



November 22, 2023
Our Ref. 130959

Doug McPhee
Board Chair
School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay)
1-940 Industrial Road
Cranbrook, BC V1C 4C6

Email Address: Doug.McPhee@sd5.bc.ca

Dear Doug McPhee:

Thank you for your letter of October 11, 2023, regarding neurodiversity training for teachers, early childhood educators and educational assistants. I apologize for the delayed response.

As the Honourable Rachna Singh, Minister of Education and Child Care, mentioned in her July 24, 2023 letter to you, the curriculum of education programs is set by the post-secondary institutions offering the programs. Standards for these programs are set by regulatory bodies such as the [Early Childhood Educator Registry](#) and the [BC Teachers Council](#).

Under the *University Act* and the *College and Institute Act*, public post-secondary institutions are responsible for setting their academic program priorities. You may wish to engage directly with public post-secondary institutions offering teacher education, early childhood education and educational assistant programs. For example, [College of the Rockies](#) offers an Education Assistant Certificate, an Early Childhood Education Certificate and Diploma and, in partnership with the University of Victoria, a blended Bachelor of Education delivered on-site in Cranbrook.

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As mentioned above, although my Ministry does not determine curriculum content or program standards, my Ministry does work closely with education partners such as the Ministry of Education and Child Care, the regulatory bodies having authority to set post-secondary education standards and BC's public post-secondary institutions to ensure programs meet the needs of students, employers and their local communities.

I appreciate you raising opportunities to better meet the needs of students and will ask staff to convey these in conversations with our partners.

Thank you for your continued commitment to inclusive learning in BC and for providing me with the Southeast Kootenay School District Board of Education's perspective and suggestions. I will take these into account in my future discussions with post-secondary institutions.

Sincerely,



Honourable Selina Robinson
Minister

pc: Honourable Rachna Singh
Minister of Education and Child Care

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