



SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

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

May 31, 2023

Hon. Rachna Singh, Minister of Education and Child Care
Room 124 Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Singh,

RE: Recognition of School-Based Daycares as Early Learning Child Care Centres

At the School District 5 (SD5), Southeast Kootenay public Board Meeting of May 9th, 2023, the Board carried the following motion:

THAT the Board of Education advocate for the government to recognize daycares as Early Learning Child Care Centres.

Our Board is excited about the inclusion of childcare into the purview of K – 12 education and look forward to fully implementing early childcare learning as well as before and after school childcare into schools in our own district once funding, curriculum and space issues have been fully and adequately addressed by government.

We feel however, that it is important to publicly define the characteristics of child care, as provided by the public education sector.

The Ministry's Early Learning Framework states that "*...Engaging with pedagogical narration is central to the vision of this framework.*", and defines pedagogical narration as "*a process for thinking about practice and understandings of knowledge, education, and learning.*

Doug McPhee (Chair) • Trina Ayling • Bev Bellina • Irene Bischler • Alysha Clarke
• Nicole Heckendorf • Chris Johns • Sarah Madsen • Wendy Turner

Our Board believes that, given this framework, the Ministry should recognize public school-based childcare as **Early Learning Child Care Centres**. This distinction clarifies expectations for the public and honours the work of early learning childcare professionals who have earned this designation and are trained to provide *play-based education* to children from birth to four or five years of age.

We look forward to receiving a timely response to our simple but important request for name distinction as provided through the inclusion of the words **Early Learning** to Child Care Centres.

Sincerely,



Doug McPhee, Board Chair

Cc*: Hon. David Eby, Premier, Province of BC
Kevin Falcon, Leader, BC United Party
Sonia Furstenau, Leader, BC Green Party
Elenor Sturko, Critic for Education, BC United Party
Karin Kirkpatrick, Critic for Child and Family Development & Childcare, BC United Party
Tom Shypitka, MLA Kootenay East
Carolyn Broady, President, BCSTA
BCSTA for distribution to member Boards of Education
Clint Johnston, President BC Teachers' Federation
Chris Schultz-Lorentzen, President, BCCPAC
Shelley Balfour & Adrienne Demers, CFTA Co-Chairs
Krista Naple SD5 CUPE President
Lies Salvador, DPAC Chair
Aaron Thorn, President, SD5 Administrators' Association
Chris Walker/Corey Bullock, CBC Radio
Dennis Walker, 107.5 Today FM Radio
Wylie Henderson, Rewind Radio 102.9
Jeff Johnson, Wild B104 Radio
Josiah Spyker/Ryley McCormack, 107.5 Today FM
Barry Coulter/Trevor Crawley, Cranbrook Daily Townsman
Ian Cobb, e-know Online News
Joshua Fischlin, Fernie Free Press

Doug McPhee (Chair) • Trina Ayling • Bev Bellina • Irene Bischler • Alysha Clarke
• Nicole Heckendorf • Chris Johns • Sarah Madsen • Wendy Turner

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

Doug McPhee (Chair) • Trina Ayling • Bev Bellina • Irene Bischler • Alysha Clarke
• Nicole Heckendorf • Chris Johns • Sarah Madsen • Wendy Turner

940 Industrial Road #1, Cranbrook BC, V1C 4C6 • Tel: 250.417.2055 • Fax: 250.489.5460 • www.sd5.bc.ca