

SCHOOL UNION REP: PLEASE COPY FOR MEMBERS



December 7, 2005

Second report on December 5, 2005, Learning Round Table meeting

Allocation of the funds not spent because of the strike:

- Approximately \$130 million is available for expenditure, but it must be expended by March 31, 2006. Any money not expended by then must be applied to reducing the debt.
- \$40 million has been transferred to the BCTF to cover the Ready recommendation on reimbursement for the fee for salary indemnity and long-term disability.
- \$4 million is allocated to First Nations education, reflecting the tuition from the federal government for the ten days with no classes.
- \$20 million is allocated for class size and class composition, according to the terms of the agreement between the BCTF and the government. Details are to be announced December 7.
- \$3 million is allocated to the plans submitted by some districts to provide extra assistance to some students in courses that have provincial exams.
- About \$30 million will be allocated to go to schools based on \$50-per-student. This is to be used for expenditures that can be made by March 31, 2006. The decision on how the money is to be used must be signed off as an agreement by the teachers, PAC, and principal. Further details will be available shortly.
- Another approximately \$30 million will be allocated to districts for expenditures made by March 31, 2006.

These decisions will be finalized in January 2006.

Additional funds will be allocated for use by the Ministry for projects

Details on the school and district funds will be issued by December 19. An initial proposal will be circulated to the round table for a quick response before guidelines are finalized.

The types of expenditures discussed (but not intended as an exclusive list) included special needs assessments for students on the list for assessment, resources for school libraries, textbooks, professional development, intensive reading instruction for students with difficulties, and class-composition problems that would apply for the January to March period.

Next meetings

A meeting of the minister of education and the BCTF will take place on December 14. The next meeting of the Learning Round Table will be in January, with a date still to be set.

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