



Ref: 168467

July 15, 2013

John Lewis, Superintendent
and Co-signers
School District No. 44 (North Vancouver)
2121 Lonsdale Avenue
North Vancouver BC V7M 2K6

Dear Mr. Lewis and Co-signers:

Thank you for your letter dated June 28, 2013, requesting that the BC Building Code (2012) be used as the official source of data to determine the eligibility for covered play areas identified in the Ministry's Area Standards. Minister Fassbender has asked me to respond on his behalf.

The Ministry of Education's Area Standards (section 2.3.4) allows for funding for a covered play area for an elementary school if the annual precipitation in that district exceeds 2000 mm. The Area Standards specify that the amount of precipitation in an area will be derived from an "approved official source such as the supplement to the National Building Code." The BC Building Code is based on data contained in the National Building Code. Therefore, the Ministry will accept the BC Building Code as an official source.

As the currently published amount of total precipitation for North Vancouver is 2100 mm, any new or replacement elementary schools supported for North Vancouver would be assessed for eligibility for a covered play area at that time.

I hope this helps to clarify the eligibility for covered play areas.

Yours sincerely,

Doug Stewart
A/Assistant Deputy Minister