

# Nicomen Island and Cade Barr properties to be sold

**For Immediate Release**

**September 21, 2016**

At the September 20, 2016 Board meeting the Mission Public School District approved issuing a request for offers for the purchase/sale of the closed Nicomen Island and Cade Barr Schools. In the next month staff will be putting together an information package and formally advertising for offers to purchase the two properties. The School District will need the approval of the Ministry of Education prior to finalizing either sale. It is expected to take between three and six months to complete the sale process.

The Board also directed staff to gather more information on the potential uses of the Stave Falls School and the Durieu School. After considering the feedback received during the request for expression of interest process, the Board determined that more research is needed before making any decision on the potential disposition of these properties. The resolution authorized staff to meet with the District of Mission and the Fraser Valley Regional District regarding potential community use of these facilities. As a number of students in the Stave Falls area attend schools in the Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows system the Board also authorized staff to meet with the Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows School District to better understand the educational needs of the Stave Falls area.

Once additional information is gathered, a report will be prepared for the Board on the Stave Falls and Durieu Schools. Information on the final sale of the Nicomen Island and Cade Barr schools will be released in due course.

Media Contact:

Angus Wilson, Superintendent  
Corien Becker, Secretary Treasurer

604-814-9701  
604-814-3700

**Background:**

The Mission Public School District initiated a public process for the potential disposition of the four properties, soliciting expressions of interest early in 2016. An open house was held at each site. Numerous comments and expressions of interest were received. Based on the comments and the review of the properties, staff recommended disposing of the Nicomen Island and Cade Barr properties immediately through a formal public request for offers.

Community interest was expressed for community and/or education use of the Durieu and Stave Falls properties with the concern that the Stave Falls School could be needed as a school again in the next five to ten years. As such, staff recommended deferring the potential sale of these two sites until the Board can determine whether the local governments are interested in using or acquiring the schools for community use, or whether there is a need for the Stave Falls School to be used as a school in the future. As a number of Mission students from the Stave Falls area are attending school in Maple Ridge, it would be prudent to discuss the facility needs with the Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows School District prior to considering any disposition of the property.

The following information summarizes pertinent information, and the responses and comments received from the expression of interest process:

**Nicomen Island School, 40071 Nicomen Island Trunk Road, Mission BC**

- The Nicomen Island building is currently boarded up, and in significant need of repair.
- There is no tenant in this building, and no recommendations to hold onto this site for community use.
- A number of individuals expressed interest in acquiring the site – at least one to convert the building into a residence.
- One individual expressed interest in having a building inspection done prior to selling. This is typically done as a condition of sale.
- Fourteen (14) people signed in at the open house.

**Cade Barr Elementary, 33447 Dewdney Trunk Road, Mission BC**

- The Cade Barr building currently has a tenant.
- The building needs significant repairs, including a new roof.
- A few individuals expressed interest in purchasing the site.
- Seven (7) people signed in at the open house.

**Stave Falls Elementary, 30204 Brackley Avenue, Mission BC**

- The Stave Falls building is currently boarded up, but used for storing School District assets.
- A neighbourhood group suggests that there may be approximately 70 students living in the Stave Falls area.
- With the new development in the Stave Falls area, the school may be needed to be a school again in the near future.
- A number of people indicated that they would like to purchase the property.
- One suggestion was to use the site as an outdoor learning destination school (gateway to the Stave West forests).
- One group would like to manage the school as a mixed use centre until the building is needed for educational purposes in the future.
- Twenty-seven (27) people signed in at the open house.

#### Durieu Elementary, 11620 Seux Road, Mission BC

- The Durieu building is used minimally (tenant 3 – 6 hours per week).
- Interest was expressed in using this site as a community centre, or public asset.
- The community water source is located on the School District property, and the community expressed concern with losing control of the water source.
- Six (6) people signed in at the open house.

#### **Policy, Regulation, Legislation:**

The Disposition of property by a School District is regulated by the *School Act*. The School District will require a Ministerial Order prior to disposing of any of the properties. The request to the Minister will require the Board's reasoning for the Disposition.

#### **School Act, Acquisition and disposal of land**

*96 (3) Subject to the orders of the minister, the board may dispose of land or improvements, or both.*

#### **Resolution of the Board, September 20, 2016 public meeting:**

*THAT the Board of Education authorize the issuance of a Request for Offers for the disposition of the following properties:*

- 1. Nicomen Island School, 40071 Nicomen Island Trunk Road, Lot 4, Plan NWP29588, Part SW ¼, District Lot 474, Section 36, Township 20, Group 1, New Westminster Land District PID 009-023-623;*
- 2. Cade Barr School, 33447 Dewdney Trunk Road, Parcel A, Lot 1, Plan NWP2184, Section 28, Township 17, New Westminster Land District, PID 012-547-565;*

*AND THAT the Board of Education authorize staff to enter into discussions with the District of Mission and the School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows) regarding potential disposition or use of the Stave Falls Elementary School for community use or educational purposes and provide a report to the Board on the discussion and potential options;*

*AND THAT the Board of Education authorize staff to enter into discussions with the Fraser Valley Regional District regarding the potential disposition of the Durieu Elementary School for community use, and provide a report to the Board on the discussion and potential options.*

**Carried**