

Board of Education

Regular Public Meeting

October 8, 2024



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

School District No. 57 (Prince George)

BOARD OF EDUCATION

CHARTER

Our mission, as a Board of Education, is to create a culture of trust and integrity by adhering to the highest standards of ethical behaviour and fiduciary responsibility.

We, the Board of Education, individually and collectively, in the conduct of our duties, will be:

- Transparent
- Open-minded
- Consultative
- Committed
- Respectful of Diversity

BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Board of Education and senior administration believe we are accountable to the families and communities we serve. We respect their diversity and support their involvement.

We further believe that all children can learn, achieve and succeed, and that by working together with our employees, students, parents, and our communities, we will enable our students to reach their greatest academic potential.

We believe our students have the right:

- To a safe and respectful learning environment.
- To be valued.
- To have the opportunity to explore and develop their potential.
- To have their intellectual, emotional, physical and social needs met

We also believe that with these rights come responsibilities with respect to their school, classroom and work habits.

We believe our employees have the following rights and responsibilities:

- To be treated fairly and work in a safe environment.
- To be respected, trusted, included and valued.
- To explore, collaborate and develop to their potential.
- To treat others fairly, work cooperatively, and create a safe working and learning environment.

Together, we affirm that these guiding principles provide the foundation for the decisions we make in School District No. 57.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

4:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 8, 2024

McBride Secondary School - Library

A G E N D A

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe and respectful environment. The Board expects all participants to model respectful communication in order to foster positive relationships and build understanding between all school district partners.

Trustees as members of the corporate Board shall act prudently, ethically and legally, in keeping with the requirements of provincial legislation. This includes proper use of authority and appropriate decorum in terms of group and individual behaviour.

Trustees will ensure that their comments are issue based and not personal, demeaning, derogatory or disparaging with regard to Board staff or fellow Trustees, including comments made to media or news outlets.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY**

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

That the agenda be approved as presented.

4. **SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS**

5. **PRESENTATIONS**

McBride Centennial and McBride Secondary School Students

6. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

6.1 Regular Public Meeting of September 10, 2024

Page 1

That the minutes of the September 10, 2024 regular public meeting be approved as presented.

- 6.2 Record of Minutes of the Regular In Camera and Special
In Camera Meetings

Page 5

*That the record of minutes of the regular in camera
meeting of September 10, 2024 be approved as
presented.*

7. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

8. **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

- 8.1 Committee Report

Page 6

9. **AD HOC POLICY COMMITTEE**

- 9.1 Committee Report

Page 7

10. **NEW BUSINESS**

- 10.1 District Enrolment Report

Page 8

11. **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

- 11.1 Office of the Superintendent

12. **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

- 12.1 BC School Trustees' Association
12.2 District Student Advisory Council
12.3 District Parent Advisory Council

13. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Page 10

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

PUBLIC REMARKS:

In accordance with Policy 7 Board Operations:

- *There shall be a public remarks period of up to 30 minutes (Note – maximum of six (6) speakers) following the adjournment of every regularly scheduled public Board meeting, to provide an opportunity for members of the public to make comments to the Board. Public remarks shall be relevant to items on the evening's approved regular public agenda. The Board will listen respectfully to comments, however may not respond to questions during this time.*
- *Members of the public may submit written comments relevant to items on the evening's approved regular public agenda to the Board Chair by email at publicinput@sd57.bc.ca for consideration by the Board. Written submissions must be received by 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to the regular public meeting.*
- *Individuals or groups wishing to make public remarks must identify themselves and the issue(s) to be presented on a speakers' list which will be available following the adjournment of the regular public meeting.*
- *Each speaker from the public will be allowed five minutes to make comments. At the discretion of the Chairperson, additional time may be allotted.*

Additional Notes:

- *The Board of Education has a legal responsibility to create and maintain a respectful workplace*
- *Respectful language and behaviour at all times*
- *Right to disagree but done in a respectful manner*
- *All individuals are entitled to their opinion but not at the expense of others' dignity*
- *Model the behaviour that you would want your children to engage in*
- *No signage is allowed in the meeting room*

DRAFT
Minutes
Regular Public
Meeting

Board of Education
School District No. 57 (Prince George)
2100 Ferry Avenue, Prince George, B.C.

2024.09.10
6:00 p.m.

Present:

Craig Brennan, Chair
Erica McLean, Vice Chair
Cory Antrim, Trustee
Sarah Holland, Trustee
Shar McCrory, Trustee
Bob Thompson, Trustee
Rachael Weber, Trustee (Zoom)

Jameel Aziz, Superintendent of Schools
Lynda Minnabarriet, Secretary Treasurer
Diane Nygaard, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

In Attendance:

Kap Manhas, Assistant Superintendent
Lee Karpenko, Assistant Superintendent
Pam Spooner, Assistant Superintendent Indigenous Education

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY**

The Vice Chair provided a formal acknowledgement of the ancestral lands, culture and people of the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation, McLeod Lake Indian Band and Simpcw Nation.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOVED and SECONDED

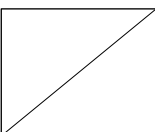
That the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. **SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS**

Trustees provided comments related to the following:

- September 4, 2024 SD57 Principals and PACs Working Together – Handbook Launch
- DP Todd graduate Marko Furland – UNBC Timberwolves
- New Child Care Centre in Mackenzie
- September 16, 2024 Online Safety and Sextortion Townhall at Vanier Hall



5. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

5.1 Regular Public Meeting of June 25, 2024

MOVED and SECONDED

That the minutes of the June 25, 2024 regular public meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

None.

7. **AD HOC POLICY COMMITTEE**

MOVED and SECONDED

That the report on the Ad Hoc Policy Committee be received.

CARRIED

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

8.1 Framework for Enhanced Student Learning Report

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Report 2023-2024 be approved.

CARRIED

8.2 Audited Financial Statements – June 30, 2024

MOVED and SECONDED

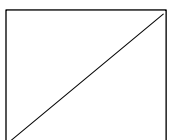
That the Board of Education approve the allocation of the internally restricted operating fund surplus as of June 30, 2024.

CARRIED

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Board of Education approve the Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2024 as presented.

CARRIED



8.3 2025-26 Minor Capital Programs

MOVED and SECONDED

That the 2025/26 Minor Capital Program submission be approved as presented.

CARRIED

8.4 Facility Services Department Summer Projects Update

District staff reviewed the listing of 2024 summer projects included in the agenda package that are completed or are in progress by the Facilities Department.

8.5 Public Interest Disclosure Act (PIDA) – Annual Report

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Board of Education receives the 2023/24 Public Interest Disclosure Act report as presented.

CARRIED

8.6 Non-Sexist Environment

The Superintendent drew the Board's attention to the letter included in the agenda package confirming the district's commitment to a non-sexist environment in its facilities.

9. **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

9.1 Office of the Superintendent

The Office of the Superintendent staff provided a presentation with a focus on the directions of the Strategic Plan.

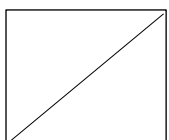
10. **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

10.1 BC School Trustees' Association

None.

10.2 District Parent Advisory Council

The Vice Chair provided an overview of the September 9, 2024 District Parent Advisory Council meeting.



11. **CORRESPONDENCE**

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Board of Education received the open correspondence received and/or sent as presented.

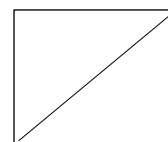
CARRIED

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary Treasurer



BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

RECORD PURSUANT TO SECTION 72 OF THE *SCHOOL ACT*

MATTERS DISCUSSED AND DECISIONS REACHED AT THE SPECIAL AND
REGULAR IN CAMERA MEETINGS HELD SINCE THE LAST SUCH REPORT

September 10, 2024 Regular In Camera Meeting

1. Acknowledgement of the Traditional Territories.
2. Approval of the agenda.
3. Adoption of the minutes of the regular in camera meeting of May 27, 2024 and special in camera meetings of June 4 and June 18, 2024.
4. Discussion related to governance matters.
5. Discussion and decisions related to personnel matters.
6. Receipt of an updated related to property matters.
7. Receipt of confidential correspondence.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. and adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

October 8, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Advisory Committee
SUBJECT: **COMMITTEE REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2024**

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Advisory Committee meeting held on
September 26, 2024 be received.

* * * * *

REPORT:

1. The Advisory Committee met on September 26, 2024.
2. The meeting's agenda included the following item:
 - a. **Draft Policy 1.5 Board Committees** – At the June 25, 2024 regular public meeting the Board of Education approved draft Policy 1.5 Board Committees for distribution of 60-days consultation to Rightsholder and partner groups for input.

In accordance with Policy 10 Policy and Policy Development, the Committee met to receive the feedback on draft Policy 1.5 Board Committees prior to the final policy recommendation to the Board.

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

October 8, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Ad Hoc Policy Committee

SUBJECT: **COMMITTEE REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2024**

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That the report on the Ad Hoc Policy Committee be received.

* * * * *

REPORT:

1. The Ad Hoc Policy Committee met on September 26, 2024.
2. The Committee continued its review of the district's policies related to Board governance. The review has been facilitated by AZ Cooper Consulting. The revised draft policies will be presented to the Board for approval at a regular public meeting.
3. The Committee also discussed the development of an Administrative Procedures related to Board correspondence. A draft procedure will be reviewed at an upcoming meeting.

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

October 8, 2024

Memorandum

TO: Board of Education

FROM: District Staff

SUBJECT: **DISTRICT PRELIMINARY ENROLMENT REPORT**

The district preliminary enrolment report as at September 30, 2024 is attached for information.

The preliminary report shows a total student enrolment of 13,263 FTE as of September 30, 2024 compared to 13,189 FTE as of September 30, 2023.

SD57

Enrolment Analysis - by school

September 2024

	2024/2025		2023/2024		change	
	headcount	fte	headcount	fte	headcount	fte
College Heights Secondary	999.0000	1,030.9375	1,017.0000	1,027.1875	(18.0000)	3.7500
DP Todd Secondary	812.0000	842.8750	783.0000	817.8125	29.0000	25.0625
Duchess Park Secondary	897.0000	962.5000	849.0000	902.6875	48.0000	59.8125
McBride Secondary	53.0000	47.9375	47.0000	38.2500	6.0000	9.6875
Mackenzie Secondary	261.0000	276.2500	274.0000	288.8750	(13.0000)	(12.6250)
Prince George Secondary	1,413.0000	1,450.6875	1,406.0000	1,423.6875	7.0000	27.0000
Shaᑭ Ti Kelly Road Secondary	846.0000	856.4375	814.0000	836.6250	32.0000	19.8125
Valemount Secondary	81.0000	76.7500	68.0000	65.7500	13.0000	11.0000
Total Secondary	5,362.0000	5,544.3750	5,258.0000	5,400.8750	104.0000	143.5000
Beaverly Elementary	207.0000	207.0000	220.0000	220.0000	(13.0000)	(13.0000)
Blackburn Elementary	232.0000	232.0000	263.0000	263.0000	(31.0000)	(31.0000)
Buckhorn Elementary	118.0000	118.0000	129.0000	129.0000	(11.0000)	(11.0000)
College Heights Elementary	342.0000	342.0000	340.0000	340.0000	2.0000	2.0000
Ecole Lac des Bois	375.0000	375.0000	390.0000	390.0000	(15.0000)	(15.0000)
Edgewood Elementary	177.0000	177.0000	195.0000	195.0000	(18.0000)	(18.0000)
Foothills Elementary	194.0000	194.0000	205.0000	205.0000	(11.0000)	(11.0000)
Giscome Elementary	10.0000	10.0000	15.0000	15.0000	(5.0000)	(5.0000)
Glenview Elementary	207.0000	207.0000	219.0000	219.0000	(12.0000)	(12.0000)
Hart Highlands Elementary	348.0000	348.0000	365.0000	365.0000	(17.0000)	(17.0000)
Harwin Elementary	297.0000	297.0000	291.0000	291.0000	6.0000	6.0000
Heather Park Elementary	550.0000	550.0000	566.0000	566.0000	(16.0000)	(16.0000)
Heritage Elementary	431.0000	431.0000	428.0000	428.0000	3.0000	3.0000
Hixon Elementary	32.0000	32.0000	41.0000	41.0000	(9.0000)	(9.0000)
McBride Centennial Elementary	80.0000	80.0000	79.0000	79.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Malaspina Elementary	280.0000	280.0000	295.0000	295.0000	(15.0000)	(15.0000)
Morfee Elementary	289.0000	289.0000	288.0000	288.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Nukko Lake Elementary	109.0000	109.0000	106.0000	106.0000	3.0000	3.0000
Nusdeh Yoh Elementary	161.0000	161.0000	163.0000	163.0000	(2.0000)	(2.0000)
Peden Hill Elementary	267.0000	267.0000	263.0000	263.0000	4.0000	4.0000
Pineview Elementary	139.0000	139.0000	124.0000	124.0000	15.0000	15.0000
Pinewood Elementary	178.0000	178.0000	174.0000	174.0000	4.0000	4.0000
Polaris Elementary	183.0000	183.0000	204.0000	204.0000	(21.0000)	(21.0000)
Quinson Elementary	263.0000	263.0000	231.0000	231.0000	32.0000	32.0000
Ron Brent Elementary	264.0000	264.0000	278.0000	278.0000	(14.0000)	(14.0000)
Springwood Elementary	272.0000	272.0000	273.0000	273.0000	(1.0000)	(1.0000)
Southridge Elementary	355.0000	355.0000	343.0000	343.0000	12.0000	12.0000
Spruceland Elementary	267.0000	267.0000	267.0000	267.0000	-	-
Valemount Elementary	132.0000	132.0000	119.0000	119.0000	13.0000	13.0000
Van Bien Elementary	137.0000	137.0000	131.0000	131.0000	6.0000	6.0000
Vanway Elementary	306.0000	306.0000	307.0000	307.0000	(1.0000)	(1.0000)
Westwood Elementary	212.0000	212.0000	209.0000	209.0000	3.0000	3.0000
Total Elementary	7,414.0000	7,414.0000	7,521.0000	7,521.0000	(107.0000)	(107.0000)
Totals	12,776.0000	12,958.3750	12,779.0000	12,921.8750	(3.0000)	36.5000
Alternate Community Programs	220.0000	220.0000	158.0000	158.0000	62.0000	62.0000
Continuing Education	1.0000	0.1250	32.0000	4.8750	(31.0000)	(4.7500)
Online Learning	314.0000	84.8125	335.0000	105.0625	(21.0000)	(20.2500)
	535.0000	304.9375	525.0000	267.9375	10.0000	37.0000
Total Student FTE	13,311.0000	13,263.3125	13,304.0000	13,189.8125	7.0000	73.5000

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

October 8, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Secretary Treasurer

SUBJECT: **OPEN CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED/SENT**

The attached correspondence has been received and/or sent since the last public Board meeting.

- 2024.09.26 Ministry of Education School District Financial Reporting Branch regarding Under-Expenditure of Indigenous Education Targeted Grant at June 30, 2024.
- 2024.09.26 Email from Cathy Peters on Human Trafficking – Safer Schools Podcast
- 2024.09.19 City of Prince George regarding an invitation to speak at the 12th Annual International Students Welcome Event
- 2024.07.22 Letter from Metis Nation British Columbia regarding BC's Bill 40

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That the Board of Education receives the open correspondence received and/or sent as presented.



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

2100 Ferry Avenue, Prince George, B.C. V2L 4R5

Phone: (250) 561-6800 • Fax (250) 561-6801
www.sd57.bc.ca

September 26, 2024

Ministry of Education
School District Financial Reporting Branch
PO Box 9045, STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, B.C.
V8W 9E2

Attention: Ian Aaron, Director

Dear Mr. Aaron:

Re: Under-Expenditure of Indigenous Education Targeted Grant at June 30, 2024

School District No. 57 (Prince George) requests your approval under Section 106.4(2) of the *School Act* for an under-expenditure of the 2023/24 Indigenous Education targeted grant, in the amount of \$539,285.

The under-expenditure of the Indigenous Education targeted grant of \$539,285 is included in the Internally Restricted Surplus as disclosed in Note 20 to the School District's audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2024.

We enclose a reconciliation of Indigenous Education expenditures reported on the June 30, 2024 Financial Statements, Schedule 2C, and the 2023-2024 targeted grant underspend of \$539,285.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig Brennan".

Craig Brennan, Chairperson
Board of Education

cc: Lynda Minnabarriet, Secretary Treasurer
Hannah Brown, Director of Finance

Encl.

HB/dn

School District No. 57 (Prince George)
Reconciliation of Indigenous Education Expenditures
2023-2024

2022-2023 Underspend of Indigenous Education Targeted Grant	\$ 445,542
2023-2024 Indigenous Education Targeted Grant	<u>6,597,180</u>
Targeted Grant available for spending in 2023-2024	<u>7,042,722</u>
2023-2024 Indigenous Education expenses per Financial Statement 2C (1.31)	(6,495,597)
2023-2024 capital purchases from targeted funds	<u>(7,840)</u>
2023-2024 Underspend of Indigenous Education Targeted Grant	<u><u>\$ 539,285</u></u>



Cathy Peters on Human Trafficking- Safer Schools podcast, UBCM booth meeting Premier, civic leaders

From ca.peters@telus.net <cathy@telus.net>

Date Thu 2024-09-26 8:22 PM

To Jameel Aziz <jaziz@sd57.bc.ca>; monitors <monitors@sd57.bc.ca>; Trustees <trustees@sd57.bc.ca>

📎 3 attachments (8 MB)

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CAUTION: External Email. This email originated from outside of the SD57 district email system. Do Not click on links or open attachments, unless you are confident about the source.

Dear School Board Trustees SD 57 Prince George, Superintendent Jameel Aziz and School Administrative staff, I emailed you in early September.

As a follow up with the school year underway **Safer Schools interviewed me on their new podcast.**

Links below, please share with your teams.

There is the 37 minute version and the 1 minute version below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SAnhorL3P3A>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-Vios6RtDg>

I attended **UBCM convention** meeting BC civic leaders.

My booth at the Trade Show was "**An Anti Human Trafficking Initiative**".

Photos attached: my booth, my team with the Minister of Municipal Affairs, speaking with the Premier.

At UBCM **Lieutenant Governor General Janet Austin** spoke about the concerning increase in human trafficking in BC in her keynote address.

Terrace School District is being proactive in addressing this issue/crime.

Please contact Julia Nieckarz, Director of Instruction, Learner Support for more information.

The trend around BC is growing gang recruitment.

Gangs are spreading around BC, renting houses, enticing youth to move in by offering drugs, food, shelter.

The youth are sexually assaulted, filmed, and these films are sold on the black market.

In some communities this situation has become untenable.

Former Los Angeles Police Department (retired), Officer in Charge of the Human Trafficking Unit, serving 33 years in law enforcement, Lt. Andre Dawson makes these comments: "I do believe we can end human trafficking, but **it requires a collaborative effort** between stakeholders, **educators**, policy/law makers, law enforcement, prosecutors, social care providers, community and faith based groups. Note: by the time law enforcement rescues a sexually exploited child, significant mental and physical damage has already been done. I look at human trafficking through

the **proactive** lens of "**prevention through education.**" Placing a specific focus on **educating our children and explaining the consequences of such destructive behavior is a step in the right direction and a very effective strategy.**"

ASK: Please confirm this has been received and shared with the School District.

Please contact me for further information.

Sincerely, Cathy Peters phone: 604-828-2689

BC anti human trafficking educator, speaker, advocate

beamazingcampaign.org

1101-2785 Library Lane, North Vancouver, BC V7J 0C3

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal recipient for my anti human trafficking advocacy work

Author: **Child Sex Trafficking in Canada and How to Stop It**

From: Mayor Admin <MayorAdmin@princegeorge.ca>

Sent: September 19, 2024 6:00 PM

To: Trustees <trustees@sd57.bc.ca>

Cc: Jones, Susie <Susie.Jones@princegeorge.ca>

Subject: Invitation to Speak at the 12th Annual International Students Welcome Event – September 27th, 2024

CAUTION: External Email. This email originated from outside of the SD57 district email system. Do Not click on links or open attachments, unless you are confident about the source.

Dear Mr. Brennan.

On behalf of Mayor Simon Yu and the City of Prince George, I am pleased to extend an invitation to you to attend and speak at the 12th Annual International Students Welcome event. This special event will take place on Friday, September 27th at 3:00 PM at the Canada Games Plaza.

Each year, the City of Prince George, in collaboration with local post-secondary institutions and organizations, hosts this event to warmly welcome international students to our community. These students bring a wealth of diversity and energy to our city, and we are excited to celebrate their contributions.

We would be honored if you or a delegate from your office could join us in welcoming these young adults from across the globe. We kindly request a brief two-minute welcome address from your organization, followed by an opportunity to meet and connect with the students during the event.

We believe it is vital to make our international students feel at home, help them understand the unique opportunities our city offers, and recognize the positive impact they make here in Prince George. Our hope is that, after completing their studies, they choose to stay and become part of our vibrant community.

Please RSVP your intention to join us by replying to this email by Friday, September 24th. Your participation would greatly enrich this important event, and we hope to see you there!



Roberta McLaren, E.A. MBA

Office of the Mayor

1100 Patricia Blvd, Prince George, B.C. V2L 3V9

Phone: 250.561.7609

roberta.mclaren@princegeorge.ca | www.princegeorge.ca

This email is subject to the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#). If you are not the intended recipient please notify me immediately by return email, delete this email and do not copy, use, or disclose it.

We respectfully acknowledge the unceded ancestral lands of the Lheidli T'enneh, on whose lands we live, work, and play.



Colette Trudeau
Chief Executive Officer
Métis Nation British Columbia
#380 – 13401 108 Ave, Surrey BC V3T 5T3
ctrudeau@mnbc.ca
604.557.5851 (EXT. 8241)

Monday, July 22, 2024

Craig Brennan
Board of Education Chairperson
School District No. 57 Prince George
4351 Ontario Ave, Powell River, BC V8A 1V3

Taanishi Craig,

Subject: BC's Bill 40 - The School Amendment Act and the new Provincial Ministerial Order on IECs

I am writing you today regarding the Province's Bill 40 - The School Amendment Act, the new Ministerial Order on Indigenous Education Councils (IEC) and their implications for Métis families and students.

As you are aware, Bill 40 mandates the establishment of Indigenous Education Councils (IECs) across all school districts in our province. These councils are intended to influence and engage in decision-making processes that impact Indigenous students' educational experiences in the BC K-12 public system.

The Ministerial Order stipulates that, in establishing an IEC, a board must consider the distinctions and diversity among the Indigenous student population served by the board, ensuring that the composition of the IEC reasonably reflects the Indigenous student population. Several districts across British Columbia have Indigenous student populations that include Métis students, including SD57 Prince George.

In previous conversations with your Indigenous Education department, we have been advised that you have **1149 Métis students**. Our Citizenship Registry and Métis Family Connections program enrolment confirm a Métis student presence.



We recognize that SD57 Prince George has a long-standing relationship already established with, Prince George Métis Community Association, we are excited to see the good work done on behalf of our children continue. Individuals from this community are best suited to identify a representative to bring Métis perspectives to the IEC.

In the spirit of friendship and reconciliation, MNBC is committed to walking respectfully alongside Lheidli T'enneh Nation, McLeod Lake Indian Band, and Simpcw Nation and SD57 Prince George Board of Education for the benefit of all students. MNBC looks forward to connecting on this important matter to determine how we can grow our partnership and best support our children at these newly established IECs.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to Sharlene Wedel, Executive Director, Ministry of Education (Early learning | K-12), at swedel@mnbc.ca

Pishshapmishko (Take Care),

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colette Trudeau".

Colette Trudeau
Chief Executive Officer
Métis Nation British Columbia

CC: Jameel Aziz, Superintendent of Schools, SD57 Prince George
Lynda Minnabarriet, Secretary Treasurers, SD57 Prince George
Pam Spooner, Indigenous assistant superintendent, SD57 Prince George
Sylvia Desrocher, President, Prince George Métis Community Association
Sasha Hobbs, Chief Strategic Officer, MNBC
Sharlene Wedel, Executive Director, Ministry of Education (Early Learning | K-12), MNBC