

## POLICY 6.51 DISPOSAL OF LAND OR IMPROVEMENTS

The Board of Education recognizes that occasionally certain lands or improvements owned by the Board may become surplus to the educational needs of the District and may therefore consider the disposal of such surplus land or buildings.

Prior to consideration of any possible disposal of lands or buildings, the Board will make a determination whether such lands or buildings are surplus to the educational needs of the District. In making such determination, the Board will:

- consider and comply with any guidance or direction from the Ministry responsible for K-12 public education in British Columbia; and
- undertake, with our local First Nations (Lower Nicola, Upper Nicola, Shackan, Coldwater, Nooaitch, and Upper Similkameen) stakeholders, local governments, community organizations and/or the public, such consultations as the Board may consider appropriate with respect to the lands or buildings involved.

A consultation process shall include:

- consideration of future enrolment growth in the District, including K-12, adult programs and early learning;
- consideration of alternative community use of surplus space in school buildings and other facilities; and
- a fair consideration of the community's input and adequate opportunity for the community to respond the Board's possible plan for the lands or buildings.

Where District lands or buildings have been designated as surplus, every effort should be made to dispose of that asset in a manner consistent with Ministry direction, and where such land or buildings are to be disposed of, the Board will seek to accrue the maximum financial benefit to the District given the nature of the body which is acquiring the lands or buildings.

Where the Board has determined that any given land and/or facility is surplus to current needs and should be disposed of, the following will apply:

1. The Board shall obtain an appraisal of the property by an independent professional appraiser to obtain an estimate of the fair market value of the land and/or buildings.

2. Following consultation and subject to the approval of the Minister, and as an act of reconciliation, the Board will first offer and attempt to negotiate an agreement with one or more local First Nations for the purchase of the property.
3. If there is no interest from one or more of the local First Nations to purchase the property and/or purchase agreement is not finalized, the Board shall, subject to the terms of this policy, offer such surplus land and building assets for sale to the local governments and then the general public, unless such disposal is to another board or institution for educational purposes.
4. After appraisal, authority to dispose of the surplus asset is delegated to the Secretary-Treasurer, who will establish the public process for its disposal, which shall be consistent with the intent of this Policy.
5. Acceptance or rejection of any offer is subject to Board approval.
6. Once the Board has determined a successful purchaser, a Board bylaw authorizing the disposal will be made pursuant to Section 65(5) of the *School Act*.
7. Notification to the Minister responsible for K-12 public education will be made pursuant to the Disposal of Land or Improvements Order.