

## **Ford Government to Build New Student Spaces in Oakville**

*Province Approves New Addition to St. Michael Catholic Elementary School*

**NEWS**

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Ontario's government is protecting what matters most by investing in new local schools to help provide our students with a world-class education system that ensures they have the skills they need to succeed.

The province has given approval to tender up to \$3M for an addition to St. Michael Catholic Elementary School in Oakville, Ontario. The addition and renovation will expand the school's capacity to accommodate 23 new student spaces, will include a new library, 3 child care rooms with 49 new child care spaces and is part of the province's capital investment program to support students with better learning spaces.

"Our government is pleased to support the addition and renewal to St. Michael Catholic Elementary School" said Stephen Crawford, MPP for Oakville. "With this announcement, our government is investing in the future of students and hard-working families and we are setting the stage for student success."

Highlights of the addition to St. Michael Catholic Elementary School include:

- Addition of 23 student spaces
- New Library
- 3 new child care rooms with 49 new spaces

"From modernizing our curriculum to revitalizing our classrooms and their facilities, we are investing in our students and giving them every tool to achieve their full potential, said Education Minister Stephen Lecce. "Our financing the addition and renewal to St. Michael Catholic Elementary School further demonstrates our government's historic investment in capital projects and our overall commitment to supporting public education in Ontario."

"Today's announcement is wonderful news for the students, staff and families in the St. Michael Catholic Elementary School community", says School Principal, Brian Melanson. "We began our journey in September, 2018 when the St. John and St. Michael school communities were consolidated to form a new school community. This renovation project will help us meet the needs of our school community, and we are grateful for the support of the Ministry of Education through the provision of this funding."

**Quick Facts:**

- The Ford Government is protecting what matters most by working with school board partners to invest in capital projects that advance student learning.
- The Ford Government announced in Budget 2019 that over the next ten years, Ontario is investing nearly \$13 billion in capital grants, including allocating over \$500M this year alone to improve classrooms for our children.
- This massive investment will build new schools and help existing schools after a decade of Liberal closures and maintenance backlog.
- This funding could be used to replace aging heating or air conditioning systems, repair roofs and windows, and install important accessibility features like elevators and ramps.
- The Ministry of Education is currently accepting submissions from school boards for their top 10 school-based capital priorities for funding consideration as well as support for the expansion of childcare spaces.
- The Ministry reviews all Capital Priorities submissions for eligibility and announces successful projects annually.

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