



January 3rd, 2017

Keith Godin
Acting Assistant Deputy Minister
Governance and Analytics
Ministry of Education
PO Box 9146
STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9H1

Via email: educ.governance.legislation@gov.bc.ca

Re: Proposal for changes to the BC School Act, BC Reg. 212-99 and BC Reg. 213-99

Mr. Keith Godin:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Board of Regional Trustees of Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique (CSF) (SD93) to present you a proposal for changes to the BC School Act, to BC Reg. 212-99 and to BC Reg. 213-99. The Board of Regional Trustees passed two motions to that effect at its December 10th public meeting. You will find the proposal attached to this document.

In 2012, CSF created a task force whose mandate was to revise CSF's own procedures regarding trustee elections in accordance with the School Act, in particular section 166.14 and 166.18, as well as BC Reg. 212-99 and BC Reg. 213-99. Over the years, it found that the sections of the Act that legislates trustee elections, regarding Francophone Education Authority, was outdated and that the BC Reg. 212-33 and 213-99 did not meet the needs of parents whose children are CSF's student.

For instance, at every election some parents end up having to vote for a trustee in a ward where their children's school is not located. Parents living in Burnaby for example, are assigned the Greater Vancouver Ward, however, their children could be attending École des Pionniers-de-Maillardville in Port Coquitlam. As a result of similar situations in Greater Vancouver Ward and Fraser Valley Ward, we suggest changes to BC Reg. 213-99.

Another important factor for CSF parents is the question of being a CSF member 120 days before the date of elections. We understand that when the Act was created for Francophone Education Authority, mail delivery was the main way of communications. Nowadays, with email access, electronic signatures and ease of communications, we feel that 45 days would allow right holders who already are BC residents the opportunity to relocate within the province without risking their right to vote. Furthermore, right holders BC resident who newly register their child in one of our



schools for the first time would still have a right to vote if they did register their child as late as early September.

It is our hope that with this letter and the attached documents, we will have the opportunity to embark on a collaborative effort with you to better the School Act, BC Reg. 212-99 and BC Reg. 213-99.

We welcome any questions you might have for CSF or any further information you might require and look forward to hearing from you in the near future. I can be reached by email at sallison@csf.bc.ca and on my cellular telephone at 778-229-3496.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Allison', written in a cursive style.

Sylvain Allison
Secretary-Treasurer

Encl.: Proposed changes to the School Act and BC Reg. 212-99
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