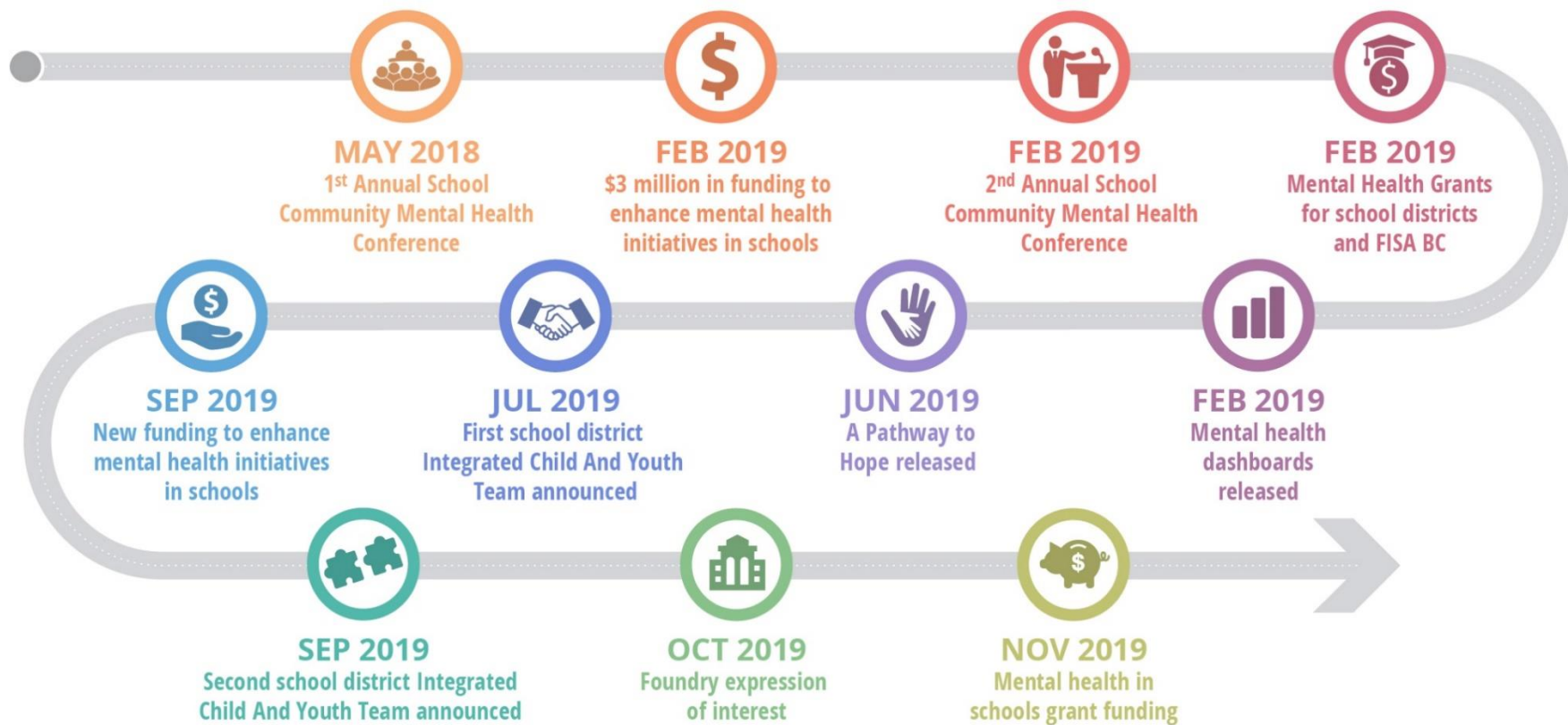


## 11 Initiatives to Support Student Mental Health

In partnership with community organizations across the province, the B.C. government is taking steps to promote student mental health and well-being in B.C. schools. Here are some of the key initiatives that have been introduced to address this critical issue.





## May 2018: 1<sup>st</sup> Annual School Community Mental Health Conference

- 300+ educators and community partners discuss how to improve mental health supports for B.C. students
- [Watch the conference videos](#)



## February 2019: \$3M in funding to enhance mental health initiatives in schools

- Focus was on building school capacity and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual School Community Mental Health Conference
- [Read about students supported by new school mental health resources](#)



## February 2019: 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual School Community Mental Health Conference

- 500+ participants, including Ministry and education sector partners, health authority representatives, and child and youth mental health workers, collaborate in a school-community team approach to support student mental health
- [Read more about the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual school community mental health conference](#)
- [Watch the 2019 conference videos](#)



## February 2019: Mental Health Grants for school districts and FISA BC

- \$2.2 million of the \$3 million is awarded to school districts and independent schools as grants to support school-based mental health initiatives focused on prevention, wellness promotion and early intervention
- School districts and FISA BC were required to complete a *Mental Health Action Plan*



## February 2019: Mental Health dashboards

- Interactive mental health dashboards are launched to help school districts make evidence-based decisions when preparing their mental health action plans
- [Learn more about the student mental health dashboards](#)



## June 2019: A Pathway to Hope

- Government launches *A Pathway to Hope: A roadmap for making mental health and addictions care better for people in British Columbia*
- Pathway to Hope includes 4 sets of priority action pillars:
  1. Improved Wellness for Children, Youth and Young Adults
  2. Supporting Indigenous Led Solutions
  3. Substance Use: Better Care; Saving Lives
  4. Improved Access, Better Quality
- [Read the Pathway to Hope news release](#)
- [Read the Pathway to Hope vision document](#)



## July 2019: First school district Integrated Child and Youth Team

- School District 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows) is selected as the first of five school districts to launch an Integrated Child and Youth Team (a Pathway to Hope priority action item)
- In five school districts over two years, multi-disciplinary teams will be established with existing providers and new positions, each being connected to a cluster of schools and delivering services to children, youth and young adults whose needs are higher than can be met within a school or through primary care
- [Learn about the leading-edge mental health supports coming for Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows students](#)



## September 2019: \$8.87M in new funding to enhance mental health initiatives in schools

- Government announces \$8.87 million in new funding to be invested in enhanced mental health and substance use supports and programs in schools over the next three years
- Funding will be used to provide individual grants to all 60 school districts, as well as independent schools, to help them better support mental health for all children and for those with substance-use challenges. Districts have been asked to focus activities to support teachers, students and/or families.
- Funding will also be used to support the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual School Community Mental Health Conference held May 8, 2020
- [Read about increased funding to improve students' mental health](#)





## September 2019: Second school district Integrated Child and Youth Team

- School District 71 (Comox Valley) is announced as the second school district to launch an Integrated Child and Youth Team to provide wraparound care to local children, youth and their families (a Pathway to Hope priority action item)
- [Learn about leading-edge mental health supports coming for Comox Valley students](#)



## October 2019: Foundry expression of interest

- Foundry puts out an Expression of Interest – looking to partner with organizations across B.C. to open and operate a minimum of six new Foundry centres offering health and wellness resources, services and supports to youth ages 12-24 (a Pathway to Hope priority action item)
- [Learn about the expansion of the Foundry network](#)



## November 2019: Mental health in schools grant funding

- \$2 million in new funding announced in September is awarded to school districts and independent schools as grants to support school-based mental health initiatives focused on mental health literacy, trauma informed practice and social and emotional learning
- School districts and FISA BC are required to complete a *Mental Health Action Plan* for the second year in a row
- Action Plans are part of the evaluation process to support further mental health initiatives
- [Learn more about the \\$2 million mental health grant funding](#)