The New *erase* Website
(*expect respect & a safe education*)

erase | EXPECT RESPECT & A SAFE EDUCATION

The Ministry is pleased to announce the new *erase* website is now live: erase.gov.bc.ca. The site was created following extensive consultation with students, parents and educators. Please visit the site and share the link broadly with staff and colleagues. We also encourage you to upload one of these erase graphics to your association's website or social media accounts and hyperlink it to the erase website.

In addition to bullying and violence prevention, the new *erase* site includes information and resources on online safety, mental well-being, substance use and sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI).

The following key messages are available for you to use when promoting the new *erase* website:

- *erase* is a provincial strategy for creating safe, inclusive and welcoming school cultures that support student learning and well-being.

- *erase* has exceeded expectations since its inception in 2012. Accomplishments include:

  - ✓ Delivery of over 280 training sessions to over 18,000 educators and partners;
  - ✓ Development of an online reporting tool, with more than 1,200 incidents reported;
  - ✓ Creation of a network of more than 60 dedicated safe school co-ordinators;
  - ✓ Updated codes of conduct for schools to be inclusive of SOGI and cyberbullying;
  - ✓ Development of provincial guidelines for threat assessments; and
  - ✓ Creation of online resources for parents and students.

- The world has changed since the *erase* strategy was first introduced. The evolution of social media, youth mental health concerns, world events impacting our schools and other factors have all contributed to the need for an updated *erase* strategy.

- The *erase* strategy has been expanded to address these complex issues and take a broader, cross-sector approach to:
  - o Improve information sharing within and between systems;
  - o Increase student safety; and
  - o Integrate mental health and SOGI supports with a specific focus on classroom teachers and parents.

- The new *erase* website includes valuable information and resources for students, parents and educators on topics such as online safety, mental health and well-being, bullying and violence, substance use and SOGI.

- Another key feature of the new *erase* website is an expanded Get Help section. In this section, students can find links to 24/7 phone and text lines as well as online chats if they, or someone they know, needs help. Students can also use the updated *erase* Report It tool to send a direct message to their school or school district's safe school coordinator for immediate response. All information is private and confidential.

- The new *erase* website was developed after extensive consultation with students, parents and educators.

- The *erase* website will be updated frequently as more information and resources become available. Information on what's new will be shared with schools and school districts as it is added to the website.

- The website has an *erase* promotion section that contains *erase* logos, images, buttons and other tools to help promote the new *erase* site and strategy within your school community.