
NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Education

Innovative project creates campus at sport centre

FORT ST. JOHN – The Energetic Learning Campus (ELC) at the Pomeroy Sport Centre was officially opened today by Minister of Education George Abbott.

This one-of-a-kind learning opportunity will see 160 Grade 10 students from North Peace Secondary school studying in a campus-like setting at the centre with access to both community facilities and community members.

The learning program at ELC, while including core courses, goes beyond the regular curriculum. Study will be predominantly project-based, and over time will enhance the Peace River North school district's dual credit and work experience programs. Students will have the opportunity to train in areas such as ice-making and physical plant maintenance, as well as other skill-training opportunities found in the facility.

The total cost of converting space within the Centre for the Energetic Learning Campus was \$6 million. Thirty new jobs for the area were created as a result of the project.

A one-time payment of \$1.4 million went to the City of Fort St. John as an offsetting payment for the construction of the Pomeroy Sport Centre shell, and a one-time charge of \$10 was made for renting the space for 30 years.

The Pomeroy Sport Centre features two NHL-sized ice rinks, an Olympic-sized long track speed skating oval and a 340-metre walking/running track used by the entire community. The Energetic Learning Campus is an annex for North Peace Secondary school and serves as its Neighbourhood Learning Centre.

Quotes:

Minister of Education George Abbott –

“The Energetic Learning Campus is one of the most exciting and innovative education projects this Province has seen and I congratulate the district and the community for having the vision to see this opportunity and the energy to bring it to fruition.”

MLA for Peace River North Pat Pimm –

“Working with school district 60 to create a learning campus at the Pomeroy Sports Centre has been one of my top priorities. I am gratified to see it realized today. This will be a fantastic facility for students, the school district and the community.”

Peace River North board of education chair Heather Hannaford –

“This innovative campus, or as importantly the anticipation of the students’ achievement in and around it, excites us all. Guided by a group of enthusiastic teachers, students studying in this facility will experience a variety of opportunities as they prepare for their future careers.”

Quick Facts:

- The Province has invested close to \$13.5 million for capital projects in the Peace River North school district.
- Since 2001, the Province has committed more than \$3.9 billion in school capital and maintenance projects throughout B.C.

Learn More:

Energetic Learning Campus: <http://www.prn.bc.ca/elc/>

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