



eBulletin

BC Tripartite Education Agreement
Supporting First Nation Student Success

SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

In this issue:

- [Full-Time Kindergarten 4 Funding](#)
- [BCTEA Funding Handbook](#)
- [Regional Sessions](#)

Update for First Nation Schools: Full-Time Kindergarten 4 Funding

Canada has made a commitment to provide funding for full-time Kindergarten 4 (K4) programs in First Nations schools across Canada beginning in the 2019/2020 school year, reflecting joint discussions of the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Chiefs Committee on Education (CCoE) and National Indian Education Council (NIEC) and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC).

In order to inform the advancement of that commitment for First Nations schools in British Columbia, FNEC/FNSA distributed a survey in spring 2018 asking how many schools would be prepared for implementation of full-time K4 this school year. 57 schools responded to that survey, showing that 43 schools were prepared to offer full-time K4 programming this year. The remaining 14 responding schools indicated that they would not be ready until fall 2019.

At this time, *Canada has indicated **September 2019** as the start date for implementation of full-time K4 funding.*

Information drafted by ISC has suggested that the requirements for accessing funding for full-time K4 will *likely* include:

- Having a facility that meets space requirements and meets or exceeds all code requirements pertaining to the use and /or occupancy as a school, resulting from increased enrolment that will be verified as meeting ISC's health and safety standards, as an education facility.
- Having a certified teacher or Early Childhood Educator to deliver the full-time K4 programming (*the option of having an ECE specialist is still being confirmed*).
- Having a letter of support from Chief and Council for the program expansion.

Discussions are still underway regarding whether there will be any additional capital funding to expand existing facilities for the purpose of full-time K4. At this time, *no additional capital funding has been confirmed*. Also, it is expected that while there will be the ability to include K4 students as full-time FTEs on the annual ISC nominal roll, *there will be no additional operating funding provided when this change takes place*.

Please note: if your First Nation does not yet offer K4 at all (i.e. you are not currently offering half-time K4), you must make an application to ISC prior to adding that grade level to your school programming. *Applications to add grade(s) or program(s) must be submitted to ISC by **January 31st**, in order to receive approval for implementation the next school year.*

We will provide further information about this issue, including the final schedule for the funding availability, as it becomes available.

For Further Information

Anyone interested in further information about full-time K4 funding is encouraged to contact Brenda Kiss at ISC: phone: 604-655-2864 brenda.kiss@canada.ca

Anyone with concerns or feedback about this issue also is welcome to contact Jan Haugen at janh@fnesc.ca.

BCTEA Funding Handbook

The [BCTEA BC First Nations Education Funding Handbook \(September 2018\)](#) is now available. This Handbook was prepared by the First Nations Education Steering Committee and First Nations Schools Association to explain Indigenous Services Canada's BCTEA Funding Detail Budget Report Table that is sent to First Nations each year. That Table shows the components of the BCTEA funding calculations for First Nations schools in BC. The BCTEA funding formula relates to federally-funded students who are included on ISC's annual Nominal Roll.

This Handbook will be updated as necessary if the BCTEA funding components change.

Major sections of the Handbook include:

- Introduction
- Overview of BCTEA Funding for BC First Nations Schools

- Row-by-Row Explanation, BCTEA FUnding Detail Budget Report Table
- Appendix: ISC BCTEA Funding Detail Budget Report Table
- Appendix: ISC List of First Nations and Associated School Districts

Regional Sessions

The annual Regional Sessions provide an opportunity to learn more about the work of FNEsc and our partners, facilitating dialogue about current First Nation education issues. The 2018 Regional Sessions will focus on details related to BCTEA, including the new funding for language and culture programming and transportation capital.

[Register for a Regional Session](#)

Feedback and Support

For the latest BCTEA information, support contacts and past issues of the eBulletin, please visit our BCTEA webpage.



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