

## THE CSCN'S BUDGET 2022 PRIORITIES

**Edmonton, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022** – With the release of the provincial budget looming, the Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord (CSCN) is highlighting the importance of funding by the provincial government of much needed francophone school infrastructure. Responding to the needs of école Gabrielle-Roy and Michaëlle-Jean's school communities as soon as possible is a priority for the CSCN and the Minister of Education was reminded of this in a letter sent by the CSCN earlier this month.

"For too long, our public students in Edmonton have been waiting for equivalent spaces that meet the needs of modern school programming. It is high time that our kids get to grow and learn in a 21<sup>st</sup>-century space. These two schools are our top priority for new school construction and we urge Minister LaGrange to announce the funding for this project," says Tanya Saumure, CSCN Board Chair.

École Michaëlle-Jean is currently located in spaces leased from another school board that plans to sell the site as soon as possible. After the CSCN's request for financial support to purchase the current school site was denied by the provincial government, the CSCN moved forward with a request to build two schools on the same site. This project would see the replacement of École Gabrielle-Roy and would provide École Michaëlle-Jean their own space.

After the 2020 Supreme Court decision, the CSCN revamped its capital plan to reflect the changes brought about by this judgement. This plan sets out the CSCN's priorities in each of the categories established by Alberta Education. The École Gabrielle-Roy and École Michaëlle-Jean projects are the CSCN's top priority for new constructions, whereas École Boréale is the CSCN's number one priority for modernisations. The CSCN's capital plan is available on our [website](#) and will be updated in March 2022.

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*Created in 1994, the Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord (CSCN) offers each student a Catholic or public francophone education that favours individual growth, success, and community engagement. The CSCN welcomes almost 3,800 students in 19 francophone schools on a vast territory that spreads from Fort McMurray to Red Deer and Jasper to Lloydminster. Since its creation, the CSCN endeavours to inspire its students to become proud Francophones and engaged and contributing citizens.*