



MEDIA RELEASE

December 5, 2019

Menstrual Products in Schools

Backgrounder

In April, a ministerial order was issued by the Ministry of Education requiring all public schools to provide direct access to free menstrual products in school washrooms by the end of December. Education Minister Rob Fleming stated, "This is a common-sense step forward that is, frankly, long overdue." With this announcement, British Columbia becomes the first province in Canada to mandate free menstrual products in schools. As part of the implementation process, each district could determine the appropriate methods to meet this mandate and a one time subsidy was available to help districts with start up costs.

Implementation

Since the announcement in the spring, our staff began drafting a new policy for our Board of Education and researching how best to implement the program. In early November, our Facilities dept. selected two styles of dispensers and recently began installing these in area schools. We anticipate all elementary and secondary schools will have menstrual products available free of charge by December 10th.

Superintendent of Schools Mr. Manu Madhok commented, "We want to thank our staff for their time and effort on implementing this important initiative."

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