

**Kitsilano Parent Advisory
Council**

c/o Kitsilano Secondary School
2550 West Tenth Avenue
Vancouver, B.C.
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Chair:

James Burton

Vice Chair:

Marina Niks

Secretary:

Thomas Winkler

Treasurer:

Megan Swail

DPAC Representative:

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<http://kitsilano.vsb.bc.ca/Parents/>

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2550 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V6K 2J6

28 April 2008

The Honourable Gordon Campbell, M.L.A.
Premier of British Columbia West Annex
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC
V8V 1X4

Dear Premier:

RE: Kitsilano Secondary School and the Seismic Mitigation Program

The Kitsilano School Renewal Committee sent you a letter dated 12 March 2008 outlining the school community's concerns regarding the provincial Seismic Mitigation Program and the process by which it is being implemented within our school district. We eagerly are awaiting your reply to address what we see as three critical issues: a lack of funding for appropriate seismic upgrading that also allows for complete school renewal, be it renovation and/or rebuilding; a lack of recognition and consideration of heritage value for historic schools; and the absence of an integrated planning process.

We would like to invite you, as our MLA, to a meeting at Kitsilano Secondary to discuss these issues affecting our school and community. We know that you, a long-time resident of Kitsilano – Point Grey, are fully aware of Kitsilano Secondary School's importance to the neighbourhood as an educational resource for the formation of our youth, and for adults continuing on their path of life-long learning. We believe that the Government of British Columbia must address the inadequate funding of the Seismic Mitigation Program and the constraints placed upon school districts in its implementation.

In recognition that this issue of seismic mitigation and school renewal is one of critical importance to all school districts, communities, and families in British Columbia, we also are seeking your support and assistance to have the Select Standing Committee on Education hold hearings on the topic at Kitsilano Secondary School. By establishing a dialogue amongst all stakeholders and partners in education, we trust that a dynamic and innovative approach to seismic mitigation and school renewal can be achieved, one that respects the past and establishes environmentally responsible schools that celebrate the future. A well-designed and conceived school that incorporates the best of the past with the will of the present can be the crucible for fostering the hopes and dreams of our youth.

We trust that we will meet with you soon and hope that you will consider Kitsilano Secondary School as a host site for the Select Standing Committee on Education hearings on the Seismic Mitigation Program.

Sincerely,

per Kitsilano Renewal Committee, chair James Burton
cc: Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Education shirley.bond.mla@leg.bc.ca
Clarence Hansen, Chair, Vancouver School Board