

## Members of the Legislative Assembly - Vancouver

Write to your elected officials and tell them your concerns about how the budget shortfall could affect your school community.

We've provided a sample letter on reverse and at the VSB website. Go to <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/advocacy>

**Hon. Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid, MLA** (Liberal) Vancouver-Fairview  
**Minister of Education & Minister Responsible for Early Learning and Literacy**  
Email: margaret.macdiarmid.mla@leg.bc.ca

<b>Constituency:</b> 104 - 1245 West Broadway Vancouver, BC V6H 1G7 Phone: 604-660-7061 Fax: 604-660-7065	<b>Victoria office:</b> Room 347 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 Phone: 250-387-1977 Fax: 250-387-3200
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**Hon. Mary McNeil, MLA** (Liberal) Vancouver-False Creek  
**Minister of State for the Olympics and ActNow BC**  
Email: mary.mcneil.mla@leg.bc.ca

<b>Constituency:</b> 201 - 1168 Hamilton Street Vancouver, BC V6B 2S2 Phone: 604-775-2601 Fax: 604-775-2607	<b>Victoria office:</b> Room 325 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 Phone: 250-952-7634 Fax: 250-952-7641
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**Hon. Kash Heed, MLA** (Liberal) Vancouver-Fraserview  
**Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General**  
Email: kash.heed.mla@leg.bc.ca

<b>Constituency:</b> 3158 East 54th Avenue Vancouver, BC V5S 1Z1 Phone: 604-775-2246 Fax: 604-775-2422	<b>Victoria office:</b> Room 236 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 Phone: 250-356-7717 Fax: 250-356-8270
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**Shane Simpson, MLA** (NDP) Vancouver-Hastings  
Email: shane.simpson.mla@leg.bc.ca

<b>Constituency:</b> 2365 Hastings Street E Vancouver, BC V5L 1V6 Phone: 604-775-2277 Fax: 604-775-2352	<b>Victoria office:</b> Room 201 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 Phone: 250-387-3655 Fax: 250-387-4680
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**Mable Elmore, MLA (NDP)** Vancouver-Kensington  
Email: mabel.elmore.mla@leg.bc.ca

<b>Constituency:</b> 6106 Fraser Street Vancouver, BC V5W 3A1 Phone: 604-775-1033 Fax: 604-775-1330	<b>Victoria office:</b> Room 201 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 Phone: 250-387-3655 Fax: 250-387-4680
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**Adrian Dix, MLA (NDP)** Vancouver-Kingsway  
Email: adrian.dix.mla@leg.bc.ca

<b>Constituency:</b> 5022 Joyce Street Vancouver, BC V5R 4G6 Phone: 604-660-0314 Fax: 604-660-1131	<b>Victoria office:</b> Room 201 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 Phone: 250-387-3655 Fax: 250-387-4680
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**Hon. Dr. Moira Stillwell, MLA** (Liberal) Vancouver-Langara  
Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development  
Email: moira.stillwell.mla@leg.bc.ca

<b>Constituency:</b> 365 - 5740 Cambie Street Vancouver, BC V5Z 3A6 Phone: 604-660-8380 Fax: 604-660-8383	<b>Victoria office:</b> Room 342 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 Phone: 250-356-2771 Fax: 250-356-3000
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**Jenny Wai Ching Kwan, MLA** (NDP) Vancouver-Mount Pleasant  
Email: jenny.kwan.mla@leg.bc.ca

<b>Constituency:</b> 1070 - 1641 Commercial Drive Vancouver, BC V5L 3Y3 Phone: 604-775-0790 Fax: 604-775-0881	<b>Victoria office:</b> Room 201 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 Phone: 250-387-3655 Fax: 250-387-4680
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**Hon. Gordon Campbell, MLA** (Liberal) Vancouver-Point Grey  
**Premier**  
Email: gordon.campbell.mla@leg.bc.ca or premier@gov.bc.ca

<b>Constituency:</b> 3615 West 4th Avenue Vancouver, BC V6R 1P2 Phone: 604-660-3202 Fax: 604-660-5488	<b>Victoria office:</b> Room 156 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 Phone: 250-387-1715 Fax: 250-387-0087
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**Hon. Colin Hansen, MLA** (Liberal) Vancouver-Quilchena  
**Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier**  
Email: colin.hansen.mla@leg.bc.ca

<b>Constituency:</b> 5640 Dunbar Street Vancouver, BC V6N 1W7 Phone: 604-664-0748 Fax: 604-664-0750	<b>Victoria office:</b> Room 153 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 Phone: 250-387-3751 Fax: 250-387-5594
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**Spencer Herbert, MLA** (NDP) Vancouver-West End  
Email: spencer.herbert.mla@leg.bc.ca

<b>Constituency:</b> 923 Denman Street Vancouver, BC V6G 2L9 Phone: 604-660-7307 Fax: 604-660-7300	<b>Victoria office:</b> Room 201 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 Phone: 250-387-3655 Fax: 250-387-4680
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## Write a letter to your MLA, the Education Minister or the Premier

Below is a sample letter that can be personalized and sent to your MLA, the Education Minister or Premier.

Dear [insert names of MLA/Minister]:

As a parent of a student at \_\_\_\_\_ school in Vancouver, I am deeply concerned about the increasing effect of funding shortfalls, which results in the loss of services and supports to children like mine.

The Vancouver school district is projecting a funding shortfall of up to \$18.12 million for the 2010/11 school year. Without a funding increase to cover this shortfall, the Vancouver School Board will be required to make drastic cuts to an already very lean and underfunded school system.

While it may be true that provincial funding for education is at its highest level, recent increases have not kept pace with rising costs, resulting in funding shortfalls.

Vancouver has cut more than \$51 million in staffing, programs and services since 2002/03 because funding increases did not keep pace with rising costs. As you know, most of these costs are provincially determined and downloaded to district operating budgets, for example: provincially negotiated salary increases; pension plan contributions; MSP premiums; carbon emission reporting; and offset purchase requirements. If these costs are not fully funded, staffing, programs and services must be reduced, further eroding what has proven to be a world-class public education system.

I urge you to ensure that public education funding is increased to fully cover the cost pressures faced by BC school districts.

I will close by quoting our Lieutenant Governor, The Honourable Steven Point, who stated in the February 2009 Speech from the Throne: "Education is the best economic development and health promotion program ever invented. In tight economic times, it is only smart to maintain and expand educational investments."

Thank you for ensuring your government's commitment to protect public education so that our children can be equipped with the 21st Century knowledge and skills necessary to ensure the future health, prosperity and economic success of this province.

Sincerely,

[Your name]

### Key Dates in the budget process

March 2	Provincial budget released
March 15	Provincial announcement of 2010-2011 Preliminary Operating Grant
March 24	Student budget forum – Hamber Secondary
March 24	Public Open House on Budget at Van Tech and Churchill
March 25	Public Open House on Budget at Killarney and Kitsilano
April 7	Presentation of preliminary budget proposals
April 20	Public consultation on preliminary budget proposals
April 27	Presentation of revised preliminary budget proposals
April 29	2010-2011 Preliminary Operating Budget approved by Board of Trustees



**Vancouver School Board** - School District #39 (Vancouver)  
1580 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC V6J 5K8

Visit our website at [www.vsb.bc.ca](http://www.vsb.bc.ca) for more information on the budget process