticipated completion date no later than the 2023-24 school year.

“This investment in infrastructure and education from the Ontario Government will help all the children and youth in the West Rainy River District including those from the Town of Rainy River, Dawson Township, Lake of the Woods Township, Morley Township, Big Grassy First Nation and Big Island First Nation achieve their best educational outcomes,” said Deborah Ewald, Mayor of the Town of Rainy River. “This is a great investment in the future for all the residents of the area.”

“We appreciate the support provided by the government for this project,” said Heather Campbell, Director of Education of the Rainy River District School Board. “The investment in the Rainy River Kindergarten to Grade 12 school, with the funding for child care and a child and family centre, will provide our students and their families with welcoming, safe, and supportive teaching and learning environments to enhance student achievement and well-being.”

“From modernizing our curriculum to revitalizing our classrooms and their facilities, we are investing in our students and giving them every tool to achieve their full potential,” said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education. “Our financing of the new K to 12 school in Rainy River further demonstrates our government’s historic investment in Ontario’s schools and child cares, as well as our overall commitment to supporting our students and families.”

Quick Facts

- The Ontario Government is working with school board partners to invest in capital projects that advance safe and accessible learning opportunities for students.
- To create new opportunities for Ontario's families, the government is investing up to \$1 billion to create up to 30,000 new child care spaces in schools over five years.
- The Ontario Government announced in Budget 2019 that over the next ten years, Ontario is investing over \$12 billion in capital grants, including allocating \$550M in 2020-2021 for new schools, additions and major renovations.
- This massive investment will build new schools and help existing schools after a decade of closures and maintenance backlog.
- Ontario is also providing school boards with a historic \$1.4 billion in funding to renew and maintain existing schools.
- This funding could be used to replace aging heating or air conditioning systems, repair roofs and windows, and install important accessibility features like elevators and ramps.

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