



# SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

## S O U T H E A S T K O O T E N A Y

June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Honourable Christy Clark  
Premier, Province of BC  
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC V8W 9E1

Honourable Mike Bernier  
Minister of Education  
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Deputy Minister David Byng,  
Ministry of Education  
PO Box 9179, Stn. Prov. Gov't  
Victoria BC, V8W 9H8

Dear Premier Clark, Minister Bernier & Deputy Minister Byng,

RE: Support For SD23's Letter re: March 2017 Approval of Memorandum of Agreement

The School District 5 (SD5), Southeast Kootenay Board of Education is writing in support of the School District 23, Central Okanagan letter of April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017, which outlines their concerns regarding the ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) arising from Supreme Court of Canada decision.

Our Board is also concerned that Boards of Education were the only party affected by the MoA *who were not consulted* on the agreement prior to ratification. We further agree with the Central Okanagan Board of Education that the BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) public administrator model be abolished and the pre-July 31, 2013 Board structure reinstated so that publicly elected Trustees can be *active and accountable participants* in the upcoming bargaining process.

Frank Lento (Chair) • Trina Ayling • Bev Bellina • Jacqueline Blumhagen • Gail Brown  
• Curtis Helgesen • Chris Johns • Doug McPhee • Patricia Whalen

We respectfully request that the government restore Trustees –as officials who are elected to be responsible for public education decisions— to their rightful place at the bargaining table.

Sincerely,



Frank Lento, Board Chair,  
SD5

Cc\*: Mike Bernier, Minister of Education  
Tom Shypitka, MLA - Elect, Kootenay East BC  
John Horgan, Leader, BC New Democratic Party  
Rob Fleming, Education Critic, BC New Democratic Party  
Gordon Swan, President, BCSTA  
BCSTA for distribution to member Boards of Education  
Michael Marchbank, Public Administrator, BCPSEA  
Mike Lombardi, Chair, Former Vancouver School Board  
Glen Hansman, President BC Teachers' Federation  
Jen Mezei, President, BCCPAC  
Shelley Balfour & Christina Smith, CFTA Co-Chairs  
Debbie Therrien, DPAC Chair  
Aaron Thorn, President, SD5 Administrators' Association  
Charley Beresford, Columbia Institute  
Catherine Shaw, FACE BC Vancouver  
Black Press  
Black Rock News  
Cranbrook Daily Townsman  
Drive 102.9/B104 Radio  
Elk Valley Herald  
e-know Online News  
Fernie Free Press  
Kootenay Advertiser  
Summit 107 Radio

\*This correspondence is public and transparent. Please feel free to share and/or respond with comment.

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