
NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Education

B.C. COMPANY TO BUILD FULL DAY K MODULARS, CREATE JOBS

VICTORIA – Shelter Industries of Aldergrove signed a \$28.5-million contract with the Ministry of Education to design, build, deliver and install 133 modular classrooms for school districts across B.C. as the Province implements full-day kindergarten for all children in September 2011, announced Education Minister Margaret MacDiarmid.

“We are pleased that this contract has gone to a B.C. company. Shelter Industries will use its manufacturing operations in Aldergrove and the Okanagan to construct these new warm, colourful, naturally-lit classrooms,” said MacDiarmid. “With manufacturing of the modulars taking place in B.C., this investment will support the equivalent of 180 jobs and ensure our students have high quality learning spaces.”

Now that the provincial contract has been signed, Shelter Industries will work with 24 school districts to plan the construction and delivery of the modular classrooms.

“We are thrilled to be working on this project with the Ministry of Education,” said Harold Clifford, Chief Operating Officer of Shelter Industries. “Many of the people involved in the design and construction of these modulars have children in the B.C. school system, so it’s very rewarding to know our work will benefit students and communities right here in our own province. It also recognizes our 25 years of service in providing modular building solutions to clients throughout B.C., the Pacific NW region and internationally.”

Following Shelter’s agreements with individual school districts, the next step in this process will be to begin construction, which is anticipated to start in the next few months with classrooms ready for occupancy by September 2011.

Over the next year, 133 modular classrooms will be installed at 101 school sites across the Province. The new modular classrooms have been designed by Shelter Industries to enhance the teaching and learning environment. These classrooms will incorporate energy-efficient heating and cooling systems and will be built with high-performance building envelopes to minimize operating costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. To meet the commitment of British Columbia’s Wood First Act and showcase the use of wood, there will be a wood finish on about half of the buildings’ exterior walls and half of the interior walls and ceilings will be finished in visible wood.

The first phase of full-day kindergarten was implemented in September 2010 with more than half of the province’s youngest learners beginning this year and the remaining kindergarten

students beginning in September 2011, bringing the number of full-day kindergarten students to an estimated 40,000.

While enrolment has declined by 56,000 students province-wide since 2000/01, the implementation of full-day kindergarten will require more space than is presently available in some neighbourhoods. These classrooms are part of a \$144.5-million plan that includes: 122 classrooms created through school additions and renovations, 133 modular classrooms, a new school in Langley and approximately \$10 million to furnish and equip classrooms, including the conversion of existing space, to support full-day kindergarten.

For copies of the illustrative renderings of the modular classrooms,
<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/news/docs/2010/FullDayK-ModularClassrooms.pdf>

For details on the \$144.5 million six step plan by district, visit
http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2009-2013/2010PREM0121-000700.htm

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