

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Isleifson moves resolution to celebrate Brandon's planned new school

Manitoba must catch up with the need for new schools and deliver quality education: Isleifson

Len Isleifson, MLA for Brandon East, today introduced a private member's resolution to have the Legislative Assembly celebrate the upcoming construction of a planned new school in Brandon.

"Education is essential to ensuring the success of Manitoba's youth now and into the future. Our goal is to catch up with the need for new schools and to deliver quality new learning environments for students and educators," said Isleifson, whose constituency includes the site of the planned school. "We have known for years that Brandon needs a new school to accommodate the tremendous growth that has happened there over the past 20 years. That is why our government is building it."

The 65,660-square-foot school in southeast Brandon will be constructed for 450 students from kindergarten to Grade 8, with a capability to be expanded to a capacity of 675 students. The school will include 14 regular classrooms, art and band rooms and a science, technology, electronics and math (STEM) laboratory. It will also have an industrial arts shop, a home economics facility, a library and a gymnasium. As well, the school will include a child-care centre for 20 infants, 54 pre-school children and 40 nursery-school kids. Construction is expected to be completed by September 2020.

Capital investments are part of our Progressive Conservative government's commitment to catch up with the need for new schools – a need that was ignored by the previous NDP administration. Poor planning by the previous government led to more than 480 portable classrooms in Manitoba and over \$485 million in deferred school maintenance. The NDP also promised, but failed to follow through, on a new school in Brandon.

The NDP caucus did not support Isleifson's resolution on celebrating Brandon's planned new school. Unlike the previous government, we are committed to improving education for Manitoba students.

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For more information, please contact:

Ross Romaniuk, Communications Officer Manitoba Progressive Conservative Caucus Tel: (204) 945-4689 Cell: (204) 291-7702

Email: ross.romaniuk@leg.gov.mb.ca