



# Hudson Seismic Mitigation

Bulletin #1

June, 2019

Dear Hudson students and parents,

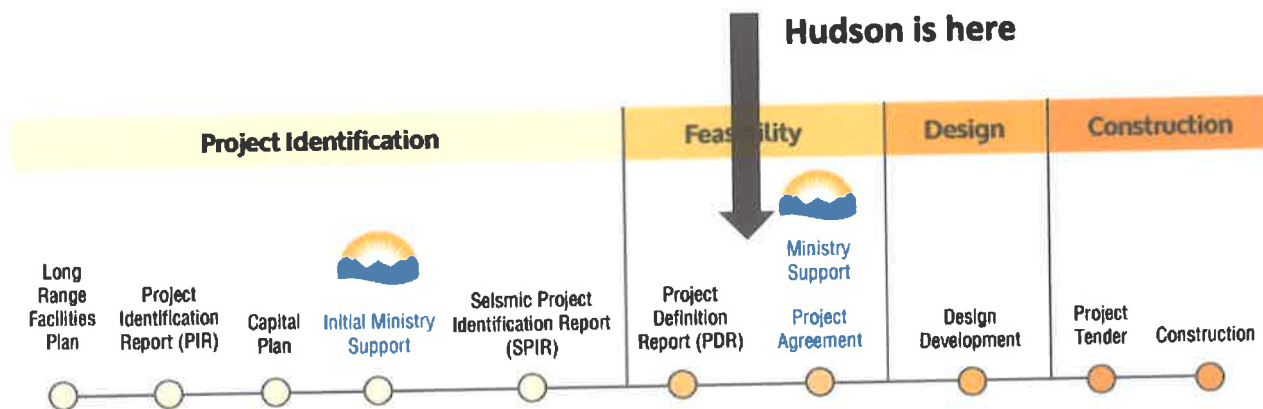
Henry Hudson Elementary has been assessed as an H1 school – one at the highest level of seismic risk – and is in the queue for BC's Seismic Mitigation Program

(<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/administration/capital/seismic-mitigation>). The school is currently in the business case development phase meaning that a proposal, called a Project Definition Report or PDR, has been submitted to the Ministry of Education. A PDR report generally provides 3 options, along with their associated costs, for the Ministry to consider:

- A seismic upgrade of the existing building
- A full replacement school
- A partial replacement, meaning that part of the existing building would be structurally enhanced and that part of the upgraded school would be new

Considerations in the PDR that factor into the option that is chosen include cost, the amount of deferred maintenance at Hudson, and the heritage status of the building.

Many of you may be wondering about project phases and timelines. While we don't have any that are specific to Hudson yet, the following diagram will give you a sense of where we are in the overall process.



Hudson's PDR was submitted in February, 2019 and a decision is expected either this month or in early September. Only the Vancouver School Board and the Vancouver Project Office, which manages Vancouver-based seismic mitigation projects, has seen the contents of the PDR. We have been told that it is possible but highly unlikely that an announcement will be made over the summer.



When an announcement is made, an Open House will be organized at the school to share the following information with parents, students and staff:

- Which option has been chosen
- How much money has been allocated for the project
- Whether temporary accommodation for student is needed and where
  - With some seismic projects, students are relocated to swing schools while the construction work proceeds. In some cases when a full replacement school is built, the new school is constructed at the other end of the field and students continue to attend the current school.
- Any associated transportation and safety issues

Also following the announcement, a seismic advisory group (SAG) for Hudson will be set-up for the duration of the project. Members of the SAG will include:

- Laura MacDougall (Chair, Hudson Seismic Committee)
- Robert Ford (PAC Chair)
- Kelly Han (Executive Director, HOOSC)
- 2 Hudson teachers
- Hudson Principal or VP
- A VSB liaison
- Architects and engineers from the Vancouver Project Office

At this point Hudson will enter the Design phase of the project which is expected to take at least a year.

Laura and Robert will communicate information from these discussions to the larger Hudson Seismic Committee, to the PAC and to the Hudson parent and student community at large through bulletins such as this, and through updates at PAC meetings. We invite parent questions, feedback and input at PAC meetings or through the PAC email ([HUDSONPAC@gmail.com](mailto:HUDSONPAC@gmail.com)) and expect to consult with you from time to time on important issues through surveys or special meetings. You can also write the PAC email to get more actively involved with the Hudson Seismic Committee.

I look forward to ongoing engagement with all of you as this project rolls out over the next several years. With the upcoming project agreement and funding announcement, we will be one step closer to a safer learning environment for our children.

Sincerely,

Laura MacDougall

Chair, Hudson Seismic Committee