

# School District 63 (Saanich) White Road Property Virtual Open House

**Wednesday, December 9, 2020**

**7:00pm to 8:00pm**

# Overview of Open House

- Background - White Road Property, and Consultation and Decisions to date
- Next Steps - Funding and Rezoning
- Proposed Early Learning Program and Site Plan
- Questions and Feedback
- Adjourn (8:00pm)

# The White Road Property

- The property is a 1.73 acre lot located at the intersection of White Road and Veyaness Road
- Donated to the predecessor of SD63 in 1873 by Mr. William Turgoose to “hold and use for public school purposes in the district”
- It was once the location of a school but has been long vacant

# Community Consultation

- Community Consultation began February 2017 and concluded September 2018
- The overall question to the community:

*What should the School Board do with the White Road property so that the educational needs of our students and community are best served and the wishes of the donor are respected?*

# How could the property be used by the Board of Education?

- The property is not suitable for a neighbourhood school site given its location and relatively small size
- Determining if there is an alternative “public school purpose” was a key objective of the consultation
- Status quo is not a long term option

# Questions considered

- Is there an alternate public school use?
- If an alternate public school use could not be identified and the property were sold:
  - what would be the preferred future use of the property?
  - how should the Board of Education use the proceeds to support the educational needs of students and the community?

# Result of Consultation

Board Decision (October 2018) - review benefits and feasibility of creating a Nature Based Early Learning Centre on the White Road Property

More information on the consultation and feasibility work can be found at:

<https://www.sd63.bc.ca/leadership-governance/white-road-consultation>

# Early Learning Centre - Benefits and Feasibility

- The benefits are clear:
  - Need for more full-time childcare spaces on the Peninsula
  - Early learning aligns with the Board's educational mandate
  - Enhancing childcare and early learning are government priorities
- The project is feasible if:
  - funded (BC Childcare New Spaces Fund); and
  - the property is rezoned.

# Next Steps

- Funding application has been submitted and a funding decision is expected February 2021
  - Without funding the project is not financially feasible
- Rezoning Process
  - Planning to initiate process in December 2020

# Proposed Program

- Early learning program (ages 3 to 5) with 72 spaces
- Program focus:
  - Nature-based early learning program
  - Integrate and leverage existing K-12 programs to create opportunities for learning and seamless transition into kindergarten
  - Infused Indigenous content and learning
  - Full day care (likely 8am to 6pm)

# Proposed Site Plan

- Modular construction - 400 square meter building.
- Entrance off Veyaness Road with new sidewalk connecting pedestrian access to East Saanich Road.
- Pick-up/drop-off loop and 14 parking spaces.
- Maintain natural forest setting by preserving as many trees as possible.
- Right of Way for pedestrian trail connecting White Road to Seabrook Road.

# Proposed Site Plan

- Review detailed plan (attached)

# Questions and Feedback

- Questions?
- Feedback on plan - email [jreid@saanichschools.ca](mailto:jreid@saanichschools.ca)