COMMON BRIEFING NOTE[[1]](#endnote-1)

**SUBJECT** – Federal Budget 2019

**DECISION(S) / DIRECTION(S) REQUESTED**

**Decision** [ ]  **Discussion** [ ]   **Information** [x]

**PURPOSE**

* To provide information to JCSH member jurisdictions regarding the Federal Budget 2019.

The following highlights from the Federal Budget 2019 may be of interest to JCSH member jurisdictions:

National Food Policy:

-intention to work with Provinces and Territories towards creation of a National School Food Program.

- $ 134.4 million to complement initiatives in four areas: communities’ access to nutritious food, support for Canadian production and export, enhance food security in Northern and Indigenous communities, and reduce food waste.

-- included is $15 million, over five years, beginning 2019-2020, to Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency to establish a Northern Isolated Community Initiatives Fund, supporting community-led projects for local and Indigenous food production systems

--continue the multi-year comprehensive Healthy Eating Strategy to help Canadians make informed and healthier food choices, including through the introduction of restrictions on the marketing of unhealthy food and beverages to children, and through improved food labelling.

Action on calls from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission:

$1.2 billion over three years — $404 million per year beginning in 2019-2020 — to develop a long-term approach for services for First Nations children.

-The spending plan includes $126.5 million in 2020-21 to establish a national council on reconciliation designed to be a permanent reminder of the fraught past between Canada and Indigenous Peoples and to contribute to better understanding of it.

-$333.7 million over the next five years earmarked for helping to revitalize Indigenous languages

-Advance Call to Action 3 to support the full implementation of Jordan’s Principle, including additional funding

-Advance Calls to Action 53 to 55—National Council for Reconciliation. $126.5 million in 2020–21 to establish a National Council for Reconciliation and endow it with initial operating capital.

-The Council will engage First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Nation peoples, as well as non-Indigenous Canadians, in Canada’s reconciliation process, and ensure that the important work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission continues.

-Opportunities for commemoration, to support the healing and ongoing reconciliation for families and communities affected by residential schools. To be done in partnership with affected families and communities, as well as the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, supported by a proposed investment of $33.8 million over three years, starting in 2019–20.

-Advance Call to Action 66—Indigenous Youth and Reconciliation.

-$15.2 million over three years, starting in 2019–20, for an Indigenous youth pilot program delivered by Canadian Roots Exchange. Canadian Roots Exchange is a non-profit organization which works to advance reconciliation by bringing together Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth to promote mutual understanding and respect.

-Funding will support the establishment of a distinctions-based national network of Indigenous youth, help ensure that Government of Canada policies and programs are informed by the diverse voices of Indigenous youth, and provide support to community events and gatherings for Indigenous youth and reconciliation-focused community-based Indigenous youth activities.

-All children in Canada deserve a real and fair chance to reach their full potential, no matter where they live.

-The Government is working with First Nations and Inuit partners to eliminate barriers and help give children the good education, quality health care, and culturally relevant social supports they need to succeed.

- Continuing Implementation of Jordan’s Principle: to ensure that all First Nations children can access the health, social and educational services they need, when they need them.

- Calls to Action 13, 14, and 15 made by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada on Aboriginal language rights, and to support the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

-$15 million, over five years to establish a Northern Isolated Community Initiatives Fund to support community-led food production projects and provide skills training for local and Indigenous food production systems.

Concussion:

$30 million over five years, starting in 2019–20, with $6 million per year ongoing, to enable Canadian sports organizations to promote accessible, ethical, equitable and safe sports. Continuation of work initiated in 2018 by the Minister of Science and Sport and the Minster of Health announced new concussion guidelines for safe return to school, work, and play.

Mental health and addiction services:

- Outlined in the Common Statement of Principles on Shared Health Priorities between federal, provincial and territorial health ministers: Expand access to community-based mental health and addiction services, particularly for children and youth.

- Supporting a Pan-Canadian Suicide Prevention Service: $25 million over five years, starting in

2019–20, with $5 million per year ongoing, to work with experienced and dedicated partners in the space to support a pan-Canadian suicide prevention service.

Curriculum / Learning Supports:

- Extend High-Speed Internet to Rural, Remote and Northern Communities: among benefits, school-aged children are able to take advantage of 21st century learning technologies, find information online and submit assignments electronically.

Research:

- Let’s Talk Science with $10 million over two years, starting in 2020–21, to support this important work. Let’s Talk Science engages youth in hands-on STEM activities and learning programs, such as science experiments, helping youth develop critical thinking skills and opening up doors to future study and work in these fields. It also helps ensure more girls—and other groups that are underrepresented in STEM—gain and maintain interest in STEM from an early age.

Prepared by: JCSH Secretariat

# Date: March 20, 2019

1. *The information in this Common Briefing Note (CBN) is confidential, privileged and intended solely for the use of Joint Consortium for School Health. It is subject to each jurisdiction's legal requirements and, more specifically, to their respective access to information and privacy legislation. Information in this CBN will not be disclosed without prior consultation among jurisdictions about its confidential status.* [↑](#endnote-ref-1)